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October 7, 1975

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U. S. SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE TO STUDY COVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES (SSC)

RE: DEPOSITION OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
W. RAYMOND WANNALL

On October 3, 1975, in response to a request of Mr. John T. Elliff, Staff Member of the SSC, Mr. W. Faymond Wannall, Assistant Director, Intelligence Division, Foderal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), was deposed in Room 457 of the Russell Senate Office Building by Messrs. James Dick, John T. Elliff, and Eric Richard, Staff Members of the captioned Committee. The deposition concerned matters relating to the so-called watch List maintained by the National Security Agency (NSA) to record the list of names of individuals and organizations furnished to that Agency by the FBI for the purpose of receiving information coming to NSA's attention during the course of its regular activities relating to communications matters.

The Staff Members began taking the deposition at approximately 3:15 p.m. and it was completed at 5:40 p.m. The questions and answers were recorded by Mrs. Susan Hamback. The questions and answers were recorded by Mrs. Susan Hamback. Five minutes before the peginning of the deposition Senator Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania appeared and placed Mr. Wannall under oath. He then departed and placed Mr. Wannall under oath. He was told that Mr. Wannall was advised of his rights. He was told that since a senator would not be present he could decline to answer questions and he could request a discontinuance at any time. He was further advised that the results would any time. He was further advised that the results would be recorded and he would be given an opportunity to review the transcription and sign it at a later time.

Mr. Wannall, just prior to leaving his office to appear for the deposition, was furnished the attached letter dated October 3, 1975, signed by Mr. David D. Lowman, Special Assistant to the Director for Congressional Reviews, NSA, and approxed by Lieutenant General Lew Allen, Jr., Director of NSA. Messrs. Dick, Ellist, and Richard were

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1 - 67- (Personnel File Assistant Director W. Raymond Wannall)

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SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES (SSC) RE: DEPOSITION OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR W. RAYMOND WANNALL

In response to questioning, Mr. Wannall stated that he could not recall any instances wherein names regarding the Cuban Watch List were submitted orally to NSA, but it was possible that this may have been done in some cases. He was not able to comment on the volume of material received from NSA in connection with the Cuban Watch List since the product went directly to the desks of the supervisors handling Cuban matters within his Section. He did recall that the quality of information was in some instances very good (since it related to known or suspected Cuban Intelligence Agents operating in the United States and Puerto Rico.) (75)

The memorandum of May 18, 1962, referred to the fact that it would be helpful to the FBI to receive a periodic listing of firms in the U.S. which were doing business with individuals in Cuba and with the Cuban Government. In explaining this comment, it was pointed out that the U.S. Government had established a list of restricted items which could not be sent to Cuba without an export license and material of this nature would have been of value to the FBI to establish identities of firms which might be contravening the provisions of regulations so adopted and administered by the Department of Commerce. It was pointed out that to Mr. Wannall's knowledge no such U.S. firms were subsequently included on the Watch List.

The memorandum of January 16, 1963, referred to the possibility of furnishing to NSA a listing of approximately 1,100 Cuban invasion prisoners and 900 relatives of these prisoners who had recently been admitted to the U.S. It was explained that this referred to the prisoners taken by the Cubans during the Bay of Pigs invasion in April, 1961, who, to the best of Mr. Wannall's recollection, had been released by the Cuban Government and had returned to the United States around Christmastime of 1962.

It was pointed out that to the best of Mr. Wannall's recollection, representatives of NSA conducted a general briefing of certain personnel of the Domestic Intelligence Division sometime around the Fall of 1969 in order that the

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