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8 NOV 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert Gambino, Chairman
DCI Security Committee

FROM : Frederick P. Hitz
Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Report on Unauthorized Disclosures of Intelligence

1. I am returning your memorandum to the Director and the attached report of the Security Committee's Working Group on Unauthorized Disclosures in order to permit you to consider some concerns my staff has with the report and with your recommendation that the report be sent to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

2. Our principal concern is that this report appears to be written for the purpose of improving general security among the elements of the NFIP, and may not, therefore, be looked at by the oversight Committees as addressing the specific problems such as the Kampiles disclosure or those made by the White House or by Congress for political or other purposes.

3. At present, the two principal oversight Committees are awaiting the DCI's pronouncements on steps taken to prevent further Kampiles situations. This report, while quite effective in spelling out the difficulties inherent in security, is too general and too mild mannered to meet their expectations. While there is much in the report which is accurate and useful as a general summation of the problem, there is little which appears positive, dynamic, and specific.

4. If this report goes to the Committees of Congress, we will need to transmit it with a letter that says this is not all or even most of what we are doing to tighten up security. In effect, we will have to say this report is just a little something we had going before Kampiles came along. We are sending it up just to show that we have been thinking about these things.

5. Under these circumstances, we question the value of sending it to the Hill. We believe they are expecting a good deal more from the Director.

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6. Finally, should the report be sent to the oversight committees, there are several points which need to be addressed. First, the Biden report is now out, so the reference to it is somewhat dated. Second, Biden's subcommittee is the Subcommittee on Secrecy and Disclosure not Security Classification. Third, the list of press leaks omits reference to the [redacted] 25X1 The SSCI has formally requested a damage assessment on this article. Fourth, we believe this memorandum should advise the Director on the likelihood of receiving follow-up questions from the Congressional committees to certain open-ended statements in the report which are critical of internal security management, such as the statement indicating that the Security Committee is sometimes bypassed on security leaks where department heads deal directly with the DCI or the Attorney General and the statement with reference to the eleven questions which indicates some internal Administration difficulties. Incidentally, the matter of the questions is, we understand, under discussion with Justice and will be amended in the near future.

7. I would be happy to discuss this with you, if you so desire.

SIGNED

FREDERICK P. HITZ

Attachments:
As stated

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