

19 March 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR/INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: OSI Survey

1. You spoke to me about revising a page of the above memo. I told you, even without re-examining the text, that I would be glad to make the change simply because the question had been raised or that I would authorize you to do it. You said you would do it.

2. My reasons for consenting so promptly to this procedure were:

- a. That you and I, particularly in the matter relating to this subject, should be as Caesar would have had Calpurnia.
- b. That at this particular time, in view of the activities of the Brownell Committee, I don't think we should press such a point with another Department even when they are wrong.

3. To my surprise and amazement, my office was called by [redacted] OCI, and advised that he had the copies and was preparing a revision. He also had the temerity to suggest to my secretary that I ought to have another briefing in this matter. This is just too much, so yesterday I gave him and [redacted] a polite but firm briefing and pointed out:

- a. That the question involved is not one of rewriting text because we can write anything we wish as long as it is properly classified.
- b. That in my opinion this text is properly classified as SECRET. There is certainly nothing in it that the disclosure of which would imperil the national security and rate a TOP SECRET classification. [redacted] is of the opinion it should be TOP SECRET but is not too sure of it. Both he and [redacted] are clear it should not carry any esoteric classification.
- c. That I will be glad to consider any revision of the text which they wish to suggest but that I will make the determination as to whether or not this is done.

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4. If our present security rules require a higher classification than SECRET on language such as this, I think we should re-examine them. It is an ostrich-like attitude to assume that monitoring plain text foreign language broadcasts is a sensitive activity.

5. I am sure that when you asked [redacted] to handle this you were simply trying to get rid of a job but when I authorized you to do what you wanted with this text, I meant you and not somebody else. After all, this is my report and if anyone is going to be permitted to make changes, I should decide who that is as I am sure you agree.

25X1

6. I would like to talk over with you what the advisable thing to do next is. I do not feel as casual about revising the text as I did initially now that an issue has been made of it on lower echelons in this organization as to do so now compromises your prestige, mine and, to some extent, the DCI's.

Stuart Hedden
Inspector General

Orig-add
2-signer

Handwritten signature and notes:
[Signature]
see copies