

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 7, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

FROM

JOHN EHRLICHMAN

SUBJECT

Meeting with Director Richard Helms, CIA  
Friday, October 8, 1971  
11:00 a.m. (20 minutes)

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the terms of the President's access to certain historical CIA documents.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

- A. Background: The President sent Ehrlichman to secure certain documents for the President. Helms provided some of the list attached (in the envelope). He did not provide those underlined in red. He asked to talk to you about those on the first subject especially.
- B. Participants: Director Richard Helms, CIA; John Ehrlichman
- C. Press Plan: There will be no press involvement.

III. POINTS OF DISCUSSION

1. The President wants to see all of the documents requested. He recognizes that many are sensitive and could damage the agency if used by the wrong people (even, Helms suggests, some White House staff). The President will be discreet. He is concerned about the whole declassification process and wants to see what there is in the files of several Departments and agencies.

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III. POINTS OF DISCUSSION (continued)

2. The President intends to declassify a lot of documents relating to past events.
3. CIA material will be exempt if there are good, operational reasons for exemption. Career or personal embarrassment of present or past employees is not a reason to keep documents secret.

IV. ACTIONS REQUIRED

1. Renew Ehrlichman's request.
2. Avoid promising
  - (1) That only the President will look at them, or
  - (2) That none will be declassified or released, or
  - (3) The CIA will be exempt from the declassification process.

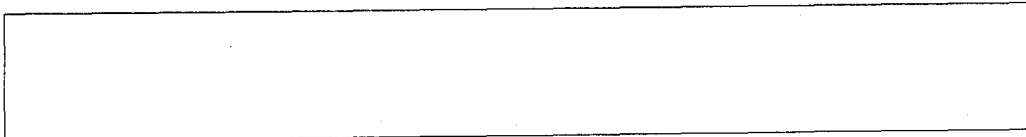
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List of Materials to be Requested

- I. DIEM COUP - 1963
- A. All Temporary Dissemination Clandestine Services (TDCS) from Saigon from April 1 through November 30, 1963;
- B. All situation reports (sitreps);

25X1



- D. All memoranda from the Director to the President, the Secretaries of State and Defense, or the Assistant for National Security Affairs;
- E. All back channels to and from Saigon Station from April 1 through November 30, 1963;
- F. Copies of any other communication relevant to this period between Saigon and the Agency;
- G. The weekly Central Intelligence Bulletin (CIB);  
- Black version (red and blue versions contain less sensitive information);
- H. Internal post mortem wrap-up;
- I. All relevant National Intelligence Estimates (NIE's).
- II. CUBAN BAY OF PIGS INVASION
- A. Taylor Committee report (inter-agency group chaired by Maxwell Taylor);
- B. Inspector General Lyman Kirkpatrick report;

- C. Internal post mortem;
- D. All relevant situation reports (sitreps);
- E. Copies of memoranda from the Director to the President, the Secretaries of State and Defense, or the Assistant for National Security Affairs;
- F. All "agent reporting";
- G. All relevant National Intelligence Estimates (NIE's);
- H. All relevant Temporary Dissemination Clandestine Services (TDCS);
- I. All relevant Central Intelligence Bulletin (CIB);
- J. Debriefings.

III. CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

- A. Internal post mortem;
- B. Relevant National Photo Interpretation Center (NPIC) read-outs and interpretation memoranda;
- C. All relevant Temporary Dissemination Clandestine Services (TDCS);
- D. All relevant National Intelligence Estimates (NIEs);
- E. All relevant Central Intelligence Bulletins (CIBs);
- F. All relevant "agent reporting";
- G. All relevant debriefings;
- H. All relevant situation reports (sitreps);
- I. Director's memoranda to the President, the Secretaries of State and Defense, or the Assistant for National Security Affairs.

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