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Date 15 Jun 83

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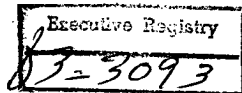
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* GPO: 1981 O - 361-529 (143)



June 13, 1983

SUBJECT: Addendum to the report entitled "The United States Customs Service and the National Foreign Intelligence Program" of April 6, 1983

1. On June 8, 1983 I met with the Commissioner of Customs, William von Raab, the Assistant Commissioner for Enforcement, George Corcoran, and the Director of the Office of Enforcement Support, Customs Service, John Hurley, to discuss the proposals made in the subject report. The Commissioner and his senior advisors agreed with some reservations to the proposed program and have, in fact, taken certain steps toward implementing it.

2. This addendum is intended to state for the record the Commissioner's views with respect to these proposals and to describe measures already in train.

3. The Commissioner agreed with the proposal for Customs Service association with the Intelligence Community, noting existing satisfactory procedures under which Treasury serves as a conduit to the Intelligence Community. He said close relationships existed and had been expanding in such areas as inter-agency committee responsibilities, collection requirements, and special clearances. In particular, there has been substantial and increasing involvement in cooperation under the provisions of Treasury Department Order No. 240, especially with respect to the sharing of assets.

4. The Commissioner agreed to a closer relationship between Customs and the CIA. He noted such current enhancements as CIA's agreement to use its communications network to pass selected reports to and from Customs' attaches; name check queries to aid investigations, and training and technical advice and assistance in special operations. In this connection, he noted further his intention to ask CIA to assign specialists to temporary duty in Customs for advisory and training purposes as the Service establishes an effective intelligence function.

5. The Commissioner agreed with the necessity to establish better information sharing among border management agencies and said specific problems were being addressed by them both unilaterally and jointly.

6. The Commissioner did not agree to establishing a central intelligence unit at the assistant commissioner level. He said the close interrelationship between intelligence and enforcement in Customs

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required that the Headquarters unit be placed in the Office of Enforcement. This function is also reflected and paralleled in the field organization where regional intelligence falls under the Assistant Regional Commissioner for Enforcement.

7. The Commissioner agreed with the need to train Customs personnel for intelligence. He said Customs is working with a contractor, Anacapa Sciences Inc., to develop a course on intelligence to be presented to Service personnel at the training facility at Glynco. He noted further the efforts to seek training in intelligence through CIA and NSA.

8. The Commissioner agreed with the need to remove ancillary functions (e.g., management of the communications center and perhaps other responsibilities) from the intelligence unit. But he wanted the center to be closely associated with the Customs tactical intelligence program. He said a recent increase in positions will permit the center to operate on a seven days a week, 24 hours a day basis.

9. The Commissioner agreed that the Headquarters Intelligence Divisions should guide collection activity in the field, and he has delineated this responsibility in a memorandum to the regional commissioners.

10. The Commissioner agreed that "strategic" intelligence should as a rule be produced by the Headquarters unit rather than the field as long as it was based on information from field reporting. He also said the Headquarters Intelligence Division would produce tactical intelligence as proposed. He has already designated 66 additional analyst slots to increase the analytical capability, 15 for Headquarters and the rest for field positions.

11. The Commissioner did not fully agree to sole reliance upon other agencies for analytical work in instances when they are better equipped than Customs to handle the analyses. While he accepted the idea in principle, he said experience had indicated that if Customs wanted certain tailored intelligence it would have to do it itself. Customs is in contact with several contractors for analytical work beyond Customs' ability to do. At the same time, he felt unique enforcement needs required Customs' own intelligence analysis capability in this area to insure a focus on operational needs. This proviso is consistent with the proposal for in-house analysis "specifically geared to Customs operational activity" (Page 29).

12. The Commissioner agreed to the establishment of a standardized report form for national intelligence. In fact, a form has already been prepared and will be used by Customs' Headquarters Intelligence Division and be provided to the regions to use as appropriate.

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13. The Commissioner agreed in part that field reporting should conform in form and content to national intelligence needs. He noted that Customs field reporting would primarily respond to Customs intelligence needs but would contain, as appropriate, national intelligence information. The Commissioner intends that such information will be disseminated to the Intelligence Community by Customs. He said field reporters would continue to use existing forms.

14. The Commissioner agreed to establish an efficient TEMPEST-approved computer file system and secure communications and telephone facilities. He said these proposals are being addressed. Steps have been taken to procure TEMPEST-approved computers for the EXODUS program and the intelligence unit. The Customs' SI facility has been completed and is operational. Secure facsimile equipment is being acquired. In addition, secure phones are being purchased, with long term plans to procure approximately 65 units.

15. The Commissioner agreed in part to proposals concerning the field's intelligence role. He wants some field personnel to be responsible for intelligence production in support of the tactical intelligence program. The Commissioner correctly understands that Customs is not included in any overall intelligence collection plan but would be considered under advisory tasking in the various collection programs. He said Customs requirements sent to the field would reflect DCID 1/2 when they pertained to national intelligence.

16. The Commissioner agreed to give headquarters and field intelligence units responsibility for both national and tactical intelligence. He expects the latest Customs reorganization and the present emphasis on intelligence to insure this dual role.

17. The Commissioner agreed that field officers who could benefit from a variety of non-SI intelligence from other agencies should receive it. He said the question of SI compartmented areas in the field is a long-term consideration for Customs and requires further study, training and evaluation.

18. The Commissioner agreed that Customs' intelligence products should be disseminated as widely as possible within the Service. He said that procedures were in effect to insure that the needed intelligence reaches enforcement officers and the broader audience on a timely basis, including such items as the numbered Headquarters Intelligence Division alert messages that are sent electrically to the field.

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