

20 June 1969

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Representative Glenard Lipscomb (R. , Calif.)**

1. Today I called on Representative Lipscomb to deliver material he had requested on Rumanian vehicle shipments to North Vietnam. It turned out that Lipscomb wished these in an unclassified version and I promised to sanitize the material and respond in the next few days. Lipscomb said he planned some public speeches calling attention to the support which Eastern European countries were providing the North Vietnamese. He said this particularly concerned him because of our present lax licensing policies, which indeed have been more lenient under the Nixon than the Johnson Administration.

2. Lipscomb appeared in a somewhat edgy mood and noted that whenever he sought information from Government agencies to use in public speeches he got only classified material. I said we had not understood that his request called for unclassified material, and he conceded that he had not made himself clear.

3. Turning to other matters, Lipscomb said he thought the Director's joint appearance with Secretary Laird before the Foreign Relations Committee next week was "a hell of a good idea," that he had the highest regard for both and was sure they could handle any questions that came up.

4. In response to my question, Lipscomb said that although he had heard a few snide remarks about the Agency's position on the ABM/SS-9/MIRV controversy, he was aware of no serious criticisms from responsible individuals. He said he thought the apparent differences between the Agency and DOD were not only understandable but inevitable in view of their differing responsibilities.

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5. I briefed Lipscomb on a few current intelligence items -- Sino-Soviet relations, unsuccessful space shots, Middle East situation, and Soviet Y-class submarine production. Lipscomb said he was interested in these items, and thought it very unfortunate that our Appropriations Subcommittee did not meet with us more frequently. Speaking confidentially, he said he had almost no access to Chairman Mahon, and Bob Michaels of the Committee staff saw him only on the rarest occasions. He said he was not blaming us but wanted us to understand that Michaels was not passing on to the Subcommittee members whatever briefings we were providing. I told Lipscomb we were always ready to brief him and if he wished would make a point of doing so on a periodic basis. We agreed that we would contact him on an average of once a week to bring him up-to-date on both intelligence items and problems concerning the Agency. He said he wanted us to be sure to keep him informed regarding the latter since he was always ready to go to bat for us. He noted that the senior Republican, Frank Bow, is not very active these days and felt he (Lipscomb) should keep on top of things.

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**JOHN M. MAURY**  
Legislative Counsel

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