Approved for Release: 2017/01/18 C01474404

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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Executive Registry

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23 February 1974

Honorable Howard H. Baker United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baker:

In your letter of February 22 you refer to Congressman Nedzi's comments in the Washington Post of February 22. believe that Mr. Nedzi refers there to the same records and information which we have provided to you, plus the extensive hearings he conducted on this overall subject, with one supplementary item. You will recall that I showed you our log of the room tapes with some hand written notes of our initial ideas as to who the "guests" mentioned therein might be. When I showed you these we were in the course of trying to reconstruct who these guests might be from old calendars, notes, etc. After I showed this initial effort to you, we continued this process and produced what we think is the best account we can reconstruct in this way. We showed this final version to Mr. Nedzi and I would be quite happy to show it to you. The main point is that it contains no additional names which relate to "Watergate". Most of the names are either foreign intelligence officials or individuals within the United States Government or private individuals concerned with foreign intelligence matters or other CIA business.

The fact of CIA's relationship with some of the foreign intelligence personalities is quite sensitive from their point of view, so I would not like this reconstructed log to leave our hands, but as I said above I would be happy to show it to you on a classified basis at any time you would desire. I think you will find that it does not contribute anything significant to your investigation.

Sincerely,

Έ. Colby Director

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23 February 1974

Honorable Howard H. Baker United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Baker:

In your letter of February 22 you referred to the fact that I reported to you that Mr. Woodward of the Washington Post apparently had a copy of Mr. Thompson's memorandum to 74-857 - W-5

Your understanding of my comments is accurate. Mr. Bernstein of the Post early on February 21 called to ask me some questions. I was not able to reply to his call until later in the afternoon, when I was told that Mr. Woodward was handling his calls. I thus spoke to Mr. Woodward who indicated that he had a copy of Mr. Thompson's memorandum and proceeded to interrogate me on it, with copious quotes of its language. Since I had a copy of it, thanks to your letter, I am sure that he was actually reading from a copy of it. He made no reference to your covering letter to me, which caused me to surmise that he did not have a copy of that. I have no idea of how Mr. Woodward might have obtained a copy of the memorandum.

I did not inform Mr. Woodward that I also had a copy of the Thompson memorandum but I did indicate familiarity with the questions he was asking, stating that you had been in contact with me about a number of matters including these. My explanation was that you had posed a number of questions in your continuing investigation, that we were answering them and that I did not see any issue between us. I did refer to the fact that I have certain inhibitions on how much of our sensitive material I could allow to leave the Agency's control but said that I have every intention to display to you anything we have in any way relating to your Committee's investigation.

Sincerely,

E. Colby

Director

SAM J. ERVIN, JR., N.C., CHAIR HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., TENN. VICE C **JAN** HERMAN E. TALMADGE, GA. EDWARD J. GURNEY, FLA DANIEL K. INOUYE, HAWAII LOWELL P. WEICKER. JR., CONN. JOSEPH M. MONTOYA, N. MEX.

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United States Senate

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES (PURSUANT TO S. RES. 60, 93D CONGRESS) WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 22, 1974

Honorable William E. Colby Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Bill:

A February 22 issue of The Washington Post carries a story by Laurence Stern quoting Representative Lucien Nedzi as concluding that no Watergate-related or presidential conversations were destroyed by the CIA in a "major house-cleaning of tape recordings in January, 1973."

Nedzi is quoted as basing his judgment on a voluminous report, including logs, notes and memoranda, delivered to him yesterday by the CIA.

Of course you have very kindly supplied me with certain records of room tapes, telephone tapes, appointment records, and so forth. In some cases the parties to the conversations are identified; in many they are not. In no case, as I recall, is the subject matter identified.

Are the records to which Nedzi referred in the Post the same records which you supplied to me? Has Nedzi been supplied with records beyond those? If so, I respectfully request them as soon as possible.

If there is any other information beyond records--for instance, interviews, oral conversations and the like relating to the destruction of tapes, transcripts of tapes, memoranda or the like--which might have to do with Watergate personalities or White House conversations relating to Watergate, I want that as well.

I appreciate your cooperation and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours very truly,

loward H. Baker, Jr.

HHBJr:dl