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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM-----
AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : NSC
RECORD NUMBER : 145-10001-10199
RECORDS SERIES :
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 200

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 54214 Date:
10-10-2017

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSC
FROM : THOMAS A. PARROTT
TO : MR. BUNDY
TITLE : MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY
DATE : 09/30/63
PAGES : 1
SUBJECTS : SUPPORT OF COMMANDOS L

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION :
RESTRICTIONS : 4
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED WITH DELETIONS
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 02/24/98
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS :

NO JOINT STAFF OBJECTION
TO DECLASSIFICATION

MAR 2016

DATE: _____

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

~~SECRET~~
~~EYES ONLY~~

30 September 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY

SUBJECT: Support of Comandos L

You will recall that the attached proposal dealing with Comandos L, has been discussed several times by the Special Group. It was first tabled on the 15th of August and deferred because the paper had just been distributed. It came up again on the 29th of August and you put it over to allow Mr. McCone to give his personal views. It then was thoroughly discussed on the 5th of September. An excerpt from the minutes of that meeting is attached. You then proposed to discuss it with the Group on the 19th of September; in your absence I raised it but got no reaction.

I fully realize that other considerations, particularly vis-a-vis Gromyko, changed the atmosphere somewhat, after the meeting of the 5th of September. A brand new development has now arisen, however, which makes it desirable to get a decision on this.

6(4) [The new development is that the FBI has passed to the British a fairly detailed and accurate report on the organization and planning of Comandos L. Among other things, it mentions the plan to stage through an island in the Bahamas, probably Andros. The FBI, in proper courtesy fashion, passes reports of this kind to the British from time to time, when they involve British territory. The point is of course that if we are going to cooperate with Comandos L, then we would want to get the FBI to stop passage of such reports.] 16, 17

The operators feel that they could undoubtedly pick up useful contact again, and they still believe in the project. State is still dubious. Ed Martin said the other day, in Johnson's absence, that Johnson's understanding was that if you got a favorable reaction from HA, you would then put this back to the Department and allow them to open up discussions all over again. This was by no means my understanding of what you proposed to do (although of course this was before any change in general climate). I am sure I accurately reflected what you said at the September 5th meeting, and I think suggested your general attitude, which did not seem to be as Martin describes it.

Yap
TAP

Attachments

1. Letter of 11/13/63
2. Letter of 11/13/63

~~SECRET~~

~~EYES ONLY~~

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