

23 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

25X1 FROM : [redacted]
Assistant General Counsel

SUBJECT : Directorate of Operations Review of [redacted] Branch and
Certain Retired Records

25X1

1. You asked that I give you my thoughts and recommendations on what we need to do, if anything, about certain "questionable" activities that have surfaced in the course of the subject document review. Before doing that I think it is necessary to understand some of the background on the what, how, and why of the review.

2. Last summer, three events combined to cause and shape a document review within the Directorate of Operations (DO), which has not yet been completed. First, in early July 1977, the DCI was made aware of the discovery of certain documents concerning MKULTRA and drug testing which were previously thought to have been destroyed. You are aware of this and the embarrassment and work that it has caused. Secondly, on 29 July 1977, the Acting DDCI issued a directive in memorandum form entitled "Implementation of Records Control Schedules." The primary purpose of this directive was to initiate a review and screening of records in the Agency Archives and Records Center in order to identify permanent Agency records for retention (and other nonpermanent records for disposition) in accordance with records control schedules that had been submitted for approval of the Archivist of the United States. Finally, on 19 August 1977, Bill Donnelly, Chief, Information Services Staff (now Information Management Staff), DO informed the DDO that an IG review of the [redacted] Branch had surfaced a quantity of records that had not previously been reviewed by ISS. In bringing the [redacted] Branch files to the DDO's attention, Mr. Donnelly stated:

STAT

25X1

STATINTL There are [redacted] feet of records [redacted] belonging to various DO elements. Frequently, employees in the Branches today do not know what is in these files and ISS certainly doesn't know. The point I wish to emphasize is that information pertaining

25X1

25X1