

OCI handwritten at 2:10 PM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry
73-7405/A

5 December 1973

The Honorable John J. Sirica
Chief Judge, United States District
Court for the District of Columbia
Room 2428
3rd and Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20001

Dear Judge Sirica:

We have your letter of 4 December setting forth the request of the electronics and tape recording experts appointed by you to examine certain tape recordings subpoenaed by the Watergate Grand Jury for an instrument known as a "Coherent Spectrum Shaper." There is such a machine in the possession of this Agency and so far as we are aware, it is the only one of its type in existence. Accordingly, we will make it available in accordance with the requests set forth in your letter.

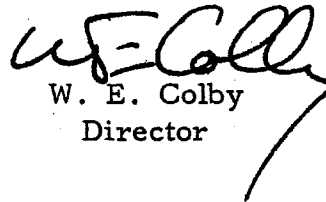
It is our understanding that Mr. Mark Weiss is fully familiar with this machine, having participated in its design, and that the operation of it in this connection will be his responsibility and that of his associated experts appointed by you; CIA will in no way be connected with this procedure. We are not able to guarantee that the machine will produce the desired results nor can we insure that it will not damage the analyzed tapes.

In view of the fragility of this equipment, we will arrange for its proper packing and for its delivery to the experts at the Federal Scientific Corporation, 615 West 131st Street, New York City. Our best estimate is that the machine cannot be made available for use by the experts before the morning of Thursday, 6 December. In any case, we will advise the Federal Scientific Corporation of the time of arrival so that a Deputy United States Marshal can be present at the time of its delivery and at all times during the testing.

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE W-5

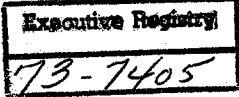
In view of our Agency requirements and work for which this machine is programmed, we would hope that the panel would conclude its use to enable our technicians to pick up the machine on Saturday, 8 December, to return it to our Headquarters.

Sincerely,



W. E. Colby
Director

United States District Court
for the District of Columbia



Chambers of
John J. Sirica
Chief Judge

December 4, 1973

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

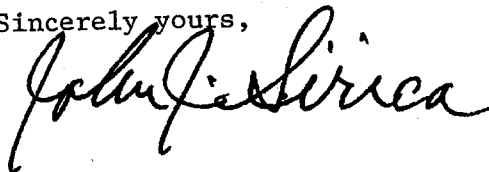
Dear Mr. Colby:

The panel of electronics and tape recording experts appointed by this Court to examine certain tape recordings subpoenaed by the Watergate Grand Jury has this date requested my assistance in obtaining for their use, a "Coherent Spectrum Shaper," an instrument in the possession of the Central Intelligence Agency. Accordingly, I am writing to ask for your cooperation in making such a machine available, under appropriate security, to the experts at Federal Scientific Corporation, 615 West 131st Street, New York City. One member of the panel of experts is Mr. Mark Weiss. It is my understanding that the machine would be needed for approximately two days, and that they would like to begin additional testing with the machine beginning December 4 or 5, 1973.

If your Agency is agreeable to the loan and transfer of this instrument for the limited purpose described, I will gladly arrange for the delivery and return of the instrument by the United States Marshal's office, or you may wish to deliver the machine directly. In addition, a Deputy United States Marshal would be present at all times during the testing to provide security for the instrument.

I would appreciate an early response to this request and any assistance which you might render on this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Rec'd about 2:55