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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

November 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JEANNE W. DAVIS
FROM: STEPHEN LOW *SL*
SUBJECT: Senate Report of Covert Action in Chile

I recommend against release or declassification of the Senate Select Committee staff report on covert action in Chile on the grounds that it would do serious damage to our relations with the countries of Latin America. An official report of this kind would be held as conclusive evidence by our opponents that we were engaged in frequent and large-scale intervention in the internal affairs of other nations in the Hemisphere and constantly used against us to the detriment of our relations. It would damage the effectiveness of our Embassies and our representatives in the normal and legitimate exercise of their responsibilities.

Some of the statements are obviously more damaging than others. However, from the overview to conclusions, there are statements describing covert action which would be harmful. Reference in the overview to the fact that covert action was not confined to Chile is particularly damaging.

It is possible that portions of the conclusion which were generalized could be released. However, the report is so repetitious that no single section before the conclusion seems to me to be susceptible of declassification. It might be possible to release part of the report starting from Section B, page V.2 of the conclusion, providing that phrases and sentences dealing with the past record could be eliminated. I have marked up that section as a suggestion.

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE INTERAGENCY
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL.
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)
ISCAP No. 2010-009, document 13

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