

01/18-81/22



9 SEP 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major General J. M. Willems
 Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, USA

Rear Admiral L. H. Frost
 Director of Naval Intelligence, USN

Major General J. H. Walsh
 Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, USAF

Major General R. A. Breitweiser, USAF
 Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Lt. General J. A. Samford
 Director, National Security Agency

SUBJECT: ELINT Requirements Requiring Sensitive
 Collection

1. The National Security Agency, with the concurrence of the ELINT Committee (a subcommittee of the USIB), has indicated its preference for turning over to CIA for collection action those priority ELINT requirements of the community which cannot be satisfied by assets subject to the direction of NSA.

2. It is the belief of CIA that this is proper procedure. However, in order to insure the maximum use of existing assets, the requirements received by CIA from NSA should be screened against US agencies' ELINT collection capabilities of a sensitive or clandestine nature. Where none exist it may be necessary for CIA to proceed with the development of new equipment or operations.

3. As a means of accomplishing the foregoing, I am requesting Mr. James Q. Reber to meet with your representatives from time to time on an informal basis. He has already done so on a problem bearing on [redacted] This group, for lack of a better name, I suggest be called the Ad Hoc Group for ELINT (AGE). Unless you perceive some objection to this, may I invite you to name a representative with whom Mr. Reber may be in touch on these matters.

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4. I am very hopeful that by working closely together on these ELINT problems we can avoid wasteful efforts and, what is more important, actually obtain better collection against priority targets.

(sgd) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plane)

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