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Agency Information

AGENCY : WILDEROTTE
RECORD NUMBER : 178-10003-10439
RECORD SERIES : ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION (6)

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : ROCK
FROM : MANFREDI, GEORGE
TO : THE RECORD
TITLE : EXAMINATION OF A PORTION OF THE RECORDS OF RICHARD HELMS
DATE : 03/19/1975
PAGES : 11
SUBJECTS :
ASSASSINATIONS, FOREIGN LEADERS
CONSPIRACY THEORIES, CIA INVOLVEMENT
WARREN, EARL
WARREN COMMISSION
NOSENKO, YURI
HELMS, RICHARD
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Secret
RESTRICTIONS : 1A
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 07/30/1993
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : See page 7 in particular.

Tab G

SECRET SENSITIVE

COMMISSION ON CIA ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

Washington, DC 20500

178-10002-10089

178-10003-10414

178-10003-10439

March 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Examination of a Portion of the Records of Richard Helms

On March 13, 1975, I requested that Hank Knoche locate and make available for the staff's inspection all of the following documents maintained by Richard Helms or his secretary during the period between his appointment as DDP and the date of his separation from the Agency:

- Desk calendars
- Phone logs
- Appointment logs
- Diaries
- Chronological correspondence files
- Tape recordings of meetings and phone conversations as well as any transcriptions thereof
- File memoranda.

On the day I presented my request, Knoche explained that at the time of his departure from the Agency, Helms "tidied up" his personal files and that a substantial amount of material may have been destroyed. Knoche believes that most of the tape recordings of the DCI's phone conversations and meetings in his office were among the items destroyed. He added that the Agency has no record of what was destroyed but that the most productive source of that information would be Elizabeth C. Dunlevy, who was Helms' secretary at the time, and who has now retired from the Agency but resides in the Washington area. Knoche stated that he would make every effort to locate all of the documents in the above categories which are still within the custody of the Agency.

On March 14, Knoche informed me that he had assembled two full boxes of Mr. Helms' records which would be available on Monday in the office of the Inspector General. On March 18, I obtained the documents from

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Scott Breckinridge who expressed doubt that anyone at the Agency had previously examined them in connection with the Watergate related investigations or the Commission's investigation.

The documents fall into three basic categories which are as follows:

1. Desk calendars (1965 through March 1973). The Inspector General delivered these to me and described them as "Helms' desk calendars". However, before the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, Mrs. Dunlevy testified that she destroyed his calendars around the time of his departure from the Agency. She further testified that she maintained her own calendar of his appointments and travel plans and it appears that it is her calendars for 1965 through March of 1972 that have survived. I checked these materials only for names and dates of interest to Bill Schwarzer and myself and suggest that if any of you wish to verify meetings of importance to your subject areas, you examine these documents yourselves or make out a list of items which Pete Clapper could check. The documents remain at our disposal in eight manila envelopes in one of the safes at our offices at CIA Headquarters (I have the combination.)

2. Helms' Chronological Correspondence Files (1965 through March 1973). These files are contained in eleven (11) hard-cover file folders, the titles of which are set forth below. I examined each of these files in its entirety in an effort to locate documents which might be of interest to our respective groups. Accordingly, I do not recommend that any of you take the time to make an independent examination of these files. In the following pages, listed below the title of each of the correspondence files, you will find a brief identification of those documents which appeared to me to have some relevance to our inquiry (I have probably erred on the side of over-inclusion). I have also bookmarked the files with white pieces of paper in an effort to facilitate your finding any documents you wish to examine.

a. "1965-DD/P Chrono + DDCI"

- Helms' memorandum dated 7 December 1965 describing telephone conversation between Helms and Sullivan re FBI-CIA relations. In particular, the memorandum deals with apparent FBI dissatisfaction over CIA activity in connection with project BOURBON.
- Helms' memorandum for Bill Moyers dated 9 June 1965 enclosing a document describing the Agency's "efforts to do something constructive in the student field on behalf of United States foreign policy." The enclosure is a particularly unusual document in which it is difficult to determine whether Helms is using cryptonyms for the actual names. If he was using cryptonyms, they were poorly chosen and, if not, the document appears to describe domestic involvement in the New York area at a time well in advance of the Ober Project. Among the institutions, organizations and individuals mentioned in the memorandum are Columbia University, Adelphi College, the AFL-CIO, the John Birch Society, and Senators Dodd and Towers.
- A transcription of a 4 May 1965 phone call to Helms from Sargent Shriver [redacted]

b. "R. Helms - CHRONO-1966" (Jan-Jun)

