

COMPT 78-0025
DDA 77-3121

Approved For Release 2005/08/15 : CIA-RDP82-00357R000300100066-0

Executive Registry
78-4120

13 JAN 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director for Administration
Acting Deputy Director for Operations
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Director, National Foreign Assessment Center
Administrative Officer/DCI

FROM : John F. Blake
Acting Deputy Director of
Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Position Ceiling (U)

1.(S) As you know, decisions of the DCI and the President about our FY 1979 Program resulted in a reduction of [redacted] in our requested position ceiling, from [redacted]. While Congress has not focused in the past on position ceiling as a target for reduction, they have directed reductions in personnel in specified areas. We cannot therefore assume that the new ceiling of [redacted] is firm and inviolate. In addition, positions established in FY 1978 conceivably could be affected by Congressional action on our FY 1979 request.

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2.(S) For your general information, it may be useful to recapitulate what has happened to our position ceiling over the past year. When we submitted our Congressional Budget request last January, our ceiling was [redacted] and we requested that same level for FY 1978. When the new Administration came into office, we were required by the President to take an immediate reduction of [redacted] positions in FY 1977 and to reduce our FY 1978 request to Congress by an additional [redacted] for a total of [redacted] changing our total from [redacted]. Meanwhile, decisions were made internally to reduce the Operations Directorate by the end of FY 1979 by [redacted] positions from the original FY 1977 level. [redacted] of these were given up in FY 1977 and [redacted] more in FY 1978 to meet the reduction of [redacted] imposed by the Administration referred to above. [redacted] more were eliminated during the July Program Review, and an additional [redacted] were lost during the President's review of our FY 1979 request. Of the [redacted] position reduction in the Operations Directorate then, [redacted] positions have been eliminated, reducing the Agency ceiling from the FY 1977 level of [redacted] to the ceiling of [redacted] currently authorized by the President for FY 1979,

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[redacted]

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and [] have been allocated to meet requirements elsewhere in the Agency. The [] were allocated as follows:

D/NFAC

DDA

DDS&T

DCI Area



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All of the [] Operations Directorate positions have therefore either been lost to the Agency or allocated to meet other requirements; none remain to meet additional new requirements.

3.(C) The impact of these reductions and reallocations of positions is such that we must be cautious in our management of personnel resources over the next two fiscal years. We cannot create, or authorize the creation of, new positions without first identifying the sources from which they will be taken; we must be attentive to the fact that any new positions authorized will require that off-setting reductions be taken elsewhere. Recruitment and employment commitments to prospective new employees must be watched carefully to ensure that on-duty strength does not exceed ceiling by any number greater than anticipated losses through the end of the fiscal period. The Comptroller and the Director of Personnel have been instructed to monitor on-duty strength carefully to ensure that strength in excess of ceiling is properly authorized. Recruitment against anticipated ceiling increases is prohibited unless the Comptroller and the Director of Personnel have concurred and the Director has given his written approval.

/s/John F. Blake

John F. Blake

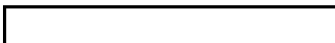
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