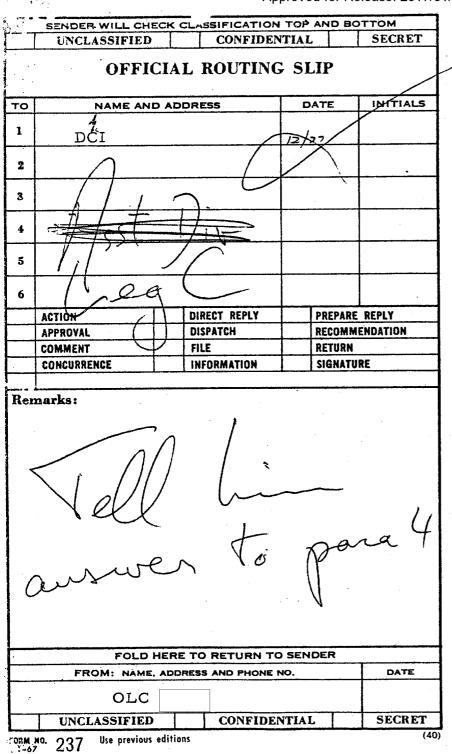
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TO HELMS FROM COLBY

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L. SINCE PARA 2 REF DOES NOT INVOLVE THE CIA OR OUR PEOPLE IN ANY WAY AND SINCE YOU HAVE GIVEN GOLDWATER THE STRAIGHT STORY, I PROPOSE TO DO NOTHING ABOUT IT.

2. PARA 3 IS POTENTIALLY MUCH MORE SERIOUS. IT IS SUBJECT TO THE CONSTRUCTION THAT HAIG PARTICIPATED IN SOME POSSIBLE "COVER UP". HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE CONSTRUCTION THAT BAKER HAD SUGGESTED TO HAIG THAT HIS UNDERLYING DOUBTS ABOUT POSSIBLE CIA PARTICIPATION BE SURFACED AND THAT HAIG SOUGHT KISSINGER'S COUNSEL AND PASSED IT ON. I WILL DISCUSS THE ACCOUNT WITH KISSINGER ON HIS RETURN AND EITHER LET THE MATTER DROP OR PROCEED AS MIGHT BE REQUIRED AT THAT TIME. UNTIL I CAN DO THAT I PROPOSE TO HOLD IT CLOSELY IN ITS PRESENT AMBIGUOUS STATE. OBVIOUSLY I SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR PASSING IT ON TO US HOWEVER.

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

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3. SEN. BAKER ON 14 DECEMBER HAD A FULL TWO HOUR QUESTION SESSION {WITHOUT US} WITH PLUS OUR RECORDS WHN TO REVIEW OUR DEALINGS WITH AT THE END OF THE MEETING SEN. BAKER SAID THAT IT WAS "BECOMMING CLEARER THAT WE WERE NOT INVOLVED IN WATERGATE ALTHOUGH HE STILL RESERVED THE OPTION TO PURSUE THE MATTER SINCE HE DOESN'T WANT TO GO TO HIS GRAVE WITHOUT HAVING GOTTEN TO THE BOTTOM OF IT." HE THEN MADE AN OBSCURE REFERENCE TO "MONEY" BUT DID NOT CLARIFY. I AM GOING TO STENNIS ON THIS MATTER OF BAKER'S CONTINUING DOUBTS AND WILL ADD THE COMMENT THAT WE MAY BE OBLIGED TO REPORT HIS DOUBTS TO SPECIAL COUNSEL JAWORSKI IF WE CAN NOT FULLY RESOLVE THEM.

4. BEST WISHES.

DATE:	17 DECEMBER 1973
ORIG:	U-E-22 COLBY
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