

~~SECRET SENSITIVE~~

21 April 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DCI and the Commission Staff

1. The Director met for two and one-half hours this afternoon with Commission Staff members Schwarzer, Manfredi and Roethe for the purpose of providing a deposition in response to questions put to him by the Staff.

2. Schwarzer asked a series of detailed questions about CIA and the Watergate. Much of this involved going over the chronology of developments, including what the Agency did and did not do about checking out all conceivable circumstances immediately after the break-in.

3. Schwarzer asked questions concerning the 1971 Nixon Administration program to declassify certain Agency histories. One basic question was whether or not Agency leaders at the time construed this as a political attempt to blacken the reputations of earlier administrations.

4. Schwarzer and Manfredi asked what can be done to create wider public understanding of some CIA domestic activities. They cited, for example, the work done by the

[REDACTED]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

5. Manfredi asked about our narcotic programs and seemed interested in the Director's answers to questions about where the line between right and wrong is in Agency activities in this field.

6. Roethe referred to the Director's 29 August 1973 directives particularly concerning security and surveillance operations and asked whether two Agency surveillance cases in the Fall of 1973 were not in conflict with his earlier directives. (It was agreed we would look into the facts of these two cases.)

[REDACTED]

(b)(3)

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7. Roethe asked about procedures by which we obtained IRS's permission to review tax information. It was pointed out that there was no DCI directive covering this. The Director said he thought a directive was probably called for.

8. Roethe asked about the current operating directive given to the USIB Security Committee. He seemed to interpret it as a rather broad hunting license for the Committee's use in carrying out security investigations.

9. Roethe asked if is still being used to train American police units in explosives. The Director said he thought not, but said he would look into it. (b)(3)

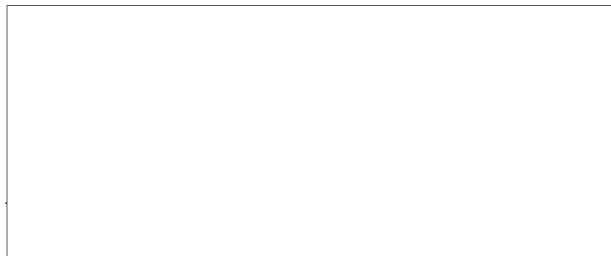
10. There were a number of questions and comments relating to CIA-FBI relations. The Director referred to the draft of NSCID #9. All three Staffers were much interested in this and asked for a copy, particularly since it goes to a subject on which the Commission hopes to render a recommendation.

11. There was a reference to a DCI memo, apparently a kind of directive issued in December 1974 concerning Agency files. Roethe asked for a copy.

12. There was a discussion of Agency proposals for new secrecy legislation. Roethe asked for copies.

13. Off the record, the three Staffers told Mr. Colby frankly of the Staffers' concerns that the Agency is dependent on what they consider to be inferior work by the General Counsel's office. This led to a discussion of the difficulty of attracting senior officials from outside, given the lid on executive pay and the controversial status of the Agency.

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[redacted]
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cc: OGC
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