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SENSITIVE

EYES ONLY

December 19, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: BILL CASEY
FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON

Hel Sonnenfeldt, who is one of the ablest guys on the NSC staff, is very eager to spread his own wings, and take a position in his own right in either State or Defense. To be perfectly blunt about it, he is tired of walking in Henry Kissinger's shadow.

Sonnenfeldt is one of the ablest guys in this complex. I don't think his talents have been fully realized because anyone under Henry must, of course, become almost totally anonymous.

Sonnenfeldt is whipsawed. Kissinger, of course, wants to keep him. Bill Rogers, on the other hand, would look upon him as one of Henry's men. He is, I can tell you honestly, his own man, and a hell of an able one. Elliott has been considering him for a couple of positions at Defense. I think that you might find him an extraordinarily able guy in the State Department.

I thought I would just pass this thought on to you because I am very high on Sonnenfeldt's talents and loyalties. He is also a good hard-liner. I don't know how this could be handled because of the Kissinger and Rogers sensitivities, but it is a shame that this talent seems to be lost in the middle of the Kissinger-Rogers relationship. Maybe you would want to have a talk with him, and see if there is a place where he would logically slot into the State Department, and I would think that somehow the problem vis a vis Kissinger and Rogers could be worked out if the job were a logical one for Sonnenfeldt to take.