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29 April 1974

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Statement of My Professional  
Contact with Mr. E. Howard Hunt

1. The first time I became aware of Mr. Hunt was probably in 1965, when I was Chief of Operations in the old WE Division and [redacted] was the Division Covert Action Officer. [redacted] told me one day that Mr. Hunt had come in to see him to talk about Hunt's prospective assignment to [redacted]. This was the first that either of us had heard that Mr. Hunt [redacted] [redacted] said that Mr. Hunt had made it very clear to him that he was not going to work very hard during his assignment [redacted] but that he planned to spend a good deal of time on the golf course and in other recreational pursuits. Although we were obviously chagrined at this prospect, it was clear this was an assignment being made from outside the Division, and there was nothing we could do about it.

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2. It subsequently transpired that the then [redacted] [redacted] objected to the assignment of Mr. Hunt to the Station, and consequently his nomination to that position was not pursued. Instead, we were informed in WE that Mr. Hunt would be [redacted] and that the assignment would be handled from the DDP's office and WE Division need have no further concern in the matter. From that point on, except for being aware that Mr. Hunt [redacted] WE Division had no knowledge of his activities or contact with him. Whatever communication was maintained with him was handled (so we understood) by the then DDP, Mr. Karamessines. To this day I do not know what Mr. Hunt did [redacted].

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3. During a visit I had paid [redacted] prior to the time of Hunt's arrival [redacted] [redacted] had brought up Mr. Hunt's name, and had talked to me at some length about what he said had been his own unhappy

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experience with Mr. Hunt, who had been his subordinate during the Bay of Pigs operation. I forget the details of the disagreement which occurred between them at this time, except that in essence it involved--so [redacted]--Mr. Hunt's completely disobeying his orders because of Hunt's support of a Cuban refugee leader who did not otherwise enjoy CIA confidence.

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5. The first time I had any immediate professional contact with Mr. Hunt was when he returned [redacted] and was assigned to what was then the European Division. This must have been sometime in 1967, or perhaps early 1968. Again, this was a case of a directed assignment, and Mr. Hunt became the Covert Action Officer for the Division. This was not a particularly demanding job, and involved a good deal of paper shuffling and coordination with the CA Staff in behalf of the various Division branches--but these duties could be performed with a modest application of effort. This is the manner in which Mr. Hunt chose to perform his duties. Sometime during this period Mr. Hunt's two daughters were involved in a serious automobile accident, one of them sustaining a broken leg and the other a serious head injury. In the case of the former, after a routine period of convalescence, she was once again in normal health. The other daughter, however, had sustained some brain injury, which developed in an increasingly complex manner. The upshot of this was that Mr. Hunt had to give an

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increasing amount of time to problems arising out of the one daughter's serious and continuing illness and the legal and medical developments which this gave rise to. We naturally encouraged him to take whatever time might be required to deal with these problems, so that a good deal of his thought and effort understandably was focused on these matters.

6. Very rarely Mr. Hunt took the initiative in suggesting some kind of psychological action for one of our Stations. More often than not, however, these suggestions had a superficial glibness but very little substance, and it my best recollection that few, if any, of them were put into effect. In summary, my recollection of Mr. Hunt in this role is of an individual who was content to put in his time from 8:30 to 5:00, attracting as little attention as possible to himself, and very much preoccupied with problems and interests outside of the office. He was still in this assignment when I left the Division to go overseas in the spring of 1969.

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