

SECRET

28 July 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 28 July 1980

Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting. [redacted]

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[redacted] introduced his new deputy, [redacted]

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[redacted] reported Secretary Muskie has agreed to a full review of MODE and would likely entail a series of mini-PRC meetings. Mr. Carlucci opined that a series of such meetings does not seem warranted and suggests foot-dragging by State. [redacted]

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Mr. Carlucci called attention to his testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee on 25 July, a meeting scheduled for 45 minutes duration, but which extended beyond 2 hours. He said members gave an unusual amount of time and attention to covert action, trouble spots around the world, and what CIA is doing about them. He said questions focused, for example, on our [redacted] slots as compared to earlier years and the opposing Soviet number. Mr. Carlucci noted the request to provide a paper on what CA resources could be usefully provided to meet our needs and indicated the Committee clearly doubted the adequacy of our 1981 authorization level.

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[redacted] explained proper rules and procedures re OMB in the event the Committee pursues the matter further. Mr. Carlucci asked [redacted] and Lipton to work out the details. (Action: RMS and Comptroller) [redacted]

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McMahon reported briefly on the following:

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--Syria: Unstable situation continues.

[redacted]

--Iran: [redacted]

[redacted] (1) the Iranian government will no longer pay retirement benefits to its government employees living abroad--they must return to Iran to collect; (2) the present GOI will be bankrupt within 3 months; and (3) 14 tons of Iranian gold held in British banks has been returned to Iran.

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[redacted]

--Bolivia: Consideration is underway to cut back the size of the U.S. mission in La Paz.

--China: Report that China's diplomats are being instructed to maintain a low profile abroad and especially to avoid contact with Soviets. Guidance notes that the forces of history will prevent U.S. recognition of Taiwan as advocated by Gov. Reagan.

[Redacted]

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--Jamaica: Continuing rise in violence, noting 31 recent murders. [Redacted]

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Fitzwater said Agency employees who are registering for the draft are authorized administrative leave to do so. [Redacted]

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Hetu said he is pleased we did not respond fully to Don Penny's (Twentieth Century Fox) repeated requests for help in the CBS production of a television series on CIA. He said the product is outlandish and of low quality. In response to a request from Representative Charles Rose, Hetu advised that he will brief Rose on 30 July re our ground rules for background briefings to the press. Mr. Carlucci said he feels Representative Rose's request is more than a coincidence re queries from others on recent reporting by Washington Post columnist David Leigh on the situation in Saudi Arabia stemming presumably from a background briefing earlier this year to Washington Star columnist Roberta Hornig and others. [Redacted]

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Hitz briefly reviewed Congressional activities for this week noting that, though unlikely, the House Authorization Bill could come up today under a suspension of House rules. He said Identities Legislation is a free-standing bill and that review/action by the Judiciary Committee should be viewed as a separate vote which will not alter the legislation. He said the SSCI will mark up Identities Legislation tomorrow and that he is being provided a copy of the Committee's substitute bill. Mr. Carlucci noted the importance of retaining "patterns and practices" in the language if we are to continue to receive DOJ support. Lastly, Hitz said he is working with [Redacted] on a game plan re House Appropriations Committee markup. [Redacted]

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In response to a query from Hetu on the likelihood of our becoming involved in the Billy Carter-Libya relationship, Hitz said the SSCI has forwarded to the DCI a letter requesting all intelligence information available to the U.S. Government relevant to this matter and that the DCI will meet on this topic this afternoon.

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[Redacted]