

[REDACTED]

(EYES ONLY FOR AMB. HELMS FROM DCI) 4

1. YOUR THOUGHTFUL ADVICE AND COUNSEL CONCERNING SOME OF THE EFFECTS OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURES OF AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE PROWESS IS MUCH APPRECIATED. I TOO HAVE BEEN UNEASY THAT GREAT DAMAGE COULD BE CAUSED BY LEAKS - WHETHER INSPIRED OR OTHERWISE - AND I ASSURE YOU THAT ONE OF MY MAJOR OBJECTIVES IS TO DEVELOP THE NECESSARY MEANS OF CONTROL SO THAT SUCH DAMAGE WILL BE AVOIDED. 4

2. ALTHOUGH I AGREE WITH YOUR POINT THAT THE REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY WHICH IS NOW UNDERWAY CANNOT BY ITSELF SOLVE THIS PROBLEM, I ALSO BELIEVE THAT THROUGH THE ENHANCED INFLUENCE THE EXECUTIVE ORDER HAS BROUGHT TO THE OFFICE OF THE DCI - ESPECIALLY VIA THE NEW COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE - AS WELL AS THROUGH IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION PROCESS, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO GET ON TOP OF THE SITUATION. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE PRESIDENT FULLY SUPPORTS THE COMMUNITY IN

Save for Debbie

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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ITS EFFORTS TO PROTECT SOURCES AND METHODS; IN ADDITION, I AM CONVINCED THAT THERE IS A GROWING UNDERSTANDING IN THE CONGRESS OF THE NECESSITY TO PROTECT VITAL SECRETS, AN UNDERSTANDING WHICH APPEARS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, WE HAVE HAD MUCH BETTER RELATIONS WITH MEMBERS AND STAFF OF CHURCH COMMITTEE, AND, THOUGH WE WILL DIFFER WITH REPORT IN MANY AREAS, MANY CONTENTIONS AND DAMAGING THINGS HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED. 4

3. CONCERNING THE SPECIFIC POINTS YOU RAISE, I SHARE MANY OF YOUR CONCERNS BUT I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST SOME DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS AS TO THEIR SIGNIFICANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, I DO NOT ATTRIBUTE THE LOSS OF SIGINT GROUND FACILITIES TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURES OF INTELLIGENCE. MY REVIEW OF RECENT LOSSES LEADS ME TO CONCLUDE THAT SOME FOREIGN COUNTRIES HAVE DENIED US GROUND BASES BECAUSE OF DISSATISFACTION WITH THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE US.

[REDACTED] OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE GIVEN
IN TO THEIR PUBLICS' PROTESTS ABOUT THE PRESENCE IN THEIR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

COUNTRIES OF US FORCES OF ALL KINDS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OUR PRESENCE IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES MAY BE DECREASED BY US INITIATIVE TO ACCOMMODATE TO [REDACTED] THIRD COUNTRY PRESSURES [REDACTED] OR BY BUDGETARY DECISIONS. IN NONE OF THESE CASES HAS INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION PER SE CAUSED THE LOSS OF BASES. ¶

4. REGARDING COUNTERMEASURES, I TOO AM CONCERNED WITH US DISCLOSURES WHICH MIGHT PROVOKE THE SOVIETS OR OTHER TARGET COUNTRY TO TAKE ACTIONS WHICH COULD HURT OUR COLLECTION OF INTELLIGENCE. ALTHOUGH THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN WITH US FOR YEARS, IT HAS REALLY GOTTEN OUT OF CONTROL SINCE THE END OF 1974. I AM SURE THAT YOU ARE FULLY AWARE THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD CRIPPLE CERTAIN PARTS OF THE US INTELLIGENCE EFFORT. BUT THERE ARE OTHERS, WITH ALL GOOD INTENTIONS, WHO IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN US INTELLIGENCE FEEL COMPELLED TO TRUMPET OUR SUCCESSES. AS YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE SHOWS, SOME OF THESE CAN BE CONTROLLED, BUT OTHERS CANNOT. ¶

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. THIS LEADS ME TO A MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE. I BELIEVE THAT ONE OF THE BASIC REASONS FOR THE LACK OF SUPPORT, THE ATTACKS, AND THE UNHELPFUL BOASTS IS THAT WE IN INTELLIGENCE HAVE NOT BUILT THE FOUNDATIONS WITH THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC NECESSARY TO WITHSTAND THE GENERAL DECLINE IN THE PRESTIGE OF INTELLIGENCE. THIS DECLINE IS PART OF THE DISRESPECT FOR AND SUSPICIONS ABOUT GOVERNMENT IN GENERAL. THE SECRECY ABOUT VIETNAM AND THE WATERGATE TOGETHER WITH THE NATURAL SECRECY OF INTELLIGENCE ARE AT THE ROOT. NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE COULD WISH IT OTHERWISE I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE CAN GO BACK TO COMPLETE SECRECY ABOUT INTELLIGENCE-- AT LEAST FOR SEVERAL MORE YEARS. WHAT IS NECESSARY IS TO REBUILD CONFIDENCE BY BEING MORE FORTHCOMING WITH CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT WHAT GOES ON ABROAD AT THE SAME TIME BEING FAR MORE SECRETEIVE ABOUT HOW WE KNOW THESE THINGS. THIS, I BELIEVE, WILL SHOW THE CONGRESS AND OUR CRITICS OUTSIDE GOVERNMENT WHY INTELLIGENCE IS NECESSARY TO AMERICAN POLICY MAKERS. I HOPE IT WILL ALSO GENERATE MORE RESPECT FOR

THE NEED TO PROTECT SOURCES AND METHODS. 4

6. OBVIOUSLY, I HAVE BEEN ON THE JOB FOR A VERY SHORT TIME AND AM STILL BEING EDUCATED ABOUT THE PROBLEM. I INTEND TO EXPLORE ALL ASPECTS OF THIS MATTER VERY CAREFULLY AND NOT TAKE ANY PRECIPITOUS ACTION. 4

7. NO FILE. E2 IMPDET.d.

COMPOSED BY 1

SA/DCI - para 1-2

DOI - para 3-6

1 copy for Dr. PROCTOR.