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3 October 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

**SUBJECT: Admiral de Poix's Letter of
25 September**

1. The attached letter from de Poix in response to yours of August 24 on the proposal raises fundamental questions which I believe you cannot ignore.

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2. One of the principal steps which we are trying to take in implementing your new responsibilities as promulgated in the November 5th directive is to strengthen the USIB committee structure. In line with this policy--and because it is the right thing to do anyway--you suggested that this proposal be put into GMAIC in order to weigh the relative priority of the intelligence requirements in light of the political aspects involved and the costs (which de Poix now says are minimal). What he is saying to you is that he himself has reviewed the project and it is all right with him so let's go ahead with it with some kind of inter-agency monitoring but not in GMAIC.

3. It is true that there was some talk between DIA and Navy representatives on the one hand and several CIA officers on the other. This was not, however, at a responsible level for assessing the national priorities involved or the implications of going ahead with Israel on a project of this kind. Further, State obviously has a major interest and neither the Army nor the Air Force would be represented in any informal monitoring of the type de Poix suggests.

4. I do not believe you can let him get away with this. He is in effect flouting your authorities and responsibilities as well as those of the USIB. If you give in on this one I can foresee a lot of trouble ahead.

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5. I would suggest that we could handle this in one of two ways. Either you could talk to Vince on the telephone or in some other convenient way, or I can do it on your behalf. In either case the message should be that you wish to handle this matter in the established way; namely, by asking GMAIC to look at it and then having it referred to USIB if necessary. Doing it orally could provide a face-saver. I think it would be unwise to reply in writing.

(Signed) Bronson Tweedy

Bronson Tweedy
D/DCI/IC

Attachments:

1. Letter from de Poix dtd 25 Sept. '72
2. Letter to de Poix dtd 24 Aug. '72
3. Memo to DCI from T. Parrott dtd 23 Aug. '72

AD/DCI/IC:TAParrott:eh

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