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May 23, 1972

Dear Dick:

Many, many thanks for your very kind letter concerning my retirement from the Committee effective 1 July of this year.

I am going to rest for a while, but I do plan to stay in the Washington area for the next three or four years before moving to South Carolina, where we hope to build our retirement home.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and the other outstanding people I have known in the agency. I think you and your staff have always given me the one great ray of hope that we might survive all of this nonsense that goes on in the world today.

Hope we can keep in touch.

Very sincerely,

John R. Blandford
Chief Counsel

JRB:bg

Honorable Richard Helms
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	The Director	24 MAY 1972	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
2	Mr. Maury		<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
3	GLC		
4	JGO		
5	LLM		
6	PLC		

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Remarks:

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. DATE