None

c. "HELMS DCI Chrono (July-December 1966)"

The only document of interest in this file is a sheet of handwritten notes made by Helms during a meeting with Bill Moyers on 19 December 1966. The document appears to reflect a discussion of the volume of wiretapping done by the FBI and

possibly the CIA both before and after Jack Kennedy's election. Among the provocative items in the document is the following:

"1. - Hoover-Kennedy

WSA take

- a. taping in embassies
- b. snatch
- c. RCA-ITT

d. "R. HELMS-DCI-Chrono-1967" (Jan-July)

- There are a number of documents in this file that indicate that Helms or his secretary maintained a phone log. For example, there are a series of documents identifying all calls Helms made to certain newsmen during 1966 and 1967 including Reston, Wicker and Wells. These documents appear to have been compiled sometime in late 1967. The file also contains a list of all phone calls made to Helms by the President during 1965 and 1967. I will pursue this possibility with Elizabeth Dunlevy and inform you of the results.
- The file contains a series of documents apparently directed to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy in May 1962. The first document in the group is a Memorandum for Attorney General Kennedy from Lawrence R. Houston dated 15 May 1962 and reading as follows:

"In accordance with your request of 11 May 1962, I am forwarding herewith, in the attached sealed envelope, a Top Secret memorandum by Colonel Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security, setting forth the facts on which we briefed you on 7 May 1962."

Typed in red at the bottom of the foregoing memorandum is, "Senator Kennedy read this on 8 March 1967." The next two documents in the file were:

- Memorandum dated 16 August 1963 from Helms to the DCI, the subject of which was "Sam Giancana".
- "Memorandum for the Record" dated 14 May 1962, the subject of which was "Arthur James Balletti et. al - Unauthorized Publication or Use of Communications." This memo appears to have been requested by the Attorney General after an oral briefing with respect to a "sensitive CIA operation conducted between August 1960 and May 1961."

e. "R. HELMS-DCI-Chrono 1967" (Aug-Dec)

None

f. "R. HELMS-DCI-Chrono 1968"

"MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT" dated 4 September 1968, the first paragraph of which reads as follows:

"Some time ago you requested that I make occasional round-up reports on youth and student movements world-wide. Responding to this request, and guided by comments and suggestions of Walt Rostow, we have prepared the attached study. You will, of course, be aware of the particular sensitivity which attaches to the fact that CIA has prepared a report on student activities both here and abroad."

The enclosure is the Agency's report entitled "Restless Youth".

g. "HELMS DCI Chrono 1969"

Handwritten notes apparently made by Helms during a meeting with Jerris Leonard on 25 July 1969 during which Leonard apparently complained about the inadequacy of FBI coverage of dissidents. The notes state, inter alia:

"Bureau dead for five years

no mail coverage stopped in 64-65

no NSA bag jobs (all embarrassments have been discontinued)"

h. "DCI (Helms) Chrono No. 2 1970"

"MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD" dated 28 July 1970 the subject of which was "Discussion with Attorney General Mitchell on Domestic Intelligence". Helms states that the Attorney General had apparently heard nothing of President Nixon's instructions with respect to domestic intelligence until that morning. Helms adds that Mitchell also appeared to have no knowledge of the 5 June 70 meeting with respect to the Huston Plan which was chaired by the FBI.

i. "HELMS-DCI Chrono 1 - 1970"

None

j. "1971-DCI Chrono Helms"

The only document in this file is a memorandum to _____ from Helms dated 29 October 1971, subject of which was "Don A. Nixon". The first sentence of the memorandum states that "this is the monthly report on subject which you requested". The memorandum goes on to set forth certain information with respect to the President's brother which is attributed to a reliable source.

k. "1972-DCI Chrono Helms"

This file contains a memorandum from Helms to the Deputy Director dated 28 June 1972, the subject of which was "Watergate Affair". The memorandum purports to describe the substance of a phone call from Acting Director Gray in which Helms asked for and received Gray's commitment to

call off the interviews of Karl Wagner and John Caswell. The memorandum also reflects that Helms informed Gray that Dahlberg was not a CIA agent. Helms also reports that he requested that the Bureau confine itself to persons already arrested or under suspicion, and that they desist from expanding their inquiry into other areas that might eventually run afoul of CIA operations.

