

SECRET

MHFNO: 98-0430861

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FRP:

STAFF

CONF: IMS/ESG INFO: CE/R/IO, CIC/CEG, CIC/CEGEUR, CIC/CEGLA, CIC/LA, CIC/OG, CIC/OGUCT, CIC/PRC, DC/EUR, DO/IRO, EUR/DCCI, EUR/SG, EUR/SGF, IMDORECORD, LA/FIG, LA/FIGSC, LA/MXG, LA/MXO, LA/MXSTB, LIMITED, MDSX, ODPD, FILE, C/EUR, C/LA, CE/R, CE/R/XO, CIC/EUR (7/P)

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TOT: 041406Z FEB 98

DIRECTOR 674771

S E C R E T

STAFF

041407Z DIRECTOR 674771

TO: IMMEDIATE [REDACTED] MEXICO CITY, [REDACTED]

FROM: LIMITED DISSEM IMS/ESG INFO DO/IRO, CHIEF/LA, LA/FIG, LA/FIGSC, CIC/LA, CIC/EUR, EUR/SG, EUR/SGF, CHIEF/EUR, DC/EUR, C/CE/R/XO

SLUGS: WNINTEL

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PROTECTION OF COVER AS METHOD

REF: NONE

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: NEED YOUR RESPONSE NLT 9 FEBRUARY, TO MEET THE BOARD-IMPOSED DEADLINE.

* 2. THE<JFK ASSASSINATION>RECORDS REVIEW BOARD (ARRB) IS A PRESIDENTIALLY-APPOINTED BOARD WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RELEASING *ALL RECORDS RELATING TO THE<ASSASSINATION>OF<PRESIDENT KENNEDY> WITH A VERY FEW LIMITED EXCEPTIONS. THE MOST RELEVANT EXCEPTION FOR THE AGENCY IS WHERE THERE IS "...CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT THE THREAT TO THE CONDUCT OF US INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AND FOREIGN RELATIONS OUTWEIGHS THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND THAT DISCLOSURE WOULD REVEAL AN INTELLIGENCE METHOD CURRENTLY UTILIZED AND NOT OFFICIALLY DISCLOSED."

3. LAST WEEK, THE DDA AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATION WERE CALLED TO TESTIFY ON THE CONTINUED WITHHOLDING OF INFORMATION [REDACTED]

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FOLLOWING QUESTIONS MAY ASSIST IN THE FORMULATION OF YOUR RESPONSE.

(A) .

(C) DESCRIBE SOME PARTICULAR ACTIVITIES WHICH COULD BE IMPERILED?

(D) ARE THERE NEW INITIATIVES WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT AND SERVICE WHICH COULD BE IMPERILED (E.G., COUNTER-NARCOTICS WHERE PREVIOUSLY NONE)? DESCRIBE.

(E) IS CIA PRESENCE INHERENTLY SENSITIVE BECAUSE OF HOSTILE POPULATION ELEMENTS OR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES?

(F) IS THERE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILE USE (E.G., RUSSIAN ON CUBAN) TO DISCREDIT US EMBASSY AS A "NEST OF SPIES OR SIMILAR?"

(G) HAVE THERE BEEN PAST IMBROGLIOS OVER CIA PRESENCE OR ACTIVITIES THAT THIS RELEASE COULD RESURRECT?

(H) HAVE OFFICIAL USG RELEASES SUCH AS FOIA EVER APPEARED IN THE LOCAL MEDIA (E.G., JAPAN AND CAMPAIGN FINANCING OR PERU AND FOIA RELEASED CONCERNING VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS TORRES). REFERRED TO BY HOST GOVERNMENT EITHER ON THE RECORD OR OFF THE RECORD.

5. FILE: NONE. INDEX: NONE. CL BY: 2103140, CL REASON: 1.5(C), DECL ON: X1, DRV FROM: LOC 4-82.

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DO/TRO; REL: C/IMS/ESG (FREDRICK C. WICKHAM)

END OF MESSAGE

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