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[REDACTED]

13 January 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Special Projects

SUBJECT : Award of Intelligence Medal to  
Francis Gary Powers

1. On this date I telephonically contacted [REDACTED] to clarify the circumstances surrounding the award to Gary.

2. [REDACTED] essentially reiterated what [REDACTED] told us yesterday. The chronology of the awards to the U-2 pilots is as follows:

February 1963 -- About this time, a decision was made to award the medal to all project pilots, but not to Powers. (At the same time, [REDACTED] and several other military officers assigned to the U-2 Program were nominated for awards.)

March/April 1963 -- An award ceremony took place on the West Coast. General Carter made the awards, but none of the U-2 pilots were permitted to keep the medals at that time. On this occasion, Kelly Johnson asked General Carter if he would arrange an award for Gary Powers.

April 1963 -- Subsequent to General Carter's return from the West Coast, he initiated action to award the intelligence medal to Gary. The certificate attached to the medal was prepared in April 1963. As was the case with the other U-2 pilots, the medal was not offered to Powers for retention at that time.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Approved for Release  
Date 12 SEP 1963

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[REDACTED]

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1965 -- During this year it was decided to give the medals to certain pilots for their retention. As a matter of fact, the first medal given for retention was the one given to Powers. There are still four or five medals being retained by the Agency.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]