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OLC 78-3366
6 November 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: New York Times Article Accusing DCI of Tailoring Estimates

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1. [redacted] informed me that Hal Ford, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence staff, called this morning requesting to meet with Sayre Stevens, DD/NFAC, regarding the David Binder article in today's New York Times accusing Admiral Turner of tailoring National Intelligence Estimates to suit Administration policy. A meeting was set up for 2:00 p.m. with Dr. Robert Bowie, D/NFAC, Sayre Stevens and Peters. Peters later reported that Ford asked whether there was any effort to "get" Admiral Turner but Agency representatives knew of none. They acknowledged, however, that the DCI does take a very personal interest in estimates--he considers it his personal product to Government policy makers. He often makes changes in them or sends portions back for rewrite and may have alienated some persons or elements of the Community in the process. Agency representatives denied that any of these changes were made to suit Administration policy and Dr. Bowie said he would resign his position if he ever had an inkling that this was being done. Dr. Bowie cited examples, e.g., [redacted] where the Director had made decisions which caused problems for other elements of the Government.

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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