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CONFIDENTIAL

6 March 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: Conversation with [redacted] of NSA  
Re Pueblo Matter

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1. On instructions from the Director, I called [redacted] 25X1A  
this afternoon to report highlights of the Director's appearance before  
the House Subcommittee on the Pueblo yesterday. [redacted] General  
Counsel of NSA, was also on the line.

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2. I told [redacted] that:

a. Committee questions centered largely on the  
303 procedures;

b. matters of interest to NSA were brought up by  
Frank Slatinshek who quoted General Carter as having said  
that the Pueblo loss [redacted]

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[redacted]

c. the Director said he was much more concerned  
about documents than technical equipment.

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3. [redacted] said he fully agreed with this.

4. I said Slatinshek went on to ask whether the capture of  
technical equipment didn't help the enemy in breaking our systems,  
and that in response the Director said:

a. The Committee had better hear from an expert  
on this subject;

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b. however, it was true that the capture of a crypto equipment would be very damaging if the loss weren't known, but the loss is known and corrective action can be taken and the damage largely prevented;

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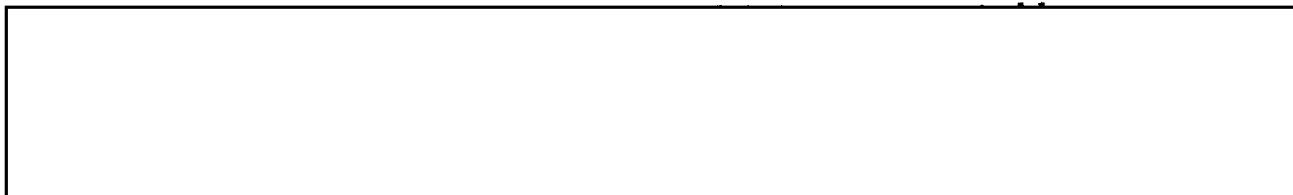


d. meanwhile, countermeasures have been taken on the assumption that everything on board the vessel may have been compromised.

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5.  indicated this was true.

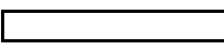
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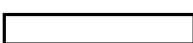
7. I mentioned the Director's comment that we all get parochial in the intelligence business and that in fact the truly sensitive secrets are like the heart of an artichoke and that often a number of layers have to be peeled off before the real nuggets are exposed. I said the Director therefore suggested to the Subcommittee that in trying to assess the damage they take care to make sure everybody understands exactly what is being discussed.

8. I mentioned the Subcommittee's interest in contingency plans and suggested NSA witnesses might get questions in this regard.

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9.  asked if there was a written transcript of the hearings and if so whether he could see it since it would be helpful to know the exact context in which the above points were brought out. I said a transcript had been made and we expected to have a chance to review it for accuracy. However, I said this transcript was strictly the property of the Subcommittee and I wasn't sure about the propriety of showing it to our friends. I said I would mention the problem to the Director.

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10.  broke in to say that, as Mr. Warner could verify, these transcripts have been shared between our agencies in the past.