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11 June 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/DCI/NI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] DIO for Latin America

1. I first met [REDACTED], the Defense Intelligence Officer (DIO) for Latin America, shortly after I was assigned to this office as Assistant National Intelligence Officer for Latin America. On my initiative, I set up a meeting with him to discuss mutual concerns and to meet Pentagon officials interested in Latin American intelligence. At that time, [REDACTED] told me that he conceived his role as supporting the Joint Chiefs of Staff and International Security Affairs (ISA) by being their contact with those elements of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) responsible for intelligence collection and production on Latin America.

a. Support the DIOs provide to NIOs. Although [REDACTED] has always been invited to meetings of the NIO-sponsored "Latinos", composed of substantive experts in the Intelligence Community on Latin America, he has never attended any of them. I have attempted to keep him apprised of significant developments in periodic calls over the secure telephone, but it is apparent that he sees himself as a catalyst and a manager rather than a substantive expert. Recently I called on him to obtain his assistance in devising a method to seek the comments of the Defense Attache Office in the country concerned before third country intelligence is disseminated by DIA to the Community. He took the matter up promptly with General Sam Wilson and General Crittenberger. I am optimistic that a solution to the problem will be worked out shortly.

b. Support the DIOs provide the Director, DIA. I cannot judge this from my perspective.

c. Ability of the DIO to "insure effective and coordinated Defense inputs to national intelligence". This office sends all national intelligence drafts to [REDACTED] for coordination, but we have never received comment from him on these

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papers. He delegates coordination to DIA/Estimates, which always responds promptly, frequently with useful contributions.

d. Degree to which the DIOs have assisted the D/DIA and NIOs in "identifying and evaluating the needs of intelligence users for Defense intelligence products". I am not in a position to judge the degree to which [redacted] assists the D/DIA in this respect. He has never addressed himself to me to identify and evaluate the needs of intelligence users for DIA products.

25X1 2. My relations with [redacted] are cordial, but not close. Any contact is usually as a result of my initiative, not his. This does not imply that DIA's relationship with us is distant. Our "Latinos" meetings are always attended by from 2 to 4 representatives of DIA, and DIA makes useful contributions to national intelligence papers. Earlier this year, [redacted] was absent from Washington for an extended period. I was able to solicit any DIA assistance I needed through the office of [redacted] of DIA Estimates.

[redacted]  
Acting National Intelligence Officer  
for Latin America

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