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1 October 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 23 September 1986 HPSCI Briefing

CIA Briefers:

ADDI Helgerson

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Congressmen Present:

Hamilton, Daniel, Hyde, McHugh,
Dwyer, Ireland, Stump, and
Kastenmeier

Subjects Briefed:

- Terrorism: Karachi and Istanbul Incidents
- Angola: Recent Developments in the War
- Angola: South African Support for UNITA (ADDO)
- Iran/Iraq: Developments in the War
- Nicaragua; Developments in the War
- CDE: Impact of the Agreement

Questions/Answers

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QUESTION: Who is getting the upper hand in the Iran/Iraq war?

ANSWER: Essentially it is still a stalemate, although Iran's position has marginally improved compared to a year ago.

QUESTION: Is Saddam Husayn politically threatened by the war?

ANSWER: Absolutely, but we can't document any specific threat.

ADDO. There has been some plotting, but the Iraqis are known for severely dealing with such plotters.

Stump

No questions.

Kastenmeier

QUESTION: Is the Israeli buildup related to the Peres/Shamir transition?

ANSWER: The transition probably won't affect what the military does next. The cabinet was unanimous in its recent action.

QUESTION: Shouldn't Daniloff be considered a spy?

ANSWER: ADDO. Someone has commented that 80-90% of all US newsmen in the Soviet Union would be considered spys by the KGB.

QUESTION: Wouldn't we regard his passage of material to the embassy as a criminal act if it had occurred here?

ANSWER: ADDI. I don't believe Daniloff's actions would be a crime in the US.

Ireland

QUESTION: Any new information on the bombings in Paris?

ANSWER: I don't know anything new, other than what is in the newspapers.

ADDO. The big debate in France is whether the Abdallah brothers are involved.

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Heightened security measures by France should lead to some results.

QUESTION: Any more on the caches of arms in Chile?

ANSWER: We don't know anything more than what I presented last week. The Chilean Government has made the information public.

Daniel

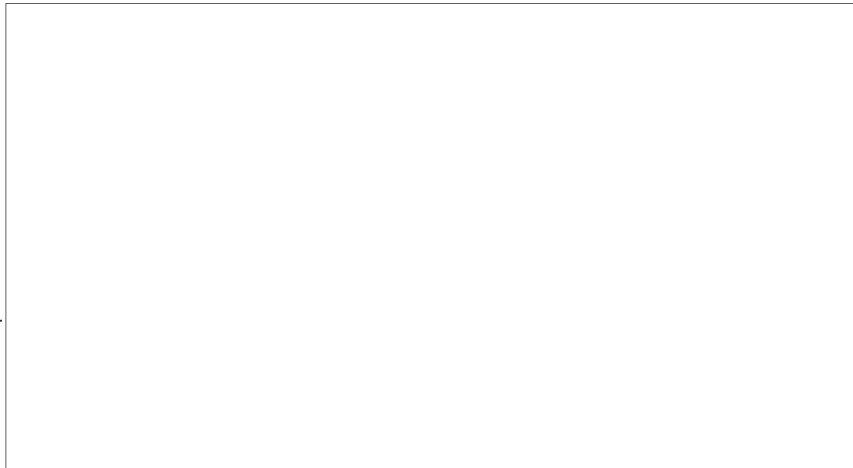
QUESTION: Do we know any more about Misha?

ANSWER: ADDO. No, we don't. Daniloff apparently had contact with him before.

QUESTION: Any activity around Adak in the Aleutians.

ANSWER: Not that I know of.

Hyde



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QUESTION: Anything new about the situation in El Salvador?

ANSWER: Neither side is in a hurry to talk. The Government is stronger than when the last round of talks occurred two years ago, while the rebels are weaker. The recent talks broke down over the location of the meeting site.

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McHugh



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QUESTION: What was the material that Daniloff passed to the US Embassy in 1985?
ANSWER: ADDO. It was related to an earlier piece of information we had received, so we were interested in it. It had to do with the Soviet missile program.

QUESTION: Was there any CIA action taken because of this information that would lead the Soviets to suspect Daniloff was a spy?
ANSWER: ADDO. Follow up action was taken, but we did not utilize Mr. Daniloff. Nonetheless, the KGB might regard Daniloff as cooperating with the CIA.

Dwyer

QUESTION: Was that the only other time Daniloff received material?
ANSWER: ADDO. That is the only time we know about.

QUESTION: How common is it for Americans to be given unsolicited material by the Soviet public?
ANSWER: ADDO. Pretty common.
ADDI. It is common enough that we tell our analysts not to accept anything.

QUESTION: Is Syria or Libya most to blame for international terrorism?
ANSWER: My feeling is that Libya is more involved in specific incidents. But Syria provides most of the sanctuary and training, and appears to be in it for the long haul.

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QUESTION: Have there been any terrorist incidents in Syria?

ANSWER: It was a major problem three or four years ago. There have also been bombings in 1986.

QUESTION: Is terrorism going to move to Italy?

ANSWER: Italy has indicted George Abdullah, and before the recent Paris bombings the French were considering extraditing him to Italy.

Hamilton

QUESTION: Is the Philippines moving toward New Zealand's position on nuclear weapons?

ANSWER: There is a danger of that. Moderates on the Constitutional Committee claim that the proposal is not the same as what New Zealand has done, although I don't find the situation reassuring. The proposed language in the Constitution is deliberately ambiguous.

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Hyde

QUESTION: I understand there are reports that the Soviets are cooperating with OPEC to keep prices up.

ANSWER: I don't believe there is any substance to such reports. Soviet oil production is at a high level, and there is no indication of any effort to cut back exports.

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Follow Up:

In response to the question from Representative Daniel regarding Adak Island, SOVA produced a short memorandum

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explaining the recent Soviet bomber incident in the Aleutians.
This paper was forwarded to Representative Daniel via OCA on 26
September; a copy was also sent to Chairman Hamilton.

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