

ACTION

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June 4, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: HENRY A. KISSINGER  
FROM: TOM LATIMER  
SUBJECT: CIA Memo on Leaks to the Press

Director Helms has sent you a memorandum expressing his concern over increasing incidents of public disclosure of classified intelligence information. His memo is at Tab A. He has asked that you bring his memo to the attention of the President. The memo includes an annex listing a number of recent incidents of such disclosures, including some by the Secretary of Defense and those by Senator Jackson.

Director Helms sent copies of his memo to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as well as to you. Given that distribution and the fact he has listed several statements by Secretary Laird, you might want to pass the CIA memo along to the President in case Secretary Laird calls him about it.

At Tab 1 is a memo from you to the President calling his attention to the Helms memo.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memo at Tab 1.

FYI: The NSC Ad Hoc Group set up by NSSM 113 to recommend ways of coping with the problem of unauthorized release of sensitive material plans to have a draft proposal by late June.

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NSS, OSD Reviews  
Completed

TKL:ms:6/4/71

*TS-SCI Attachment, Helms to AH 6/4/71*

INFORMATION

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER  
SUBJECT: Director Helms' Memorandum on  
Leaks to the Press

Director Helms is concerned over increasing incidents of public disclosure of classified intelligence information, many of which have occurred since your injunction of 21 December 1970 urging caution in the public release of such information. He has attached at annex a list of recent incidents in which significant intelligence information was released to the press.

Director Helms' memorandum is at Tab A.

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HAK:TKL:ms:6/4/71