MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE EUGENE G. FUBINI, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Operations

I refer to your recent query made to General Blake as to whether NSA had ever reported its support of operations to the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

General Blake told me that you are familiar with the support NSA has been giving to Plan 34A and also to certain activities. I am confident that, as a result of the Tonkin Gulf briefings given the Board, NSA support to 34A is known at least partially to that body. (A 34A operation added to the complications of the Maddox incidents.) Because of our general effort, it is probable that the Board members believe that we are called on to support various activities, a correct assumption. NSA has not briefed the Board on its support to another's activity until after NSA participation or support had already been made known to the Board by the authority responsible for mounting and supporting the activity in question.

As a general practice we would never brief the Board on the support given a when the direction of that activity was not NSA's responsibility. We would expect the Department, Bureau, or Agency charged with running the activity to cover the support they were receiving when they discussed that activity with the Board. We would, of course, respond to a direct question but would in general not anticipate one about another's until after NSA participation or support had already been made known to the Board by the authority responsible for mounting and supporting the activity in question.

LOUIS W. TORDELLA
Deputy Director

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 12-20-2005 pursuant to E.O. 12958, as amended