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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

9 APR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Allegations of "Intelligence Failures"
in Connection with Lam Son 719

1. As I know you are aware, allegations are currently cropping up in the press, and elsewhere, regarding purported "intelligence failures" in connection with the Lam Son 719 operation. The Max Frankel by-lined story beginning on the front page of the 30 March issue of the New York Times is one example; Stewart Alsop's column in the 12 April edition of Newsweek (actually issued on 6 April), another.

2. When the Frankel story appeared, I asked for a quick, thorough review of at least the Agency's record in this matter. This request led to the preparation of a detailed memorandum drafted for my eyes only. The Lam Son matter and the stories of alleged shortfalls in the intelligence community's performance, however, was the subject of considerable discussion when I met with the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board on Friday, 2 April. To answer the detailed questions of the Chairman and other Board members, I left with the Board for its perusal the aforementioned 30 March study done by my associates.

3. To be sure we are all operating from a common point of departure, I am attaching hereto for your information the material loaned to the President's Board, so that you will know exactly what information was furnished to them.

Richard Helms
Director

Attachment

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GACarver, Jr.

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Per our conversation, I am returning the attached package which I would appreciate your giving back to []
[] The blue pencil comment is the Director's. This data should, I think, be kept available for use in illuminating any further information that might come to light via this or other channels.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

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Blind Memo Draft from []

VIETNAMESE AFFAIRS STAFF
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE: 5 April 1971

TO: The Director

FROM:

SUBJECT:

REMARKS:

Attached is the "Reactions" memo
as it was sent to Commander Howe for
relay to General Haig 2 April 1971
(Friday). Pending your instructions,
I have made no further distribution.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

CAC: TAW

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