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17 SEP 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Support

SUBJECT : Organization of Former Employees
of CIA

1. This memorandum is submitted for information only.

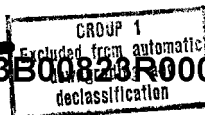
2. This Office has reviewed the proposal of [REDACTED] to establish an organization of former employees of CIA. If favorable consideration is given to the proposal, we believe that it should be reworked to provide for the elimination of security concerns as distinguished from the selection of ways to handle security problems. This could be accomplished as follows:

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- a. Eliminate all procedures for (and concern over) the screening of applicants for membership. We cannot visualize a screening program in the association which would not require a check with CIA itself or the use by one of the association officials of information which he acquired while in the service of CIA. This would be an unfortunate and otherwise forbidden personal use of officially acquired information.
- b. Require the Agency to deal with the association on a completely unclassified basis. The Agency should not furnish classified information to the association. (The proposal includes the recommendation that the "SECRET" study itself be furnished to the organizing committee).
- c. Provide for the possibility that non-friendly or unfriendly persons could obtain high positions in the association. Attitudes of people change over the years.

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d. Eliminate the hazard of circulating a list of former employees.

3. If the organization is closely tied into Agency facilities, records and support, there is a definite possibility the organization will become known as a "company union" to the press and to the public. The Agency may inherit problems when a policy clash occurs that splits the organization's leadership and that of the Agency.

4. From an overall policy standpoint, we question whether the benefits to CIA outweigh the potential disadvantages of an ex-employees organization.

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Howard J. Osborn
Director of Security

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