



(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

October 12, 1973

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. McLUCAS

SUBJECT: Intelligence Breakfast of Friday, October 12

It was reported that at the subject meeting Dr. Schlesinger expressed concern that the Agency U-2s had been deployed to [redacted] prior to any approval by his office. He said that he [redacted] been notified of the action until it was completed and that he would assure that it did not happen again. He further expressed the opinion that it was the wrong kind of equipment and it was my interpretation of his remarks that he meant that SIGINT gear should have been sent.

On three occasions, within a few minutes after the actions were decided, I personally contacted Brig. General Wickham with information relative to the deployment. The first case was to inform him of the departure time of the first U-2 for [redacted]. The second occasion resulted in my talking to Brig. General Taylor as I could not contact General Wickham, I apprised him that no landing rights in [redacted] been approved and, therefore, the U-2 would not depart. The third contact was to inform General Wickham for Dr. Schlesinger of the departure times of the two U-2s and the support [redacted]. In each case, I passed any additional information available relative to the planned deployment.

Ordinarily, the Deputy Secretary of Defense and you sign off on a black book approving such a deployment. However, in the past this has been circumvented if the Secretary of the 40 Committee, representing the President, gave orders to deploy. This is the case that in fact prevailed in this instance. An additional anomaly is that the aircraft officially deployed under the SCOPE SAINT practice deployment plan particularly to facilitate landing approvals in [redacted] deployment had already been approved through [redacted]. It was planned that if deployments to the Middle East were ordered or requested, a black book would be circulated in the normal fashion whether it was before the fact in the case of a request or after the fact in the case of a directive.

IDEALIST

MEMORANDUM VIA [redacted]
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After being informed of Dr. Schlesinger's statements, I checked with General Wickham who assured me that Dr. Schlesinger had been informed. I further checked with Dr. Schlesinger's secretary, Evelyn, to insure that correspondence did not go out of the office with such statements in it unless it was assured that it was Dr. Schlesinger's intention to do so in spite of the information that was available in his office.

[REDACTED]

Robert D. Singel