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IEG-56/73

22 February 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Cuban Missile Crisis Exhibit

1. The concept of a CIA Intelligence Museum originated with the Executive Director, Mr. William F. Colby, in the Spring of 1972. In May 1972, the concept was approved and Mr. James Reber, the Chairman of the Fine Arts Committee, was directed to implement it. On 1 June 1972, Mr. Reber convened a group of senior Agency officials to discuss the details of implementation. At that meeting, it was decided that the National Photographic Interpretation Center would prepare an exhibit commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Mr. Arthur Lundahl, Director National Photographic Interpretation Center, approved the project on 2 June 1972 and appointed me the project coordinator.

2. The research and design of the exhibit was coordinated and accomplished by the Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, and approved in a series of presentations to the Director NPIC, the Fine Arts Committee, the DD/I, and the Executive Director CIA. The Office of Special Activities, DDS&T, provided the U-2 camera and flight gear for the static display. Mr. Walter Pforzheimer, Curator, Historical Intelligence Collection, provided valuable advice and documentation. Assistant for Information Control, Office of the Executive Director, arranged for the downgrading of classified material and served as a focal point in coordinating the exhibit at the DCI level. Mr. Walter Elder, Special Assistant to Mr. John McCone during the crisis, provided valuable insight and advice on the McCone years as DCI. The Chief of the Historical Staff, Mr. Bernie Drell,

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SECRET

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provided effective guidance in coordinating the exhibit with various Agency components and offices. [redacted] and members of the Fine Arts Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee for the CIA Intelligence Museum also provided advice and encouragement. Mr. Ramsey Forbush, Deputy Director ONE, reviewed the entire display for consistency and textual accuracy and [redacted] Executive Director DD/P, provided covert documentation. The approved exhibit was executed by the Production Services Group, NPIC. This execution required the development and application of a number of original graphics art skills. The total cost of the project was \$32,039, with approximately \$1,200 for materials and the balance for labor. The Office of Logistics provided excellent support for the lighting, power, transport, and physical arrangement of the exhibit.

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3. The display opened on October 9, 1972 and closed on February 16, 1973. During that period it is estimated that over 20,000 people viewed the exhibit. In addition to being available daily to Headquarters employees, the Agency sponsored five family days for all Directorates. The exhibit was also used by the Office of Personnel for recruiting purposes, and for special briefings by the Office of Training.

4. The Director, Deputy Director, and Executive Director CIA were given conducted tours of the display, as were Mr. John McCone and General Maxwell Taylor. The Office of Legislative Counsel arranged special tours for Senators Stuart Symington and Birch Bayh, Congressmen George Mahon, Jamie Whitten, Lucian Nedzi, Edward Biester, and William Bray; and staff members of the House Appropriations, House Armed Services, Senate Armed Services, Senate Appropriations, and Senate Foreign Relations Committees. Individual members of USIB and PFIAB also toured

SECRET

SECRET

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the exhibit. The chiefs of many of the agencies and directorates of the Intelligence Community expressed their interest by arranging tours for their people.

5. The concepts and graphic techniques used in the exhibit generated considerable interest among historical officers in other governmental agencies and departments. Mr. Randolph R. Winnacker, Historian, Department of Defense; Thomas Belden, Chief Historian, USAF; William McHenry Franklin, Director, Historical Office, Department of State; Fredrick Aandahl, Chief, Foreign Relations Division, Department of State; Capt. Roger Peineau, Curator, Navy Museum; Melvin Jackson, Curator, Maritime Branch, Smithsonian Institution, and Dan Borsten, Curator, History and Technology Museum, Smithsonian Institution, and members of their staffs visited the display. Each of these visitors were especially complimentary on the presentation techniques employed.

6. Classes from the Department of State Senior Seminar in Foreign Policy, the JCS-DIA Orientation Program, NSA Senior Cryptological Course, Army War College, Defense Sensor Interpretation and Applications Training Program, Brookings Conference for Business Executives, Military Assistance Officers Command and Staff School, NSA Research Interns, and various CIA training programs toured the display.

7. The experience gained from preparing and executing the exhibit was invaluable and will be made available to the CIA Historical Museum Commission at their next meeting, with a view to applying it to subsequent exhibits.

SECRET

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8. The exhibit was commended by the DCI, and the Director, NPIC, in turn, commended each individual with a certificate citing his particular contribution.

9. The success of the exhibit resulted in large measure from the splendid support and cooperation we received at Headquarters and OSA. The talent, conceptual skills, and production capabilities available at NPIC-- along with the magnificent "can do" spirit at the Center-- made the project a reality.

10. The panels, U-2 camera and flight gear are being packed and will be stored locally in an Agency warehouse. The models, medals, books etc. from the display cases have been returned to the respective contributors.



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DINO A. BRUGIONI
Executive Officer
Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC

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