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OLC 68-0367

12 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Representative William Bates

1. Mr. Maury and the undersigned met with Representative William Bates to bring him up to date on the latest developments regarding S. 1035 and the new Henderson bill, H. R. 17760. We told Mr. Bates that we had talked with Mr. Henderson and he was favorably disposed to grant the Agency full exemption from any legislation on this subject, but had asked that Mr. Rivers contact him in support of such an exemption.
2. We asked Mr. Bates' assistance in prevailing upon Chairman Rivers to make such a request to Mr. Henderson. Mr. Bates told us to contact the Chairman on this and he would follow up on it. He said he had received the impression that in all probability no legislation would be reported by the House Committee this year but he was not sure that his impression was accurate.
3. We briefed Mr. Bates on a number of current items of interest to him, including Soviet preparations for a major weapons effects test at their underground testing area, development of a new solid propellant missile in the MRBM-IRBM range, the progress being made by the Soviets in the new space launch complex and use of Egyptian ports by Soviet ships in the Mediterranean.

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4. We also talked with Mr. Bates about the importance of obtaining Committee action on the cost-of-living adjustment to the Agency retirement legislation. Mr. Bates said if we were interested in action on this we should press hard on this between now and the first of next month.

5. Mr. Bates expressed interest in the type of information and also asked several questions about the Soviet fighter, the Foxbat.

6. Mr. Bates again expressed concern over the lack of CIA Subcommittee meetings this year and said he hopes now that Mr. Rivers' primary is behind him things will settle down. We again indicated to Mr. Bates that we were ready, and in fact anxious, to meet with the Subcommittee as often as possible. He suggested that in the future we limit the duration of our briefings to one hour. He said that sessions of two hours duration or longer take too much time and make it more difficult to schedule them. He felt that if we had shorter briefings we could conduct them more often. He said that until a briefing is arranged he would like to be kept informed on items of significance. It was clear from his remarks that in his view there is no substitute for his receiving information from the Agency before he reads about it in the press or hears about it from other sources. We told Mr. Bates that we would keep him informed.

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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