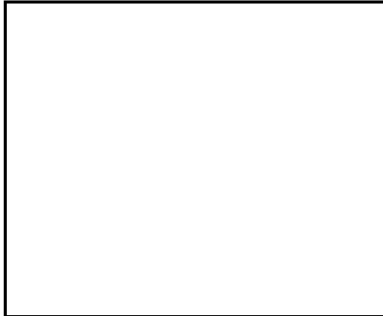


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13 April 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR:



VIA:

FROM:

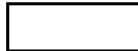
Chief, Operations Support Branch

SUBJECT:


Request to Contact and Debrief WDC
Metro Authorities (U)

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REFERENCE:



Training Memo dtd 25 Feb 83; same subj (U)

1. In response to your request,  of Operations Support Branch met with Angus McLean, Chief, WMATA Transit Police, on 11 April 1983. Information pertinent to the issues raised in reference was developed. Also, Chief McLean invited CIA representatives to attend a "hands-on" familiarization to be held in May 1983. (C)

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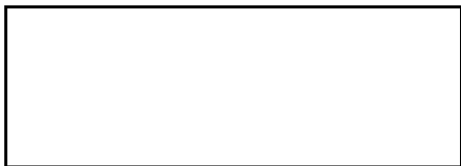
2. Regarding the hidden cameras and microphones mentioned in reference, such devices do not exist. All cameras are visible. There are no microphones. There is an extensive system of video television cameras which cover the loading platform and ticket machine areas. Only a few of these are capable of remote pan and zoom. The cameras are monitored from each kiosk by the booth attendant, not by security personnel. Obviously, they are not often watched during busy times but are monitored more closely at night. They do not quite have the capability to read print on objects such as books inside the metro cars but can identify individuals quite well. (U)

3. In the future, there will be low light remote zoom and pan cameras covering WMATA parking areas. (U)

4. It should be noted that these cameras are intended to inhibit employee theft, other theft and violent crime and to monitor pedestrian traffic in and out of the stations. Cameras

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WARNING NOTICE
Intelligence Sources
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at WMATA headquarters at 600 5th Street, N.W., are more flexible. They monitor hallways and parking areas as well as the rooms in which fare receipts are counted. The headquarters cameras are monitored both from a central security office and, for the money rooms, from separate monitors near each room. (U)

5. Communication by radio in subway tunnels is almost impossible without special low frequency sets supported by a system of wires, repeaters and antennae. WMATA has such a system and has very few "dead spots." WMATA will make their equipment available to the FBI or other legal authority in the event it is needed for such things as a surveillance within the system. The transmissions are open and clear text, however, and are regularly listened to by the news media. (U)

6. Also, there are "Blue Light" phone booths every 800 feet throughout the system. Each phone booth has a regular push button telephone. If the "star" button on the phone is pushed, instant contact is achieved with the security communications center. The center has the capability of direct, instant patching to FBI, Secret Service and all local police jurisdictions. Also located at each Blue Light is a red mushroom button. When pushed, this button deenergizes the track on that side of the tunnel. Normally, the track carries 700 volts, enough to literally vaporize a person. (U)

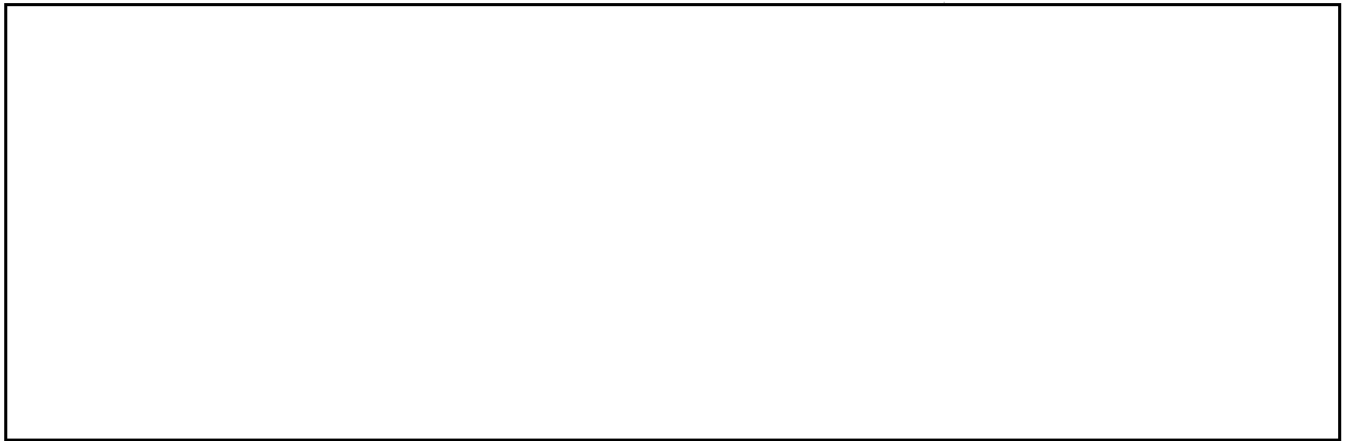
7. The high voltage and the narrow tunnels make it impractical, ^{25X1} if not impossible, for pedestrians to use any but the customary public areas.

8. There are about 90 uniformed officers patrolling the approximately 100 miles of subway. The one officer per mile ratio will probably be maintained as the system expands. Plainclothes officers have been very successful in thwarting both employee theft and other crimes. There are officers in plainclothes in various areas throughout the system on an almost daily basis. (U) ^{25X1}

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11. For your information, other systems, such as that in Atlanta, do employ 24-hour police monitoring of TV cameras. The WMATA subway system is somewhat unique in that it is built with security in mind. The straight tunnels, lack of commercial enterprises and restrooms, open mezzanines, etc., were built as crime deterrents. This also serves to eliminate nooks and crannies where sneaky things can be accomplished. However, it is almost impossible to detect something like a brush pass in a crowded subway. The crowds work both ways, though, and may make it difficult or impossible to get in position. (U)

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13. Chief McLean invited two or three CIA representatives to attend the next running of a familiarization exercise being conducted on 13-14 or 14-15 May 1983. It is being run specifically for an FBI Hostage Rescue Team training exercise but we would be welcome. It is a two-day affair but Chief McLean thought the first day only would be of interest. The second day will be "cops & robbers." If [redacted] would like to attend, OSB will arrange it. Chief McLean will protect our identities and affiliation if need be. Please advise [redacted] soonest on [redacted] if you would like to go. Your attendance is encouraged as there is no substitute for actually observing these systems at work. It would also afford you entree, if you want it, for possible future training in the subway environment. (C)

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SUBJECT: Request to Contact and Debrief WDC Metro Authorities

Distribution:

Orig. - Adse

① - Police Liaison file

1 - Subject file [redacted]

1 - C/OSB chrono

1 - OSB Chrono [redacted]

OS/PSI/SSD/OSB [redacted]

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