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Approved For Release 2005/04/22 : CIA-RDP81M00980R001900030025-2

OLC 78-2878 COPY

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27 July 1978

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HAC*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

[Redacted]

*IC*

ST

SUBJECT: Independent Legislative Liaison Function  
for the Intelligence Community Staff

1. As you are aware, at page 391 of the unclassified draft House Appropriations Committee report on intelligence, the Committee praises the decision of the Intelligence Community Staff to create "an independent legislative liaison function" in its revised structure. In an effort to determine just how "independent" this function was designed to be by the framers of the report, I called Chuck Snodgrass today. He provided the following guidance:

a. The Defense Subcommittee of House Appropriations, which handles our intelligence budget has long wanted a legislative liaison contact with total loyalty to the IC Staff to which the Committee staff could speak in confidence about IC Staff program and budget recommendations without the clear knowledge that such confidences would be reported back to one of the Community entities, i.e., CIA. It had never been able to work out such an arrangement with previous CIA Legislative Counsels. As a consequence, the Committee staff had discontinued speaking in a systematic way to CIA/OLC.

b. Current report language according to Snodgrass reflects a strongly held view by the Committee that legislative liaison for the IC Staff

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