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OLC 71-2081

6 December 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Chairman F. Edward Hebert, Mr. Ralph Preston, and Senator Milton Young, on Agency Budget

1. Today I accompanied Colonel White in meetings with the above individuals concerning Senator Stennis' proposal that the Agency budget be henceforth handled so as to avoid the authorization process.

2. We first met with Chairman Hebert, House Armed Services Committee, and Assistant Chief Counsel Frank Slatinshek, and were

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Mr. Slatinshek began by point out, as "devil's advocate," some possible disadvantages to the proposal. He suggested that the new Nedzi Subcommittee might feel they were losing some of their prerogatives if the authorization requirement were circumvented. Colonel White said Senators Stennis and Ellender favored the proposal and Chairman Mahon, House Appropriations Committee, said he "would work with us" to achieve a solution. Chairman Hebert agreed in principal with our proposal, and said it would be helpful to him, as it would be to Senator Stennis, to relieve the Armed Services Committees of responsibility for authorizing Agency appropriations. [redacted]

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Mr. Slatinshek said our proposal would stimulate pressures to disclose the amount of the CIA budget. [redacted]

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[redacted]

In conclusion, Chairman Hebert said that he wanted to touch base with Representatives Nedzi, Arends, and possibly Price, and give us a final decision no later than Thursday, but he personally supported our proposal.

3. Colonel White and I then met with Ralph Preston, Staff Assistant, House Appropriations Committee, who raised no objection to the proposal.

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4. Colonel White and I later met with Senator Milton Young who also was agreeable to the proposal.

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[redacted] JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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