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ODE

SC-08408-75
Copy 1 of 7

20 January 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM :

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SUBJECT: Report of Domestic COMINT Related Activities

1. This memorandum is prepared in response to a request to provide a listing of Domestic COMINT Related Activities conducted by the Collection Branch of OD&E/ for compilation into a DCI report to the Presidential Commission on CIA Activities within the United States.

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2. The method used to prepare this memorandum was to examine ledgers of R&D projects to determine what equipments existed which would be capable of detecting and/or demodulating domestic communications systems. Eighteen pieces of equipment were identified that fell into this category. Staff notes, engineering reports, and travel records were examined to find references to actual tests of this type being conducted. Although there was not sufficient time to assemble all of the material and review it in detail, it is the belief of the writer that all of the pertinent tests have been cited and that any additional information that would be gleaned by a more timely search would not produce anything more of consequence.

3. The staff engineers engaged in the development of COMINT collection equipment have infrequently been a party to or have conducted on their own volition tests which involved domestic communications systems as a primary source for test signals. However, it can be categorically stated that there exists no evidence of intent or practice of personnel to collect for files or dissemination, material that was intercepted

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during such tests.

4. It was specifically requested that names, dates and places be included in the lists. That is, for all practical purposes, impossible to ascertain with any reasonable degree of accuracy because the test data is widely dispersed in project and engineering files in which the source of the test signal is not always recorded. In many engineering tests the chronology of the test data is not relevant, because only the signal parameters or the behavior of the equipment was being monitored, such as distortion, sideband suppression, dynamic range, comparative signal sensitivity, etc.

5. The following is a list of tests that have been conducted and are on record in various files:

- a. [redacted] (Equipment unclassified, but its use is SECRET)

During the development and checkout of the [redacted]

[redacted] were intercepted to assess the capability and perform evaluation tests of the equipment. These experimental tests included the detection of the [redacted]

[redacted]

Immediately following the tests in which OED personnel were associated, the recordings were either degaussed or destroyed by slicing through the tape recording and depositing it in the nearest burn bag. In no case has there been any transcripts made of the recordings.

Tests on the [redacted] have been conducted during the period of 1972 to the present. At the time, OED does not have any operating equipment in its possession, although there is a further development effort being performed.

The [redacted] also goes by several other names such as the [redacted]

Personnel assigned to [redacted] that have taken part in such tests are [redacted]

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[Redacted]

(Equipment unclassified; its use is SECRET)

There were only two records found in which tests were conducted against domestic [Redacted]. They were conducted in part by [Redacted] in coordination with personnel from ORD and contractor personnel from [Redacted]. The tests were conducted in [Redacted] on September 18 and 19, 1973 and in [Redacted] on September 20, 1973. The links were detected but the signals were not demodulated by the equipment. The files where this information was located does not contain the names of the owners of the links. ORD obtained the permission to use the links as test signals from the owners and operators.

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c.

[Redacted]

References to tests conducted on this type of equipment makes mention only of live tests, but do not give dates or the source of the signals. This data was located in staff notes. More exact dates could probably be found in engineering notebooks but it would be very time-consuming research, and most likely they do not contain anything other than the frequency of the transmission. In some of the cases only the [Redacted] will be referenced. In these types of tests no record is made or any attempt is made to determine [Redacted]

[Redacted] so it cannot be determined who was calling who.

Persons who have participated in these types of tests are Messrs. [Redacted]

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d.

[Redacted]

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OED has been developing a line of [redacted]

[redacted]

All equipment developed to date does not have a [redacted] associated directly with the [redacted] [redacted] although in some cases the [redacted] do have a [redacted] capability.

Three tests are on record that were conducted during the period of July-September 1974 near the Washington area. [redacted] tests were conducted against [redacted]

[redacted]

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There were also tests conducted in the

[redacted]

e. [redacted]

There has been a number of items developed for use on [redacted] but no references could be found that indicated that this equipment was used at any time during the past five years on tests conducted against domestic [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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During the period 14 May 1971 - 15 November 1971,

[redacted] measurement tests were conducted

at [redacted] The purpose of these (b)(3)

tests was to determine an acceptable location for the

[redacted] Facility. [redacted]

[redacted] recordings were made and used to determine the [redacted]

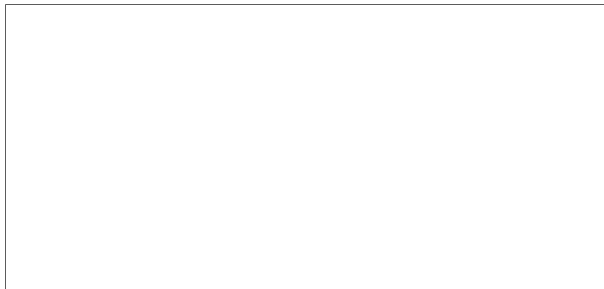
[redacted] characteristics of [redacted] on the

frequencies of interest. No demodulation was performed on

these data because neither voice nor textual information

was of concern to the program. *Contractor* - [redacted]

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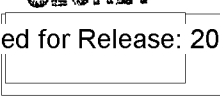
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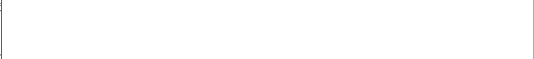
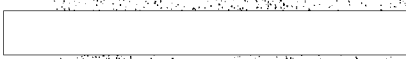
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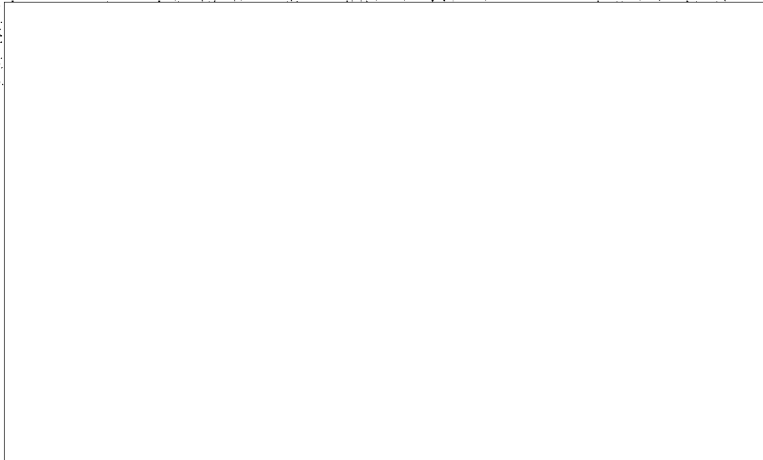
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In July 1973 a site survey of the [redacted] facility was conducted by helicopter. The purpose of the survey was to determine [redacted]

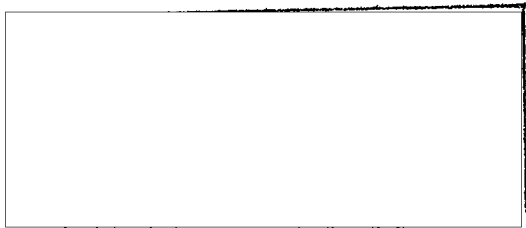


In January 1974

similar surveys were conducted at:

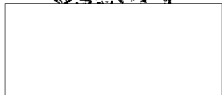


35mm photographs were taken of each tower and approach.



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