

SD/03



TELCON
Rumsfeld
Sec. Kissinger
December 23, 1974
9:35 a.m.

RELEASED IN PART
B5, B6

[Redacted]

B5

K: I want to talk to you about the Helms matter. I don't know the facts remotely. I have no knowledge whatever to what body of fact it refers. If there were any such activities they were not reported to the NSC office [Redacted]

B6, B5

[Redacted] I think for a senior official to get villified without opposition from the Administration on the basis of such an article is dangerous business. There are no facts, just allegations. First, we should ask Colby to give us a report on the body of fact to which this refers whatever it is. What could Hersch be referring to. If they conducted investigations of Americans -- for what purpose. See what I mean. At least then we would know what we are talking about. I don't know now.

R: That is why I tried to reach you or Brent and I finally got Kennedy.

K: [Redacted]

B5

R: [Redacted]

K: [Redacted]

B5

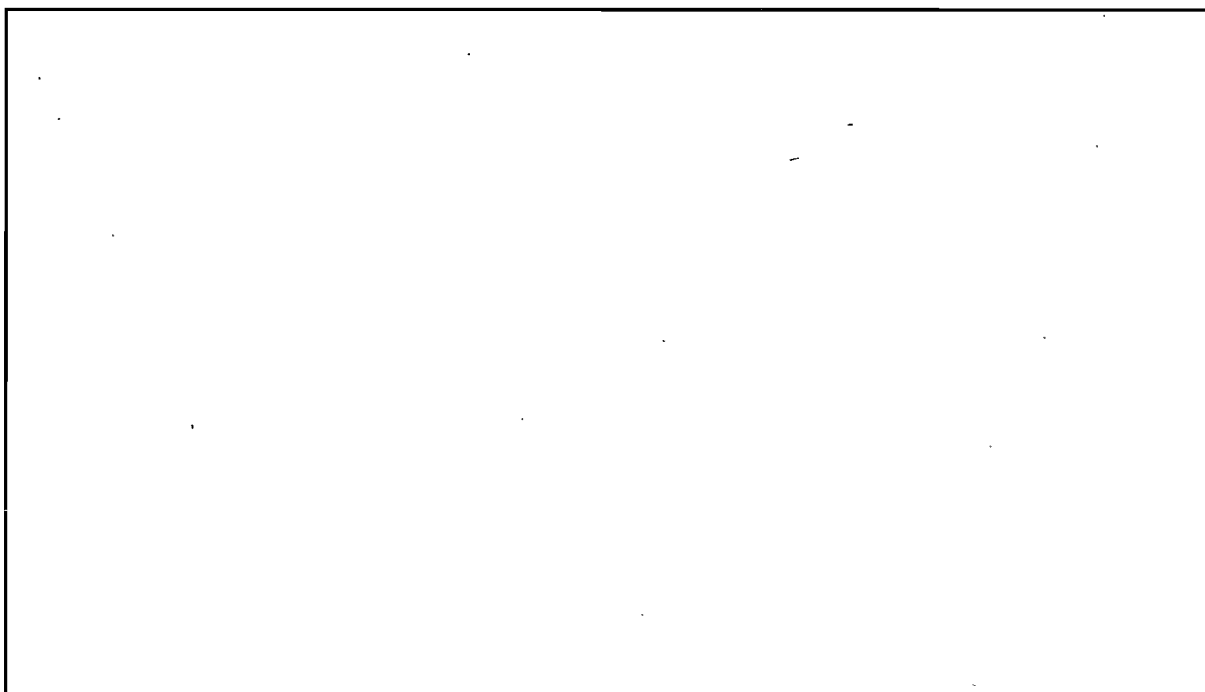
[Redacted] I don't know of any where in investigating foreign agents they run across Americans. If the files get constituted it could be in this way. Perhaps they did investigations for Nixon. I don't know whom they report them to. They certainly never reported them to us and if they reported them to Halderman and Ehrlichman why didn't that come out earlier.

