

COPY FOR: Director, CIA

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**TOP SECRET**

AUG 7 1961

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF**

**SUBJECT: Military Support of Peacetime Operations of the Central Intelligence Agency (S)**

Your 29 July 1961 memorandum, JCSM-495-61, entitled as above, advising of the establishment of a Special Operations Section in the J-5 Directorate of the Joint Staff, is noted.

There is an apparent misunderstanding of the role desired for such a section in support of our interests. I have assigned primary responsibility for handling the sensitive type of activity involved to the Assistant to the Secretary, Brigadier General Lansdale. In assigning this responsibility, paramount consideration was given to the nature of the activities involved. The desirability of keeping my Assistant's immediate staff to an absolute minimum was also recognized, but it was clear that from time to time supplemental staff assistance would be required in handling the assignment. For this reason, the Joint Staff was requested to be prepared to provide additional assistance as the Assistant to the Secretary might require.

Under this assignment of responsibility, all communications between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense, with respect to special military support of CIA peacetime activity, will be handled between the CIA and the Assistant to the Secretary unless the Assistant specifically makes an exception for the handling of a category of CIA requests for support. Whenever the Assistant to the Secretary shall receive a request for military assistance from the CIA which requires staff assistance in addition to the capabilities of his own immediate staff, such staff assistance will be furnished by the Joint Staff special unit for that purpose.

I do not subscribe to the suggestion that the Chief, Subsidiary Activities Division, J-5, be kept fully informed on all matters under

JCS and OSD review(s) completed.

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*CIA TS #172982/1*

SecDef Cont. No. TS-815

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discussion by the Special Group (NSC 5412/2). However, I do expect the Assistant to the Secretary to inform you through the Chief, Subsidiary Activities Division, J-5, of Special Group matters as I need advice upon policy matters or as military planning needs are involved. The agenda for each meeting of the Special Group (NSC 5412/2) will be brought to your attention directly by the Assistant to the Secretary upon its receipt from General Taylor.

A copy of this memorandum is being sent to the Director of Central Intelligence, to clarify the channels of communication between CIA and the Department of Defense for these special peacetime operations.

Signed  
ROBERT S. McNAMARA  
Secretary of Defense

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JCSM-496-61

29 JUL 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Subject: Military Support of Peacetime Operations of the Central Intelligence Agency (S)

1. A Special Operations Section in the J-5 Directorate of the Joint Staff has been activated in accordance with the desires of the Secretary of Defense with the responsibility for the over-all coordination of all activities related to the provision of military support of the peacetime special operations of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).
2. A procedure directly incorporating the instructions from the Secretary has been put into effect. All requests from the CIA for military support of peacetime special operations, whether received directly or through the Office of the Secretary of Defense, will be passed by this section to the applicable Service contact office. Provision has been made for processing requests which are received directly by the Services from the CIA either at their headquarters or at lower echelons. Since the CIA may make a request for military support at any level of command, the Service which is contacted will inform the Special Operations Section of the nature of the request prior to providing that support unless it can determine that authority, usually in writing, had been granted for that specific CIA operation. In any event this element of the Joint Staff will keep in close contact with the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for these matters to assure close cooperation and understanding.
3. This procedure will be made more effective and the Joint Staff activities will be facilitated, if Chief, Subsidiary Activities Division, J-5, is promptly informed of all matters which may require support by the military services. Similar close coordination should also exist for all other matters of

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national policy which involve the CIA and its relationship with certain other elements of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, such as International Security Affairs and Defense Research and Engineering.

4. You may be confident of the complete cooperation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in this endeavor.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:



L. L. LEMNITZER  
Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff

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Executive Registry

66-6771

19 AUG 1961

The Honorable Robert S. McNamara  
Secretary of Defense  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your note of 7 August enclosing a copy of your memorandum on procedures within the Department of Defense for handling policy and support in connection with this Agency's operations.

The procedures as set forth are entirely agreeable to us, and we shall be glad to deal with these matters in any way you see fit.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED** *Allen*

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

O/DCI/W. Elder:kpm(8/14/61)

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*gc*

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON

(10)

ADD [unclear]

Dear Allen:

I am enclosing a copy of a memorandum which I have sent to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on procedures within Defense for handling our policy and support role in connection with CIA operations. I trust that this will help clarify the matter for all concerned and meets with your approval.

Sincerely,

*BA*

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles

Director, Central Intelligence Agency

*CIA TS # 172982*

SecDef Cont. No. TS-816

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles

A copy of this letter has already been sent to the DD/P for preparation of an appropriate reply for your signature.

*I will show this copy to Ken Cabell after you have seen.*



4 August 1961  
(DATE)

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