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ICS-77-6222
18 March 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Richard Lehman
Deputy to the DCI for National
Intelligence

[Redacted]
Director, Office of Performance,
Evaluation and Improvement, ICS

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FROM: [Redacted]
Director, Office of Policy and Planning

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SUBJECT: Presidential Intelligence Priorities List

1. On 9 March 1977 the President indicated his desire to participate in the process of establishing national intelligence requirements and priorities. The attached draft memorandum to the DCI is designed to be responsive to the President's desires.

2. Request your views and/or concurrence on the memorandum by 23 March 1977.

[Redacted]

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Attachment
As stated

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ATTACHMENT

Form 163a
8-66

REFERENCE

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM:
Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence
Community
SUBJECT: Presidential Intelligence Priorities
List

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1. As you know, we are currently pursuing a rigorous zero-base scrub of DCID 1/2, the principal existing mechanism for identifying intelligence requirements and priorities within the Community. At his 9 March 1977 meeting with NFIB, the President expressed his interest in participating in the process for which the DCID is designed. His participation would be extremely valuable, therefore I propose that we suggest a framework within which he might provide guidance for this important work. We might refer to it as the Presidential Intelligence Priorities List. Such a document would:

- a. Give the President evidence of the importance being placed on his personal intelligence concerns;
- b. Be easy to establish and maintain, given the frequent contacts taking place between the DCI and the President;

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- c. Give National Intelligence Officers a convenient means of focusing on the President's concerns, and assessing consumer satisfaction with intelligence being provided on such topics during their frequent interaction with high level users of intelligence;
- d. Provide some focus for assessing intelligence performance in conjunction with semi-annual reviews, particularly appropriate in that the reviews are done on behalf of the NSC which the President chairs.

2. As the form and content of the Presidential list develops, we would reassess existing mechanisms within the Intelligence Community Planning Systems to insure compatibility and avoidance of duplication within our family of documents. Particularly we would wish to reexamine the function of the present Key Intelligence Questions and the criteria for assignment of priorities within DCID 1/2.

3. Attached is a notional initial Presidential Intelligence Priorities List. If you decide to pursue this initiative, we would envision our proceeding as follows:

- a. The notional list would be reviewed and revised in coordination with the National Intelligence Officers and within the Community Staff.

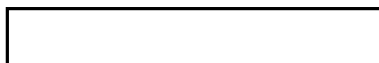
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- b. The draft initial list would be provided to you for discussion with the Secretaries of State and Defense, as you earlier indicated was your intention with regard to similar matters which you raised, and with the National Security Advisor to the President.
- c. The proposal, with an initial list suitably revised and expanded with specific questions under each category, would be provided to the President.
- d. If the President approves the proposal, the initial list would be disseminated, and the National Intelligence Officers and the Intelligence Community Staff would take necessary action to acquire and provide the intelligence indicated and to assess performance in doing so.
- e. Subsequent changes to the list would come about as a result of:

- (1) Presidential guidance;
- (2) Proposals to the President generated by the DCI or the National Security Advisor, and approved by the President.

4. With your approval, we will develop the proposal for your use in discussions with Secretaries Vance and Brown and Dr. Brzezinski.



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Presidential Priorities List

Arms Transfers

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European Issues

International Summit Issues

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[Redacted]

Latin America

Law of the Sea

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MBFR [Redacted]

Middle East

National Strategy Questions

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North-South Issues [Redacted]

Nuclear Proliferation [Redacted]

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Nuclear Testing [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

SALT Negotiation Issues

Southern Africa

Foreign Space Activities and Foreign Reactions to all (including US) Space Activities

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