[Redacted]

B5



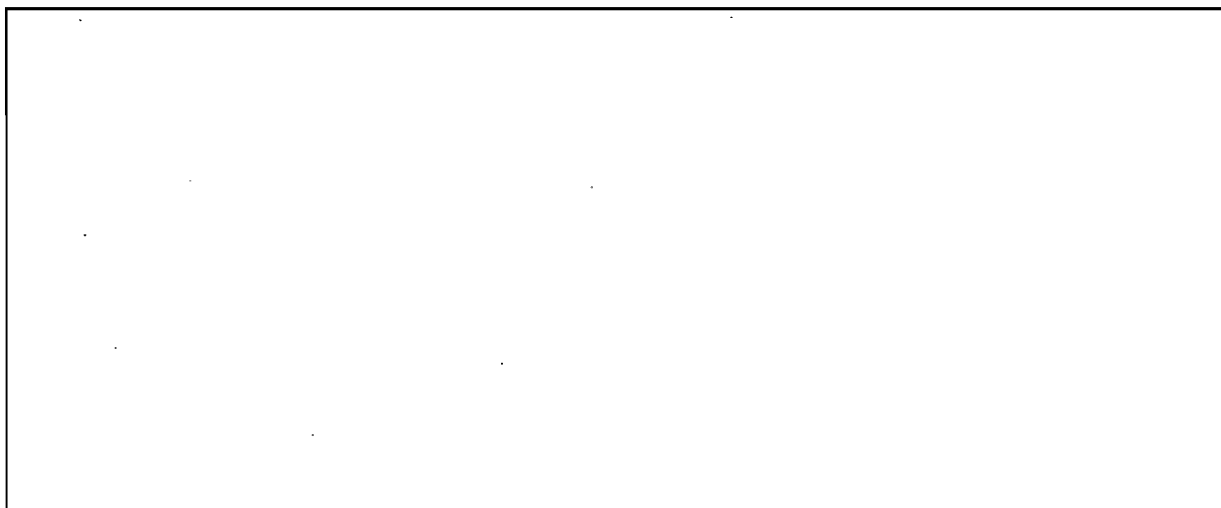
TELCON
Rumsfeld
p. 2



B5

K: I will ask Colby for a written report for the President's use. I do not know what body of fact this could be referring to. We will ask Schlesinger the same question. Nessen then can say the President has asked for a written report and he will decide what to do after he has seen this report. That way we look disciplined and thoughtful. Obviously the CIA must operate within the law. I don't think we should express an opinion on an investigation at this point. I am saying at State that if ~~anything~~ Congressional Committee wants Helms, of course, we will bring him back.

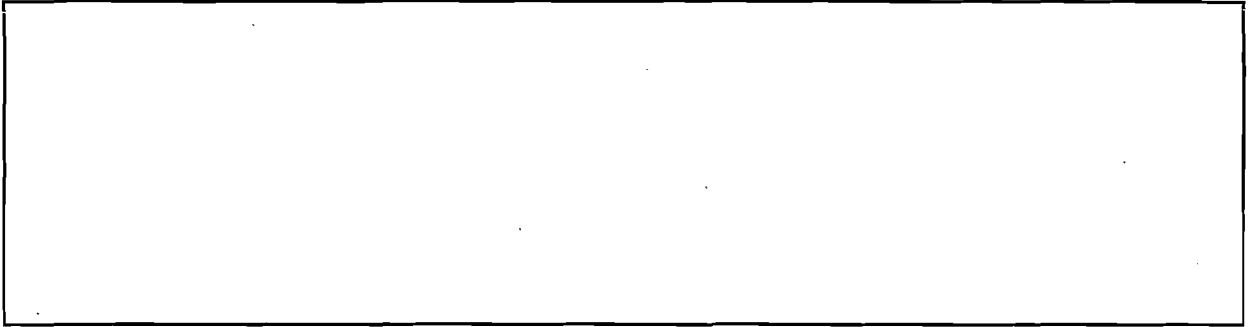
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B5



Rumsfeld
p.3



B5

END

