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(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Report of the House Special Subcommittee on the USS PUEBLO

1. On 9 July 1969, [redacted] of D6 visited Mr. Charles Havens, Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense, to discuss with him in particular detail the security ramifications outlined in the memorandum sent to him on the USS PUEBLO by D6 on 8 July.

2. In connection with the NSA "warning" message of 29 December 1967, regarding the risk assessment of the PUEBLO's operations, it was pointed out that, since the message was originated by NSA, the fact that the items of information in paragraph 2 of the message were in fact derived from SIGINT would be assumed even if the prefacing statement "Signals Intelligence indicates" were deleted. The specific COMINT sources of the items of information in that paragraph of the NSA message were identified for Mr. Havens, and it was pointed out that they remain viable SIGINT sources. On the basis of the clarifications of the 8 July memorandum, Mr. Havens indicated that he would recommend that all of the quotation of the NSA message which appears on pages 53 and 54 of the Subcommittee's report be marked for deletion in the formal response by the Department of Defense. It was agreed that a feasible alternative would be the deletion of only the intelligence information in the quotation in the Subcommittee's report, leaving the following text:

> "The message from the Director of NSA (National Security Agency) to the JCS/JRC referred to CINCPAC message 230239Z of December 1967 and reads as follows:
>
> > 'Paragraph 1: Reference states, Risk to PUEBLO is estimated to be minimal since operations will be conducted in international waters.
> >
> > 'Paragraph 2: The following information is forwarded to aid in your assessment of CINCPAC estimate of risk . . .
> >
> > 'Paragraph 3: The above is provided to aid in evaluating the requirement for ship protective measures and is not intended to reflect adversely on CINCPACFLT deployment proposal.' "

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[redacted]

4. It was reiterated that the chronologies of the PUEBLO's messages appearing on pages 74, 75, 77, and 79 of the Subcommittee's report contain no cryptologic information, but that they do misrepresent CRITIC message handling times. Mr. Havens stated that the formal reply of the Department of Defense to the Subcommittee regarding its report would probably not contain a listing of factual errors. It would contain language authorizing direct contact between the Committee's staff and appropriate elements of the Department of Defense to correct such errors. Thus, the correction of the information in the chronologies of the PUEBLO's messages relating to CRITICs will probably remain to be negotiated by NSA with the Subcommittee Counsel.

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[redacted]

D6

cc: EAD
P04 (Mr. Snow)

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