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TOT: 270110Z MAY 78

DIRECTOR 230113

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STAFF 270057Z DIRECTOR 230113  
TO: PRIORITY WWSB, [redacted]

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*File ASCA*

BOOK CABLE

WNINTEL RYBAT

1. THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA), CHAIRED BY REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS STOKES, HAS BEEN INTERVIEWING A NUMBER OF RETIREES AND EX-EMPLOYEES AND HAS BEEN GOING THROUGH MATERIAL FURNISHED TO THEM BY THE AGENCY. THROUGH THIS PROCESS COMMITTEE STAFF MEMBERS HAVE OBTAINED A NUMBER OF NAMES OF NONOFFICIAL COVER OFFICERS AND AGENT CRYPTONYMS. IT IS NOW THE INTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE TO SEND STAFF MEMBERS TO A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO INTERVIEW INDIVIDUALS IN THE FIELD. WE ARE, OF COURSE, MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROTECTION OF OUR SOURCES AND THE IDENTITIES OF OUR NONOFFICIAL OFFICERS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE ARE ANXIOUS TO ASSIST THE WORK OF THE HSCA. WE SHALL THEREFORE EXAMINE EACH REQUEST ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

2. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH CHAIRMAN STOKES TO DEVELOP MUTUALLY ACCEPTED GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING HSCA REQUESTS. THESE ARE:

A. CONTACTS WITH FORMER AGENCY EMPLOYEES LIVING ABROAD: IF WE KNOW WHERE SUCH EMPLOYEES ARE, WE WILL INFORM THE COMMITTEE. WE CANNOT, HOWEVER, UNDERTAKE TO FIND THEM IF WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.

B. INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT AND HAVE NOT BEEN AGENTS, BUT WHO MIGHT HAVE INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THE INVESTIGATION:

THE NAMES OF SUCH INDIVIDUALS WILL BE FURNISHED US BY THE HSCA AND WE WILL CHECK TO ENSURE THAT SUCH AN INDIVIDUAL

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WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO REVEAL PREVIOUS OR CURRENT AGENCY ASSETS OR OPERATIONS.

C. NONOFFICIAL COVER OFFICERS:

STAFF MEMBERS MAY INTERVIEW NCCS BUT NOT REPEAT NOT IN COUNTRY. NCCS WILL BE FLOWN TO OTHER AREAS FOR INTERVIEWS. ADDITIONALLY, NCCS WILL USE ALIASES AS APPROPRIATE.

D. AGENTS, PAST OR PRESENT:

HSCA STAFF MEMBERS MAY NOT REPEAT NOT CONTACT OR INTERVIEW AGENTS.

3. IF YOU ARE APPROACHED IN THE FIELD WITH A REQUEST FROM AN HSCA STAFF MEMBER TO BE PUT IN TOUCH WITH NCCS OR AGENTS AND YOU HAVE NOT HAD PRIOR HEADQUARTERS NOTIFICATION OF SUCH A REQUEST, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONSULT HEADQUARTERS PRIOR TO MAKING ANY COMMITMENT. E2 IMPDET.

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END OF MESSAGE

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