

~~TOP SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

Denk
GC

DATE: 15 June 1978

FROM : LAO

SUBJECT: HCSA Request for NSA Material on Kennedy Assassination

1. Based on our discussion with Judy Miller, my understanding was that Mr. Blakey's most recent request for data from NSA involved a review of post-assassination EXEMPT product on a world-wide basis to determine if reports relevant to the assassination exist. Though Ms. Miller did not specify a time period, a three month period subsequent to the event would involve - as an example - six to nine thousand reports and would require 120 to 150 hours of analyst time just to conduct a manual search of the microfilm files where these records reside.

2. I subsequently spoke with Mr. Roger Denk, DIA, who had actually participated in the briefing of Mr. Blakey, using our SECRET-level statement as a basis. Mr. Denk advises that DIA has destroyed all its files which might relate to the assassination and that, therefore, he had had nothing to offer Blakey except the NSA-prepared sanitized statement. Mr. Denk also provided a different, much more ambitious new requirement from Blakey than that reported by Judy Miller.

3. According to Denk, what Blakey really wants from NSA is for us to conduct a thorough review of all Cuban communications during the six year period from January 1959 to December 1964, in order to see "what the Cubans were talking about/thinking about" of possible relevance to the assassination - a real fishing expedition in my view. Blakey is also reported to desire a "characterization of the traffic" - and not the traffic itself.

4. This latest version of Blakey's interests, which has probably been stated to us fairly accurately by Denk, represents a very significant work load indeed. Based on some very educated estimates made by the people in T12 who maintain the historical microfilm files, there were approximately 200,000 Cuban reports or translations issued during the six year period of interest, and roughly 2,000 man-hours of effort would be required to search these records for items of interest.

5. As we have discussed previously, I believe that NSA - in a number of separate, thorough analytic efforts - has performed reasonable and detailed reviews of all available signals intelligence. None of these reviews has resulted in the derivation of any data of direct significance to the assassination. A summary of these separate NSA efforts is attached.



5010-110

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan