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HSCA

OLC #78-4019/2

16 November 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : HSCA Access to Mexico City History

1. HSCA requested access to some 200 pages of the three-volume history of Mexico City - about a third of the material. The substantive content runs the gamut from the history of Mexico University through detailed operational support capabilities and high level political connections and activities. It is an impressive accumulation of operational activity - classical sources and methods, as well as detailed revelations about past events.
2. We pointed out that the agreement between Chairman Stokes and DDCI Carlucci directly faced the issue of the irrelevancy of the vast majority of the history, and the sensitivity of it. The HSCA position had been that it had to verify this, and the access given to senior levels was to satisfy this. Now it was being requested in connection with depositions, which would serve to get this material into a Committee transcript. Since some two-thirds of the station's history (the work covers 1947 through 1969) preceded the visit of Oswald to Mexico in 1963 and assassination of the President, that clearly had nothing to do with the Committee's charter. I added that Mr. Carlucci is out of town, and will not be back until some time Sunday, so I could not go back to him. The request was so far beyond the agreement, that I felt I could not modify it. Cornwell then asked that I speak to the Director.
3. I saw the Director at about noon, and summarized the agreement and the dilemma, also going over the above. He stated that I could offer access to one senior staff member (in addition to Blakey and Cornwell) on the condition that material from the history not be used in depositions.
4. I spoke with Cornwell, giving him the message. He said that they may wish to use some of the material. I replied that the history is based on other sources; those related to the portion that is within the Committee's charter

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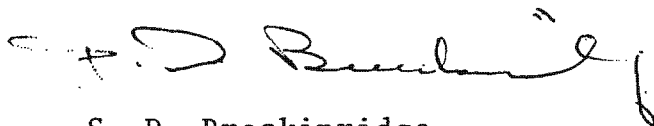
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was based entirely on sources to which Committee investigator's have had access. Our problem was the overall collection, and particularly some of the substance of the history. He asked if he could come back and ask for it, if they wanted to use something in particular. I said that we had never closed a door completely, but that the Director's condition was fairly clear. Those things relevant to their authorized inquiry were already in their hands, so I could not think what they would have to use from this. They will ask us, and we can react when they do.

5. Goldsmith came over to start reading.



S. D. Breckinridge

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