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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Memorandum from Mr. Helms on Policy Guidance on
Current Intelligence Reporting

The memorandum from Mr. Helms was based on a survey conducted for the NSCIC Working Group, which I understand is carrying out several studies to provide insight on the usefulness and responsiveness of intelligence products.

I understand that the Working Group reviewed the study subsequent to the memorandum to you and concluded that the survey, while useful, was deficient in certain respects:

a) Many of the reports which were considered as intelligence products may be more accurately described as the distribution of raw intelligence data.

b) There are other reports which were not counted but may be considered to be in similar categories with those that were included in the count.

I understand that a review of the information upon which the report was based is being made under the auspices of the NSCIC Working Group. I believe, because of the matters stated above, that we should request the comments of the Working Group itself upon this study.

In the meantime, however, we have undertaken in the Department of Defense a review of all intelligence production reports to insure their appropriateness and to minimize unnecessary duplication.

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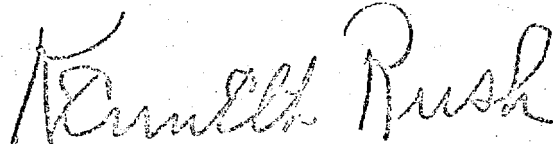
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I believe that any conclusion on the scope of intelligence production should first consider what our needs are and the extent to which these needs are being met by the intelligence process. The NSCIC Working Group is making several case studies with the objective of developing insight on this fundamental question and the first of these has been forwarded as you know to the NSCIC. I believe it would be appropriate to consider first this fundamental question before we reach conclusions on the scope and detail of the intelligence reporting process.


Kenneth Rush

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