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LEAD

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TOR: 302349Z NOV 76 MEXI 38565

SECRET 302317Z NOV 76 STAFF

SITE MEXICO CITY 38565

TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR,

WINTEL RYBAT PLVWCADET

REF: DIRECTOR 950609 (attached)

OC/AF
SA/LA
c/w...

1. HOUSE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATORS DID NOT CONTACT STATION AS OF 1600 HOURS 30 NOVEMBER.

2. EVEN PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REFERENCE STATION HAS UNDERTAKEN SEARCH OF ALL FILES WHICH MIGHT CONCEIVABLY STILL CONTAIN INFO RELATING TO OSWALD PRESENCE IN MEXICO CITY IN 1963. SEARCH STILL CONTINUING AND WILL ADVISE RESULTS.

3. REGARDING PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFERENCE, WISH PROTEST IN STRONGEST TERMS AGAINST PROPOSED FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF AGENCY HOLDINGS RELATING TO OSWALD ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AS PROPOSED IN REFERENCE, WHILE WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO DETAILED AND TRUTHFUL SUMMARY OF OSWALD ACTIVITIES AS SUCH, THE OFFICIAL REVELATION OF OUR [LIAISON] RELATIONSHIP, [JOINT OPS] AND AGENT TRUE NAMES INCLUDING POSSIBLE IDENTITY OF LESSEE OF HOUSES USED FOR PHOTO SURVEILLANCE WOULD HAVE DEVASTATING IMPACT HERE. IT WOULD EMBARRASS OUR FRIENDS, DELIGHT

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PAGE 02

IN 115271

TOR: 302349Z NOV 76

MEXI 38565

OUR ENEMIES, REDUCE UTILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ONGOING OPERATIONS AND EXPOSE NEW LOPEZ PORTILLO ADMINISTRATION TO BARRAGE OF QUESTIONING ABOUT ²⁴COOPERATION WITH CIA, WHETHER SUCH ²⁴COOPERATION STILL CONTINUING AND SO FORTH.

4. IN OUR JUDGMENT ANY SUCH OFFICIAL REVELATION OF ²⁴JOINT OPERATIONS WITH ²⁴LIAISON MAY EFFECTIVELY TERMINATE ¹²⁴KDBADGER AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES. IN THIS CONNECTION SEE MEXICO CITY 38523 ^(IN 112196) DATED 26 NOVEMBER WHICH REFERS TO PROBLEM WE MAY ALREADY BE FACING WITH NEW MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT. (IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT ²⁴TELEPHONE TAPS IN MEXICO ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL.) AS MINIMUM, OFFICIAL STATEMENT ABOUT ²⁴JOINT OPERATIONS WOULD CONFIRM THE WRITINGS OF PHIL AGEE AND JOSEPH SMITH.

5. IT ALSO SEEMS TO US THAT SUCH STATEMENT WOULD BE IN VIOLATION OF OUR OBLIGATION TO PROTECT SOURCES AND METHODS, IF AGENCY CAN RELEASE INFO ON SENSITIVE SOURCES AND METHODS, AND PUBLICIZE PAST OPERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE ON WHAT GROUNDS WE COULD CRITICIZE THOSE WHO MAKE SIMILAR PUBLICATIONS FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES, WHICH TO THEM, MAY SEEM EQUALLY LEGITIMATE.

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PAGE 03-03

IN 115271

TOR:302349Z NOV 76

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6. IN SUM, WE BELIEVE THAT ANY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
 ALONG THE LINES OF PARA FOUR OF REF WILL GET US INTO EVEN
 MORE TROUBLE THAN WE ARE IN AT PRESENT. WE VOLUNTEER JUDGMENT
 THAT WE ARE IN THE TROUBLE WE ARE IN BECAUSE AT TIMES IN PAST
 WE SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT WE ARE AND SHOULD BE AN
 INTELLIGENCE^E AGENCY. PROPOSED REVELATION OF [LIAISON]²⁴
 RELATIONSHIP, [JOINT OPS]²⁴ AND AGENT TRUE NAMES WOULD CAUSE
 WIDE-SPREAD SKEPTICISM THAT WE ARE IN FACT INTELLIGENCE
 AGENCY. E-2, IMPDET.