

76-1074

3 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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1. [redacted] C/Operations Center, called me this morning to express his extreme displeasure with the fact that a cable referring to the OPSCEN was not disseminated to him. He referred specifically to [redacted] (IN 840183). He stated that he was given a copy by the DDO/DO but that did not satisfy him. He did not want DDO dictating the dissemination of Agency information. I told him I would look at the cable and call him back. I did

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so in the afternoon and [redacted] continued to use abusive language and converse in an extremely heated manner during the conversation. I explained to [redacted] that he did not get the cable because it was a DDO cable; that our policy was not to disseminate DDO information outside DDO; that further, he was given a copy by the DDO/DO, and in my opinion, that should have sufficed; additionally, the EUR Division did sterilize a copy of the message and ask us to send it to OCI on Monday, 1 March. [redacted] response was that he was

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not a part of OCI, and the fact that he was given a copy by the DDO/DO did not satisfy him. He wanted direct dissemination. I told [redacted] that there was a problem at those stations where there were DDI reps, that there were often interlocking concerns or situations in cables from these stations, and explained that the field should have used one of the appropriate DDI or OPSCEN indicators to ensure that the cable was disseminated initially to them. He would not accept this and continued to insist that DDO should not be dictating what the Cable Secretariat did with cable traffic.

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2. He stated that with reference to the Director's forthcoming trip to Europe, he had spoken to "his girl" [redacted] and had told her how poorly messages were disseminated at Headquarters and that he had made sure that his indicator will be on those messages (evidently those involving the DCI's trip) so that they get to him. He stated in no uncertain terms that he was sick and tired of DDO dictating the terms of dissemination and was not going to stand for it. He was going to write a "rocket" (he also stated a "Blast") to my boss, whoever he was, to let him know what was happening.

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3. I consider his statement to the Director's Executive Assistant that messages are poorly disseminated at Headquarters to be out of line in the extreme. I consider his abusive language and tone completely unwarranted and unnecessary. I was insulted by the fact that he was extremely discourteous and abruptly hung up the phone. I did report the substance of [redacted]'s concern with DDO cable traffic (and Cable Secretariat's handling of same) to

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[redacted] EA/DDO later in the afternoon.

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Chief, Cable Secretariat Branch

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] 25X1A
O.C.

ATTENTION : Cable Secretariat

SUBJECT : Handling of Cable Traffic Affecting the
CIA Operations Center

REFERENCE : [REDACTED] February 1976 25X1C

1. The handling of the reference message (attached) raises renewed concerns about how our interests are served in the Cable Secretariat. As you will note from the last sentence of paragraph 2 the [REDACTED] official involved voiced his desire to see the Operations Center, yet, as of this day--four working days after your receipt of this message--I have yet to receive a copy from you. I was fortunate enough to be given an unofficial copy through the alertness of our DDO/DO confederates in the Center but that kind of service alone is not acceptable to me in circumstances when the body of the message clearly indicates that an official copy should have been sent directly to us by the Cable Secretariat. 25X1C

2. As an additional point of information I have learned that as of this morning the Director of OCI was unaware of this message even though your routing stamp indicates that he was sent three copies. Likewise I understand the Office of the DDI received their copy last night.

3. I am making a particular point of this instance because it continues to happen from time to time as a result of an apparent long standing DDO distribution bias on the part of some of your cable analysts, and the DDO division practice of filtering our interests even though the message--as in this case--does not concern them operationally. With a new Director who clearly intends to use the CIA Operations Center extensively I feel constrained therefore to bring this to your attention before his upcoming trip to Europe later this month. In that connection I have written [REDACTED] his Special Assistant, alerting her to the potential of cable handling difficulties during this trip

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unless a member of his party uses the Centers SI channel routing indicator, [REDACTED] or our staff channel indicator [REDACTED]

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4. I would appreciate it if you would once again remind the members of your staff concerned that the CIA Operations Center;

a) is a multi-Directorate alert Center concerned with keeping in touch with all source critical intelligence events 24-hours a day.

b) is responsible for keeping key individuals (the DCI) alerted to those events, whether they are reported through CIA (not just DDO) channels or from other organizations, including the media, and whether the DCI is in or out of town.

c) is an independent office, attached to the DDI, and has not been a sub-office of OCI for almost two years.

d) expects to receive its traffic immediately, regardless of whether it concerns our charter relative to critical intelligence monitoring, alerting key officials, briefing V.I.P.s or crisis management issues. All this must be the case regardless of whether staff or SI channels are used, as long as the body of the message either mentions us by name or affects our above charter.

5. My overall point is that by now we should have reached a point in our history where your analysts should be able to serve non-DDO interests without in effect seeking DDO approval to distribute messages which concerns us much more than they. We seem to forget that these are CIA staff channels which while controlled in the field by the DDO are not their exclusive preserve. We would hope that the Cable Secretariat would impartially serve the interests of all, based not on DDO permission, but on the substance of the message. Thus the answer that I received from the Cable Secretariat that the Center did not get a copy directly because the [REDACTED] Branch did not put us on distribution, thinking perhaps we were still part of OCI, is rejected out of hand.

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[REDACTED]
Chief, CIA Operations Center

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Acting Director of
Communications
Room 2D-00
Headquarters

Call:

Please insure that [REDACTED] and Cable
Secretariat personnel are aware of this.

STATINTL

John F. Blake

Deputy Director for Administration 3/12/76

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		DATE
TO:		Mr. Blake
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
Per our conversation.		
FROM:		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

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