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3 May 1966
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MEMORANDUM FOR: General Ledford

SUBJECT: BLACK SHIELD

1. At the 3 May morning meeting, Mr. Sheldon said that the Director and Mr. Helms were lunching today with Secretary McNamara and Secretary Vance. This is their normal monthly luncheon. I asked him if BLACK SHIELD would come up in that forum, and he said that it was planned for the Director to bring it up in the context of his letter to the President, copies of which have been furnished to SecDef and his deputy. Mr. Sheldon said that it was his understanding that if McNamara reacted strongly against the BLACK SHIELD proposal he, the Director, would drop the matter but without releasing his option to receive a reply from the White House. General Taylor is reportedly quite strong for the proposal and if he is not going to be present at the luncheon it does look as though he will have a chance to make his views known to SecDef prior to noon today.

2. After the morning meeting Tom Parrott in Mr. Bross's office called to inquire if we had a cover story for BLACK SHIELD. He said that he had been asked this question by General Taylor and had answered that he did not think there was one. I told him that we had hammered out a two part story with the ICPC on BLACK SHIELD and promised him that I would send a copy of these documents to him by hand this morning so that he could correct the record with General Taylor. This was done. I also told Mr. Parrott that we were preparing written answers to General Taylor's questions on the runway condition at Kadena and about the familiarity of the Chicom's with sonic booms in coordination with 

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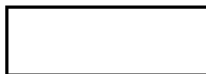
cc: D/R/CIA



JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Director of Special Activities

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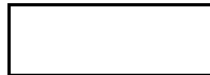
DD/SA/JA Cunningham/mcm(3 May 66)

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