

CIA Military Reserve Unit

1745 - 17 October 1977

Intelligence Update

A. Past 7 months

- looking at/explaining past
- value: find ways to prevent reoccurrence

B. Moving ahead in several important areas

1. ethics - foundation of all we do
2. legislation/regulation - boundaries within which must operate.
3. oversight - ensure operating within those boundaries
4. attitudes - nurturing public support through better understanding of what we do.

Let me discuss each briefly.

C. Ethics - working on a Code

- Difficult illusive
- Problems -
 - a. Values hard to pin down & change over time.
 - b. Can't test secret actions against public consensus.
- Whether or not code possible - salutary effect of discussions & raised sensitivity to issues.

E. Oversight

1. You know Pres/VP, Senate very active/interested.
2. Now, House Committee; new IOB.

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~~_____~~ Risks *of oversight - Legislation - Regulation*

1. Timidity - LCD
 2. Security leaks.
- Balance - next few years critical

G

Attitudes - Balance between Openess & Secrecy

1. American model vs British
 - public scrutiny - safeguard against abuses
 - government openness/informed electorate: fundamental strength.
2. Initiatives taken
 - MKULTRA disclosures
 - o voluntary disclosure
 - o not being done/condoned today
 - o hope last disclosure of its kind, but even if not, must face squarely - refuse to be drawn into wrangling over past
 - Media accessibility
 - o dispell mystique
 - o gain public understanding/support
 - Time
 - Sixty Minutes
 - Future of tours at Headquarters.
 - Studies published (unclassified)

- o includes public in work
- o return on investment
- o informed electorate
 - Soviet economy study
 - Energy study
- 3. Secrecy - can't/won't open up entirely
 - Two approaches
 - o Declassify
 - o Tighten security
 - Advantages
 - o Less to safeguard
 - o Greater respect

G. Prognosis

- Future looks bright
 - Public better informed on intel activities
 - I am devoting 2-3 days a month to speaking around the country - business, academic, professional groups.
- Main theme: explaining
- why intelligence is important,
 - why acquiring some information is worth the risks we must take.
 - the surrogate control mechanisms.
 - our desire to serve the public honorably and well.

- Questions/discussions are reasoned, sometimes difficult, but always receptive to an honest, forthright answer.
- See IC on way up in public esteem. We must continue to demonstrate we deserve that trust.