3. Miscellaneous Files

a. "R. Helms - Memos for Record" (1951-64)

- "Memorandum for Record" dated 24 June 1964, subject of which was "Talk with Chief Justice Earl Warren". This memorandum and several others in close proximity describe meetings between Helms and members and staff of the Warren Commission (including "David Belin of Treasury") with respect to the Commission's use of certain information provided by the Russian defector Nosenko. The group looking into possible CIA connections with the Kennedy assassination may be interested in reading these documents although they appear to me to raise no significant questions.

b. "R. Helms - 1965 - Memos for Record (1965-1972)"

There appear to be no significant documents in this file but it should be noted that while there are numerous memoranda for the record in the earlier years, there is only one document for 1972. In that document, during a meeting with Helms in early 1972, John Ehrlichman expresses concern that Henry Kissinger is copying classified documents apparently for use in his writing when and if he returns to the academic life.

c. "President - 1967-68"

None

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d. "R.H. - Notes of Mtgs with Pres., HAK, PFIAB 1971-72"

- A document dated 29 November 1972 entitled, "Chairman Mehon" which appears to be a handwritten agenda of a meeting attended by Helms. In addition to a variety of topics relating to foreign affairs, other matters discussed were "Watergate" and "SALT monitoring".
- Helms' handwritten notes of a meeting with Pat Gray on 18 October 1972, including the following notations
 - "1. What material provided by CIA was turned over to the U.S. Attorney?"
 - "2. Do you wish to review our submission to the U.S. Attorney?"
 - "3. Let us coordinate our approaches to the trial. Neither wants to be caught by surprise. Please check with us if you feel obliged to release any 'additional' information".
- Helms' handwritten notes of a meeting with Kleindienst on 24(sic)/10/72 which includes the following notations"
 - "1. Challenge re CIA implication by defendants (as outlined in Warner's memo para 2)".
 - "2. - CIA will testify if essential to head off allegations of CIA involvement".
 - "3. (ground rules to be established re handling of CIA materials by U.S. Attorney) (confined to Assistant U.S. Attorney in charge of case)".
- Handwritten notes of a meeting with George Meany on April 4, 1972, in which it appears Helms attempted to enlist the support of AFL-CIO in various projects.

- Helms' handwritten notes of a meeting with the President and John Ehrlichman on October 8, 1971, in which the following subjects appear to have been discussed:

"1. declassification

2.

3.

Presidential linen

John McCone's reason for compiling document

Formal memoranda written by participants

State, Defense and JCS documents

Internal CIA working documents never properly approved

No external distribution

No knowledge inside Agency of document

'History of the Vietnam Generals' Coup' prepared

in mid-November 1963 in the emotional atmosphere of that period."

- Helms' handwritten notes entitled, "Lunch 22 September 1971" which include the following:

"Bay of Pigs

1. CIA has no copy of Taylor report on Bay of Pigs (Taylor & Bundy)
2. Hawkins report
3. Kirkpatrick report

Diem Episode

1. State and JCS

Cuban Missile Crisis

1. IG report by Community on Intelligence Activities - summary + three volumes

Lebanon Landings

1. Two SNIE's"

The second and third pages of this document are written in different color ink and read in part as follows:

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"Declassification

1. Lebanon Landing
2. Cuban Missile Crisis
3. Bay of Pigs
4. Diem Assassination

call

3. Bay of Pigs papers

- a) Green Commission report claimed by Max Taylor
- b) Lyman Kirkpatrick report on Bay of Pigs
- c) basic documents re operation

4. Diem episode

- a) what papers we have
- b) situation reports
- c) backchannel traffic

2. Cuban missile crisis

- a) paper on this
- b) summary
- c) can we put together whole story?

good man to consult re declassification

Rehnquist

1. Lebanon landings"

- Undated handwritten notes (apparently in 1970) headed "AG" which appear to be 4 item agenda including as item 4, "Roselli".

- Undated handwritten notes (headed "AG") which appear to be an agenda. The first item is:

"1. technicians to work with RCA but on loan to FBI"

Written at the bottom of the page is:

"See HAK

- 1) AYJP (Mitchell re "getting caught")
- 2) Orchid"

e. "NIXON-NSC"

A yellow sheet of handwritten notes "for January 30 meeting with Pres & HAK - DD/P and A/DD/P were also briefed." Items included in what appears to be an agenda are:

"Bay of Pigs

hold down since Vietnam

assassinations (Diem, Trujullio, Castro)



George A. Manfredi