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Remarks

For necessary action to include preparation of an acknowledgment for Acting DCI McMahon's signature.

August

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30 July 1984

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Approved For Release 2008/11/04:	CIA-RDP86M00886R002300120008-9
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20 July 1984

Dear Mr. Casey:

For ten years there has been something I felt I needed to say about the part which one CIA employee played in the Cyprus War of 1974. I am saying this in a most informat . letter, which no one but I and those within Agency walls will ever read.

The FBIS employees at the Mediterranean Bureau along the north coast of Cyprus were in the direct line of fire between the two waring forces in 1974. Rooms of the bureau were straffed by Turkish aircraft. Shrapnel from an 81 mm mortar hit the pavement against the building and entered the kitchen and other rooms of the building. Five-inch antipersonnel shells exploded in our compound about 40 yards away. A large amount of small arms and other fire hit the sides of the building. This is not all that unusual in a war situation, but I think it was a common view that what my wife did during the hotilities was unusual.

My wife was one of the original employees of CIA, and while she worked she had an excellent rating. She resigned her job because I was made a bureau chief where she worked. Later in Washington she volunteered to work without pay to get public television started in the District. Later, after Channel 26 was on sound footing and she was a salaried employee there, she left, again to work for nothing. This time she devoted herself to an organization called FLOC, for Love of Children. It had taken on the task of finding homes for battered and homeless children. She personally raised money for it from foundations and set up two homes with eight black children, and some of the foster parents of those children, now in college, we still hear from today.

When I was assigned to the Cyprus Bureau, I had no one to type classified material for me, so said if she could be cleared again she would work for CIA for nothing as long as it needed her. She was cleared and authorized to work, although my admin officer said that it was not really possible to put her to work without paying her, but, after all, I was being paid well. She continued to work for many months until I was able to hire a replacement.

During the war, we had three American employees: one editor, who had already been on duty all night when the fighting started, an engineer, who had more than he could do to keep the plant operating technically, and myself, on whom many demands were made almost constantly. After about a day and a half with almost no sleep, we could no longer do all the jobs. I told my wife, a trained editor who knew FBIS copy and the Middle East we were dealing with well, that I was hiring her to file the traffic to Washington. She sat at an unprotected window for hours on end, handling the bureau reporting.

Later, unknown to me, she and a Marine went to our home about 300 yards away during lulls in the fighting to get food from our home so we could feed those in the bureau and refugees outside. As we got short of food again, this time without a Marine, she went home and got everything that was left, put it in our car, and drove back to the bureau. While she was gone, someone had closed the gate and heavy fire resumed just as she got there. A Marine rescued her and got her under cover.



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Washington, D.C. 20505

25 March 1975

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Okinawa Bureau, FBIS

Dear

Your husband has been awarded the CIA Intelligence Star for his courageous and exemplary performance of duties as chief of a Foreign Broadcast Information Service field bureau caught in the midst of military hostilities.

In making award presentations at Agency headquarters, I always point out that such special recognition also extends to the family members who share in the contributions and hardships peculiar to our service.

Your role was extraordinary even in this illustrious company. Standing beside your husband, actively participating in bureau reporting on the crisis, and supporting other FBIS employees and their families through the period of fighting, evacuation, and resettlement, you have earned our admiration and set an example in the finest tradition of American intelligence.

I want you to know that you earned a share of this Star, and that what you did will always be a source of pride to FBIS, the CIA and your country.

Sincerely,

. E. Colby Director