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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Ann Fleisher Hoffman DATE: January 11, 1980  
Executive Assistant to the Attorney General

FROM : <sup>21</sup> Robert L. Keuch  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Classification of Records

The two letters enclosed were written by me and signed at my request by then Attorney General Levi. They were originally unclassified.

However, having recently had the occasion to review these letters it is my view that the letters should have been classified at the Secret level and I have done so. Would you please substitute the enclosed properly classified copies of these letters for any copies in the files of the Attorney General and destroy the unclassified copies in your files.

Enclosures

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF THE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
JAN 31 1980

This document becomes unclassified upon removal of classified attachments



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Declassified Case: LW- 88308  
Date: 11-02-2013

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Form OBD-197  
MAY 1978

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Office of the Attorney General  
Washington, D. C. 20530

October 9, 1976

Honorable George Bush  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Bush:                      FOIA(b) (3) - 50 USC 403g - CIA

As you are aware, the Department of Justice is conducting an investigation to determine who may have been involved in the death of Orlando Letelier, the former Chilean ambassador to the United States who was assassinated on September 21, 1976, in Washington, D. C. On the basis of information developed in that investigation, we have reason to believe that the responsible parties may be outside the United States, and that the assassination may be part of a program of violent activities directed by foreign powers, foreign organizations, or their agents at persons within the United States or elsewhere.

I have been advised that information leading to a determination of whether any foreign powers or their agents have been or may be involved in such a program of violent activities would be significant foreign intelligence and/or counterintelligence as defined by Section 2(a) of Executive Order 11905. I understand that the Central Intelligence Agency may be in a position to obtain information bearing on these violent activities. I have recommended that the National Security Council consider levying requirements upon the CIA to develop abroad such foreign intelligence or counterintelligence information. If the National Security Council endorses my recommendation, I am satisfied that such a request would be in accordance with applicable laws and regulations relating to CIA activities including Section 4(b) of Executive Order 11905.

A criminal investigation into the Letelier assassination is presently being conducted by the Department of Justice in conjunction with the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. Since, as noted above, CIA's compliance with a National Security Council request would be in

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WARNING: Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

FOIA(b) (3) - 50 USC 403g - CIA

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accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, information developed as a part of the Agency's foreign intelligence and counterintelligence activities which would be subject to dissemination pursuant to Section 5(c) of Executive Order 11905 and the applicable guidelines I have promulgated pursuant thereto may be disseminated in accordance with such procedures.

Sincerely,

  
Edward H. Levi  
Attorney General

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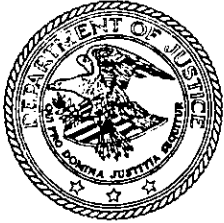


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FOIA (b) (3) - 50 USC 403g - CIA

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Office of the Attorney General  
Washington, D. C. 20530

Executive Registry  
76-5412/1

October 9, 1976

Honorable George Bush  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bush:

As you are aware, I have recommended to the National Security Council that the CIA be tasked with the development of foreign intelligence and counter-intelligence related to the question of what foreign powers, foreign organizations, or foreign agents may be involved in a program of violent activities directed at persons within the United States or elsewhere based, in part, on the development of information which has given us reason to believe the bombing death of Orlando Letelier may be a part of such activities.

I understand concern has been expressed that the development of such intelligence and its dissemination to the Department for use in the criminal investigation could lead to disclosure of your sources or methods.

This is to confirm discussions by your General Counsel with officials of the Department in which it was agreed that the Department will not disclose any information you may provide which could identify your sources or methods unless you and I mutually agree to such disclosure or, in the absence of such mutual agreement, such disclosure is directed by the President.

Sincerely,

*Edward H. Levi*  
Edward H. Levi  
Attorney General

WARNING: Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

Original Cl. by: R. L. Keuch  
/ / Decl. / / Review on: 1/29/2000  
Ext. Bynd. 6. yrr. By: Classifier  
Reason: (b) and (d)

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