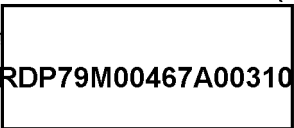


SECRET



25X1

ER's copy

29 November 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Executive Registry  
76-5591/5

SUBJECT: Meeting with President-elect and Vice President-elect in Plains, Georgia, on 19 November

1. Director Bush, [redacted] and I, accompanied by Dick Lehman, Bill Parmenter and [redacted] journeyed to the Plains on 19 November for a 1:00 p.m. session with Governor Carter and Senator Mondale. Present for the session also were Stuart Eizenstat and David Aaron. The Director met privately with Governor Carter and Senator Mondale for about 45 minutes.

2. At 1:45 p.m. Governor Carter, Senator Mondale and the Director joined the rest of the group in the Carter recreation room for what then became a five-hour session beginning with a briefing by [redacted] on the nature of the Intelligence Community, the CFI, and the new DCI responsibilities and authorities and a description of the technical collection systems, particularly the overhead systems. This briefing lasted about 40 to 45 minutes.

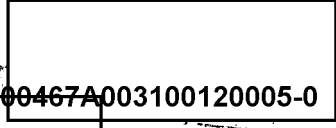
3. I then briefed for about 45 minutes on the nature of CIA. I began with a brief description of the National Security Act of 1947, emphasizing the requirement that there be a central facility to pull facts together for the President and the NSC. I noted the requirement to carry out "such other duties as the NSC may, from time to time, direct," and the DCI's special responsibility for the protection of intelligence sources and methods. I gave a brief history of the early origins of the CIA which was built upon the remnants of the OSS organization capabilities invested in CIA, but it soon became apparent that it was not enough to pull together reports -- the Agency had to develop its own analytical capability free of political or policy biases.

4. I then described briefly the collection, processing, and production functions of the Agency and noted that work is done, too, in administrative support, R&D, covert action and counterintelligence fields.

5. I covered the types of analysis and production done, running all the way from current reporting to estimative, far-out, and deeper specialized research. I cited the growing importance of economic information and concluded that our basic job is to inform, to alert, and to estimate. I said we did the information job best; alerting and predicting by nature are tougher things to accomplish well and we are working on ways

SECRET

EXECUTIVE



25X1

25X1

SECRET

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120005-0

25X1

to improve analysis, particularly in order to get an interdisciplinary approach to assessing a foreign government, its problems, and its policies.

6. I referred briefly to the CIA organization with its four directorates and then moved on to the men and women of CIA, their professionalism, the numbers involved, the various skills required, the educational backgrounds that most have, and the growing investment we make in internal training and external training. I particularly noted that in the Operations Directorate we have substantial numbers of people who know foreign cultures and languages, who work easily with foreign officials and leaders and that very often senior foreign leaders prefer to talk freely and informally to our people rather than follow a more formal official route in passing along the message to the United States Government. I said I thought this capability would prove useful to the new Administration. Governor Carter asked for an example of this and I referred to [redacted] This led in turn to a question from the Governor as to the nature of the relationship between Chiefs of Station and Ambassadors. The answer was that by law the COS is a subordinate of the Ambassador, and must keep the Ambassador informed. This does run headlong into the Director's responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods. Occasionally there are differences of opinion between a COS and an Ambassador. If these differences cannot be resolved on the ground, they are appealed to Washington where resolution is applied. In any event, it is not a raging controversy of a daily nature and it is manageable.

25X1

7. I covered briefly the trends over time in Agency investment in personnel and dollar resources, emphasizing the reduction of some 20% in our overall personnel strengths since the peak year of 1969 and also the drop-off in covert action to just 1.7% of our 1977 budget. This compares with well over 50% in the peak years of the cold war era. In describing the trends in the Agency's history, I pointed out the dramatic impact of technology, citing the special development of the U-2, the OXCART, the overhead satellites, et al. I said this kind of capability continues to exist within CIA and the Government is well served by the maintenance of such a capability in the Agency.

8. The description of covert action and its dramatic drop-off led to questions from Senator Mondale and Governor Carter on the nature of controls over covert action. We described the Operations Advisory Group, the way it functions in approving or disapproving proposals for covert action. I explained that not all covert action proposals originate within the Agency. I also pointed out that when the OAG approves a proposed covert action under current laws and arrangements, the President must make a finding that the activity is in the national interest and then the DCI must brief seven different committees of the Congress "in a timely way." This seemed to come as news to the audience. It led to a discussion of the value of the Senate's focusing its responsibility for intelligence oversight

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120005-0

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

25X1

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120005-0

in the SSCI and our hope that the House of Representatives will, in the next session, adopt a similar arrangement to focus it in the House.

9. Covered next were the major differences between our current programs and those of the 50's and 60's. Emphasizing the new look to analysis and production which I described as the capstone of our efforts and our increased investment in it, I once again hit the drop-off in covert action, pointing out that some of this is due to the realization that most covert actions can't be kept secret under current arrangements. I referred to the growing importance of clandestine collection in obtaining intentions information as compared with the capabilities data that we acquire from technical sources. I also underlined the continuing importance of technical collection, particularly the importance of such collection in peace-keeping arrangements like SALT, MBFR, and the [redacted] and described briefly too, our efforts to take a new look at secrecy in order to insure adequate protection of sources and methods while at the same time freeing up the product for wider dissemination throughout the American scene.

25X1

25X1

12. I did not have time to get deeply into counterintelligence, narcotics, or counterterrorism -- some of the new major subjects we delve into these days -- but I did tell the Governor we would like to brief him on these.

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120005-0

25X1

SECRET

SECRET

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120005-0

25X1

13. I concluded the presentation with a brief description of what I thought were our most important problems and opportunities. First, the need for better analysis and production; second, the need for improved secrecy governing sources and methods; third, the problem of how to insure creativity in a place like CIA while building internal and external controls to insure propriety; and fourth, simply that of providing effective planning and management, balancing resources, planning the future and cutting the expendables.

14. The Governor and the Senator seemed intent and rapt during the presentation. Their questions were good ones. They did not shrink at any mention of secrecy, cover, sensitivity, covert action, etc. My subjective impressions of the Governor are: a) he will be at home with and comfortable in the world of technology -- this probably grows out of his Navy and submarine experience; b) already the Governor is in receipt of large numbers of communications from world leaders

25X1

c) as a person, the Governor is soft-spoken, serene (has it all-together inside), is well-briefed; his questions are good; he is not extensively traveled but he knows a good deal about the world, particularly the troubled spots. He is interested and absorbed in intelligence matters. He is very detached and cool. I think we will find a good customer and champion of intelligence during his incumbency in the White House.

876  
E. H. Knoche

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

cc: ER (Sensitive)

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120005-0

SECRET

25X1