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CLASSIFIED WORK SHEET

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R 261400Z MAY 72

FM HQ USAFSS

TO DIRNSA/P2

ZEM

~~CONFIDENTIAL COMINT~~

TO: MR. WILLIAM D. GERHARD. REF

TELECON. SUBJ:

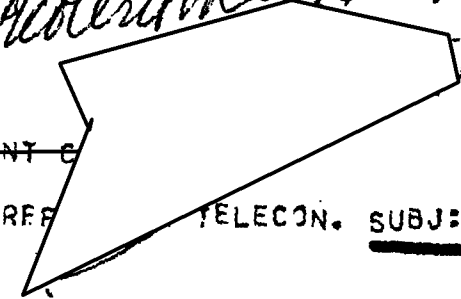
BACKG

FOUND MATERIAL AND QUESTIONS. GEN GORDON BLAKE (RET)

VISITED HQ 25 MAY 1972 IN CONNECTION WITH REVIEWING DRAFT OF TON KIN STORY. THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS FROM GEN BLAKE ARE FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

AFTER REVIEWING YOUR DRAFT OF PART ONE, TON KIN EVENTS, AND READING YOUR TELECON I HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS: FIRST, WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU IN AN INTERVIEW BUT AT THIS JUNCTURE ALMOST EIGHT YEARS AFTER THESE EVENTS I MUST MISTRUST MEMORY AS A SOURCE WHEN COMPARED TO ACTUAL RECORDS IN GLEANING FACTS SUCH AS ACTIONS TAKEN, ETC. SECOND, SOME COMMENTS KEYED TO YOUR NINE QUESTIONS. (2) YOU'D THINK THAT NATIONAL ESTIMATES AND WATCH REPORTS WOULD BE THE BEST RECORD OF PREDICTIONS AND THEREFORE A JUDGMENT ON WHETHER EVENTS WERE ANTICIPATED OR NOT. (3) PRECISE RECOLLECTIONS ON THIS TYPE OF ACTION ARE NOT FEASIBLE. (4) WOULD NEED MORE DATA ON WHAT CONTROVERSY YOU REFER TO. (5)

*To Paul Gerhard
Have you talked to [redacted] yet?
He has pretty good recollection
and recall of [redacted] subject*



*B
P2
P22
ADP
AFSS/AM*

(B) [45]

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~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

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SEE NO. 3. (6) NEED MORE INFORMATION ON NATURE OF 18 SEPT INCIDENT. (7) PRECISE RECOLLECTIONS OF REVIEWS ETC NOT FEASIBLE. (8) WOULD NOT SOURCES OTHER THAN NSA BE MORE FRUITFUL ON REASONS FOR HIGH LEVEL DECISIONS. (9) DON'T RECALL ANY SPECIAL DISPOSITIONS WHICH MIGHT ASSIST YOUR SEARCH.

IN SUMMARY, YOUR QUESTIONS HAVE A THRUST INDICATING YOU ANTICIPATE THAT I HAVE A VIVID RECOLLECTION OF SPECIFIC EVENTS, DATES AND ACTIONS. I REGRET THAT SUCH IS NOT THE CASE AND THAT FOR AN INTERVIEW TO BE USEFUL HISTORICAL INPUT IT MUST TAKE PLACE WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE FRAILTIES OF AT LEAST MY OWN MEMORY.

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