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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Mr. C. D. Brennan

DATE: 7/20/71

FROM: R. D. Cotter

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE EVALUATION COMMITTEE (IEC)
INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS

Reference memorandum 7/16/71 from G. C. Moore to you reporting on scheduled meeting of IEC 7/20/71.

Meeting of the Committee took place this morning, Assistant Attorney General Mardian acted as Chairman, and the following representatives were present: James Angleton of Central Intelligence Agency; Martin Pollmer and Robert Merchant of Treasury; [Leonard Nunno] of National Security Agency; Tom Kelley and Dan Miller of Secret Service; Colonel John Downie and Bill Vaught of Defense Department; Jim McGrath of Internal Security Division; and John Doherty, Executive Director of IEC. I represented the Bureau.

Mr. Mardian stated that he had just returned from seeing the President in San Clemente and that, as a result of his visit with Mr. Nixon, he was charging the IEC with a new project; namely, a comprehensive report on the United States Government's treatment of classified and sensitive information along with such corollary problems as how "Top Secret" clearances are granted, whether we need to tighten up our security procedures, and whether there is too much classification of documents under our current system. Mardian noted that this study was triggered by the Ellsberg case but he was not asking the Committee to review the Ellsberg investigation as such. He said that President Nixon was most concerned regarding the Pentagon Papers incident and the serious situation created by Supreme Court decisions relating to the Ellsberg case. Mardian said that the President wanted the Committee to conduct an overall, comprehensive review of all the factors relating to classification and protection of national defense information and to make appropriate recommendations for the President's consideration.