

OLC 75-0406

26 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DCI Briefing of the Defense Subcommittee of House
Appropriations Committee - 20 February 1975

1. The Director met with the Defense Subcommittee of House Appropriations on 20 February 1975 to brief them on domestic activities. The meeting lasted from 1400 hours until 1730 hours. There was no technical sweep of the room, H 140 in the Capitol, and no technical monitoring. A transcript was made. The session was open and a copy of the Director's prepared statement was given out to the press.

2. Present from the Subcommittee were:

George H. Mahon (D., Texas), Chairman
Robert L. F. Sikes (D., Fla.)
Joseph P. Addabbo (D., N. Y.)
John J. McFall (D., Calif.)
John J. Flynt (D., Ga.)
Robert N. Giaimo (D., Conn.)
Bill Chappell (D., Fla.)
Bill D. Burlison (D., Mo.)
Jack Edwards (R., Ala.)
J. Kenneth Robinson (R., Va.)
Jack F. Kemp (R., N. Y.)
Elford Cederberg (R., Mich.) ex officio

3. Present from the staff was:

Ralph Preston

4. Accompanying the Director were:

an Assistant to the Director
George L. Cary, Legislative Counsel

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5. The Director read his prepared statement which was interrupted by occasional questions and several floor votes. During the question and answer period, Mr. Sikes asked the Director to prepare a detailed chronology of the "Watergate assistance" provided for the record, as well as a copy of the Agency's proposal for establishing legal sanctions in the event of disclosure of sensitive information involving intelligence sources and methods. (Ralph Preston, of the Committee staff, already has a copy of our "sources and methods package.") Mr. Addabbo asked the Director for some details with respect to the activities of the Agency which were discontinued since early 1973. He also said he would like to know what investigations were conducted regarding the activities of Southeast Asian leaders in connection with the drug traffic. The Director said he would prefer to go into this in executive session.

6. Mr. Giaimo expressed his displeasure at not having had access to CIA budgetary data in the past and inferred that this kind of information should be available to every member of Congress.

7. Mr. Burlison asked about the press allegations of CIA involvement in bugged apartments and sex traps and the Director said that while he did not want to infer that sex and intelligence never go together, this is something he would prefer to also discuss in closed session.

8. Mr. Kemp applauded the Director's statement and efforts and expressed concern about the morale of CIA. He was particularly interested in the circumstances surrounding Mr. Angleton's retirement from the Agency and said he thought the Committee should have him come up and talk with them.

9. With obvious sarcasm concerning allegations of the Agency's maintaining files on members of Congress, the Chairman commented that he had a confession to make to the Director and that was he had been keeping a file on CIA for many, many years and had numerous entries in the files regarding the Agency's contacts with his Committee.

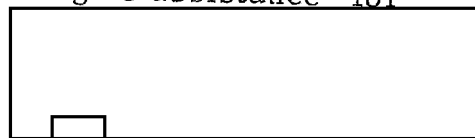
10. Quite surprisingly, Mr. Giaimo could not seem to understand why the Agency was fighting the publication of Agee's book in the United States since it had already been published in England. The Director tried to get the point across that the fact that an American citizen could violate the law outside the jurisdiction of the United States, (this) did not mean he should be permitted on the basis of that fact, to then indirectly defeat that same law here. He

STAT noted the words of the Appeals Court decision in the Marchetti case to the effect that a person could not leak information to the press and then repeat that information (knowing it to be classified) on the assumption that once it was printed it was in the public domain. Mr. Giaimo also asked about Agency [redacted] and again the Director said he would prefer to discuss that in closed session.

11. Mr. Addabbo pressed the Director to submit to the Subcommittee a copy of his report to the President on the domestic activities allegations and the Director indicated he was not at liberty to do this.

12. Follow up action:

Detailed chronology on "Watergate assistance" for Mr. Sikes.



GEORGE L. CARY
Legislative Counsel

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