

OCA 62-603

Box 1

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ER 9-5733

25 July 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with the House Appropriations Subcommittee

1. The Director met with the House Appropriations Subcommittee to discuss the 46 questions. Chairman Cannon and Messrs. Mahon, Sheppard, Taber, Wigglesworth and Cresson were present from the Committee. The Director was accompanied by Messrs. Lloyd, Saunders, Mason and Paul.

2. A stenographer was present at the meeting, and a transcript was made, except for those portions which were off-the-record, which in turn represented the last hour or so of the meeting. Mr. Cannon started the meeting by restating his concern about the fact that no CIA statistics, records of hearings, etc., could be published, and Mr. Mahon also expressed his concern at a growing feeling among members of his Defense Subcommittee that CIA was being treated on a helier-than-thou basis. There was some discussion of the legal basis for secrecy on CIA statistics, and Section 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act and Section 7 of the CIA Act of 1949 were read and discussed.

concern w/ security of trans.

3. No specific conclusions or decisions were arrived at on the foregoing problem. The Director pointed out the various reasons, apart from statutory provisions, why it would be most unwise to publish even total figures on CIA personnel, budget, etc. He placed particular emphasis on the value of such information to the Soviet, and on the problem of maintaining the confidence of friendly foreign services in the security of CIA operations. Messrs. Lloyd and I discussed this problem with the Director after the meeting and he agreed that it might be useful to consider the possibility of briefings of the Defense Subcommittee, and that this might be a matter which should be discussed with Mr. Mahon before or at the beginning of the next Session.

dilemma

no resolution

poss solution

4. There was some further discussion of miscellaneous matters at the meeting before attention was focused on the 46 questions. Mr. Cannon was interested in a comparison as to the quality of our intelligence as against the British, and the Director pointed out, without making any direct comparison, that our coverage was considerably broader than the British. Mr. Sheppard emphasized the importance of acquiring

actual times

**SECRET**

intelligence at all levels of society, and of not focusing complete attention on various high ranking officials in other governments. The Director stated that he agreed with this approach entirely and that he operated his Agency accordingly. Chairman Cannon asked for a number of statistics on expenditures, obligations, personnel (foreign and U.S.), etc., which the Director said he would furnish. NOTE: It was later pointed out to Orescan by Mr. Saunders that much if not all of this information had been previously furnished to the Committee.

5. Regarding the 46 questions, the Director pointed out that we had divided our answers into two volumes. The volume dealing with 11 questions had to be classified TOP SECRET. After some discussion it was agreed that the SECRET volume would be left with the Committee Clerk, to be kept in a three-way combination safe available only to the Subcommittee members and staff, and to be returned when the Committee was through with it. The TOP SECRET volume was retained by CIA, and is to remain here subject to call from Orescan or any members of the Subcommittee. If called, the document is to be taken up to the Committee room by someone from CIA who is to remain in the room while it is being read by staff or members, and to return it to the Agency thereafter. We received the impression that Orescan would probably be the only one to read the TOP SECRET book, and that he would call to the attention of the members any matters of special interest.

/s/ Norman S. Paul

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Legislative Counsel

IG/LC/NSPaul

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46 <sup>answer</sup>  
(questions)  
format

25X1