

Executive Registry
78-9677

18 July 1978

OLC #78-2720

Budget

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for Resource Management
FROM : Director of Central Intelligence

With reference to your letter of 5 July to Randy Jayne, I would like to make sure that we are clear on the President's position on classification of the National Foreign Intelligence budget. The President has not interposed an objection to declassification of the budget but has stated the responsibility for doing that must rest with the Congress. The point behind this is that the President has also taken a position that if the budget is unclassified, it must be a single figure only. Unless the Congress were willing to disclose only a single figure and discipline itself to that degree, the President would oppose a declassification. Hence, it's up to the Congress to make the decision as to whether to declassify a single figure.


STANSFIELD TURNER

MORI/CDF

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Washington, D.C. 20505

Intelligence Community Staff

DCI/IC 78-3877

5 JUL 1978

Mr. Edward R. Jayne, III
Associate Director for National Security
and International Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C.- 20503

Dear Randy:

In recent letters to Chairmen Mahon, Giaimo, Magnuson and Muskie, OMB provided additional mission-oriented R&D data with respect to the FY 1979 Budget Authority Estimate. These data apparently were provided by OMB as supplementary efforts to meet requirements of Section 601 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. I am concerned about the

[Redacted] in your data submissions.

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Over the past few months, the Congress has actively considered the question of keeping the intelligence budget classified. As you recall, the President's guidance to Admiral Turner was that efforts to declassify national intelligence budget data by the Congress would probably continue and that we in the Executive Branch should hold the line on maintaining a classified budget. Initiatives to declassify should come from the Congress, not from us.

While I applaud your effort to provide better budget aggregates to Congress for use in considering the Administration's budget, I am concerned that we exercise the proper degree of caution in protecting budgetary information which should remain classified. I stand ready to assist you and your staff in assigning the appropriate classification to intelligence data contained in future correspondence with the Congress. I assure you that the DCI is in favor of using the lowest level of classification consistent with the President's guidance and with protection of sources and methods of intelligence activities.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

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Remarks:
*Attached sent to DD/RM by DCI -
 from his EOB office this morning*

[Redacted Signature Box]

Executive Secretary
19 July
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