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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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Acting Chief, St,
ATTN :
THRU : Acting Chief,
Chief,

28 February 1968

Cocoa Embargo List Review of Items 1519 and 1520

Item 1519 -- Telegraph Equipment

As stated in our memorandum of 13 November 1967, we recommend retention of the provisions of Item 1519. We are especially concerned about digital data transmission and terminal equipment which is integral to evolving offensive and defensive weapons systems and early warning systems. We feel that continued embargo of these items will deny to the Communist countries equipment that could significantly upgrade their strategic military posture.

Item 1520 -- Radio Relay Equipment

We estimate that deletion of Item 1520 for the USSR and East European Communist countries would not, by itself, significantly enhance the communications posture of these countries. The USSR, East Germany, and Hungary produce high capacity microwave radio relay transmission equipment, but lag far behind the West in production of the associated carrier/multiplex gear. This severely restricts their ability to utilize fully radio relay transmission lines for communications traffic. A proviso should be included, therefore, that deletion of Item 1520 should not be construed to apply to high capacity radio relay systems (which include the associated carrier/multiplex equipment covered under Item 1523).

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