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5 NOV 1981

ITEM FOR 6 NOV DCI-SECDEF BREAKFAST

SUBJECT: Covert Action Procedures

1. The Pentagon put "CA Procedures" on the agenda for the breakfast.

2. IAD's liaison contact in the Pentagon's Office of the Undersecretary for Policy advised on 5 November that the Defense Department is actually much more concerned about NSC procedures for handling various kinds of policy questions than about CA procedures per se. The issue transcends covert action, but because of the importance of CA, the Pentagon is considering recommending to the NSC that an Executive Secretary be named to handle the CA account within the NSC staff. The responsibilities of such an individual would be to monitor and provide staff support for CA proposals at the White House level. Theoretically, he/she would examine proposals prior to NSPG meetings to determine whether the Attorney General should be involved, thus avoiding eleventh hour crash requirements such as that on [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] The incumbent would also serve as an NSC contact 25X1 point for the Agency and other NSPG members.

3. SECDEF plans to discuss the concept* with the DCI for his reactions and support.

* DDO could live with this. [redacted] 25X1

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