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11 December 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Historical Review Group

FROM: [redacted]
DO, Focal Point for ARRB

SUBJECT: DO Position on Identification of ERTHYROID/3

1. The DO strongly opposes the release by the ARRB of the phrase "a good KUBARK asset" that was previously withheld in Attachment. The CIA asked [redacted] to send ERTHYROID/3 to Mexico City to help in the interrogation of [redacted]. Because this was during the [redacted] regime, we have admitted that we had a liaison relationship with [redacted] and we also have released the cryptonym ERTHYROID. ERTHYROID/3 became well known to the Mexicans as the [redacted] interrogator and, of course, was known by his own service. The phrase "a good KUBARK asset," however, identifies him as a unilateral source of the [redacted] Station unbeknownst to the [redacted] and [redacted] Services.

2. The DO often recruits officers, such as ERTHYROID/3, who are members of [redacted] with which it has a liaison relationship. These assets provide us valuable information without the knowledge of the service and in many cases they provide information about the service itself and its activities. To reveal ERTHYROID/3's identity and his special relationship with the CIA would not only personally endanger ERTHYROID/3 but could cast suspicion on other recruited officers of other [redacted] services and compel them to reevaluate their unilateral relationships with the CIA.

[redacted]

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