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24 April 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: John H. Stein
Acting Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT: Briefing Provided Acting DDO by General Tighe
and General Stillwell

1. On this date I received a briefing by General Tighe (accompanied by Generals Stillwell and Larkin) on their special project, of which you both are aware. For the record, at the conclusion of the briefing I made the following points to them.

- I believe the project worthwhile and long needed, and I personally hope it will be successful. I was heartened to hear they are beginning slowly and carefully to build the capability. I said that often the best ideas come to nothing because one begins with a massive organizational concept which does not lead to fruition.
- I said that recognition of the need to stay coordinated in general and in specific with CIA is most important, for there is much this Agency can do to help. I assured them that the Directorate did not view the coordination process as an opportunity to impede the success of their efforts.
- I offered to them full support from the Directorate, noting that we have much skill and experience in developing the type of capability that they will be trying to develop. Further, I said that once their

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project is closer to launch date, my instincts would be to assign one or two senior officers to the Office of the DDO whose sole task would be to assist the military effort. In this way the authority of the office could be used to cut through normal and abnormal bureaucratic roadblocks. I said I made this statement wishing in no way to denigrate the normal excellent liaison between the DDO and the Defense Department on military intelligence collection efforts. However, knowing the culture in which I had spent my career, a Special Assistant to the DDO would be required to cut through long-held supercilious attitudes toward military intelligence operations.

2. The meeting was very friendly and informative, and the bottom line is I said the DDO would fully support the new efforts of DoD.

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