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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 19//

TO PAUL BARBIAN FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA BLACK PATCH WH52612

TOHAK 19

DECEMBER 30, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

25X1

THE WASHINGTON STAR

JEREMIAH O'LEARY REPORTS THAT THE BODY OF SLAIN CIA STATION CHIEF RICHARD WELCH ARRIVED FROM GREECE AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE EARLY TODAY BY MILITARY TRANSPORT WITH WELCH'S SON, MARINE LT. PATRICK T. WELCH ESCORTING THE FLAG-DRAPED CASKET OF HIS FATHER.

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

SEC FILE, DO

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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BARRY SCHNEID REPORTS THAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS EXPECT THE 49-NATION AFRICAN SUMMIT NEXT MONTH TO CONDEMN SOUTH AFRICA'S MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA BUT TO STOP SHORT OF GRANTING RECOGNITION TO THE SOVIET-SUPPORTED FACTION THAT CONTROLS LUANDA. IN FACT, THESE OFFICIALS SAY CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT THE OAU WILL URGE THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA TO FORM A COALITION GOVERNMENT WITH TWO U.S.-BACKED FACTIONS ONCE THERE IS A CEASE-FIRE.

CROSBY S. NOYES WRITES THAT IT LOOKS AS IF CIA DIRECTOR COLBY WASN'T KIDDING ABOUT THE DANGER TO OUR INTELLIGENCE AGENTS OVERSEAS. THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE MURDER OF RICHARD S. WELCH A FEW DAYS AGO IN ATHENS AND THE CONDEMNATION AND DISCLOSURE OF AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD IS TOO OBVIOUS TO BELABOR. IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE GREEN LIGHT TO TERRORISM BURNS BRIGHT. WHATEVER ELSE YASR ARAFAT MAY REPRESENT, HE REPRESENTS THE KILLING OF INNOCENT PEOPLE IN A POLITICAL CAUSE. THE IMPLICATIONS OF THAT RECOGNITION MAY FINALLY HAVE DAWNED ON THE LEADERS OF THE ARAB WORLD. IT MAY FINALLY HAVE DAWNED AS WELL ON THOSE WHO CONDONE THE KILLING OF AMERICAN PUBLIC SERVANTS ABROAD AS THE PRICE OF DEMOCRACY AT HOME. CONTRACTS FOR MURDER ARE NO PART OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION. IT IS HIGH TIME THAT THE LAW TOOK THAT FACT INTO ACCOUNT.

GARRY WILLS WRITES THAT AMID THE DEADLY SERIOUS PARTS OF THE SENATE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS, READERS MAY BE GRATEFUL FOR COMIC RELIEF PROVIDED BY THE CIA'S TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION. THIS CREW OF ZANIES IS THE ONE THAT HOPED TO MAKE FIDEL CASTRO BABBLE ON THE RADIO BY SPRAYING HIS STUDIO WITH A CHEMICAL RESEMBLING LSD IN ITS EFFECT. THE POINT OF ALL THIS IS THAT THE CIA INHERITS A LONG TRADITION OF WHAT IT THINKS IS GUERRILLA INGENUITY, BUT IS REALLY A SCHOOLBOY BENT FOR TURNING WHOOPIE CUSHIONS INTO WEAPONS. THAT IS ONE OF THE REASONS REFORM OF THE CIA MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE. BOYS WILL BE BOYS, THEY SAY; AND THIS ORGANIZATION HAS HAD A RATHER VICIOUS INFANTILISM BRED INTO IT FROM THE OUTSET.

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