

GOLF UP TALKIN

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

23 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR General George S. Brown
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

The attached request for information from the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities is forwarded for preparation of an appropriate response. Please return your response by 29 August 1975 as an attachment to a draft letter of transmittal to the Committee for my signature and coordinate your response with NSA.

George S. Brown
General K. Laxiner
The Special Assistant

Attachment

The attached request for information from the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities is forwarded for preparation of an appropriate response. Please return your response by 29 August 1975 as an attachment to a draft letter of transmittal to the Committee for my signature and coordinate your response with NSA.

PROPERTY OF NSA, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
ON LOAN TO SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE TO STUDY
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO
INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.

P.L.
86-36

Signature: 26 August

155874

Sent On Day 13

TELECOPIER ITEM	
DTG:	15 1445
FROM:	D9
DIST:	[Redacted]

THIRTY GULF INQUIRY

KEY QUESTIONS

1. What key individuals were involved in planning the 34-A and IX SOLO programs? What provisions were there for coordination of specific covert operations and intelligence collection missions, if any?
2. What was the role of NSA in the IX SOLO patrols? Was the special communications contingent which reported aboard the USS Mardox on 30 July 1964 a "department" (completely under jurisdiction of Cmdr. Herrick) or a "detachment" (with separate reporting channels to the Naval Security Group and/or NSA)?
3. How did Operation SLINGBACK affect development of OPLAN 34-A? What form did CIA participation in MAC/SOG take? Was MAC/SOG informed of the schedule and patrol routes of IX SOLO patrols?
4. What were coordination procedures between CIA and military personnel in the execution of 34-A actions? Who were the action officers in Saigon and DaNang for the 34-A operations of 30 July 1964 (attacks on Hon Nieu and Hon Me islands) and 3 August 1964 (bombardment of Rion River estuary and Vinh Son radar installation)?

PROPERTY OF NSA, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
ON LOAN TO SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE TO STUDY
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO
INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.

JOHN STAGG, DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE
JOHN B. THOMAS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE
PAUL A. HENRY, DEPUTY
CHARLES J. MURRAY, DIRECTOR, ANALYSIS
DONALD D. HUMPHREY, DIRECTOR, ANALYSIS
ROBERT R. KIRKWOOD, DIRECTOR, ANALYSIS
JOHN H. GALT, DIRECTOR, ANALYSIS
JOHN C. SCHAFFER, DIRECTOR, ANALYSIS

Senate Select Committee

SENATE COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES
(SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE)
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 8, 1975

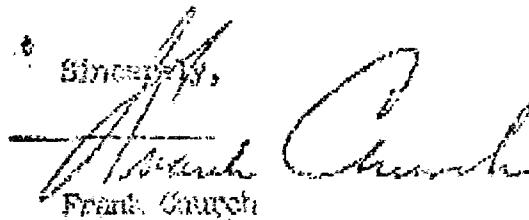
The Honorable James R. Schlesinger
Secretary of Defense
32080
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Schlesinger:

The Select Committee is investigating the relation of U.S. covert operations and intelligence collection to the Gulf of Tonkin incidents of August 1964. We are particularly interested in the planning and coordination of "34-A" operations and DE 3300 patrols, and the (general) conduct and control procedures for Southeast Asia covert operations.

Attached is a more detailed description of the Committee's questions and a document request. Your assistance in this matter is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,


Frank Church

Attachments

11850

PROPERTY OF NSA, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
ON LOAN TO SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE TO STUDY
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO
INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.

Document Request

NSA25X3

PROPERTY OF NSA, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
ON LOAN TO SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE TO STUDY
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO
INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES,

1. The complete classified version of the DOD study, "United States-Vietnam Relations 1965-1967" (publicly known as the Pentagon Papers).
2. The IDA/WSCG study "Command and Control of the Gulf of Tonkin Incidents of 4 August 1964," by John Ponturo.
3. CINCPAC OPREP 34-63 (submitted September 1963, concerning covert operations in Southeast Asia).
4. OPLAN 34-A (annex developed by MACV and [redacted], submitted December 1963).
5. Minutes from the Vietnam policy conference at Hanoi, 29 November 1963, and/or any reports or documents issuing from the conference which pertain to dissection of OPLAN 34-63.
6. The Krulak Committee Report of 2 January 1964 which recommended authorization of certain activities from OPLAN 34-A.
7. Any minutes, reports, or documents mentioning 34-A operations, DE SOTO patrols, or Operation SWITCHBACK from the office of the Special Assistant to the JCS for Counterinsurgency and Special Activities (SACSA), for the period 1 September 1963 - 30 December 1964.
8. Any directives to COMUSMACV from DOD, and/or reports from COMUSMACV to DOD, concerning Operation SWITCHBACK (which occurred in late 1963 or early 1964, and involved transfer of covert action programs in Vietnam [redacted]).
9. Directives or reports concerning coordination between MACV and COMINCHIEFLIT on the matter of DE SOTO patrols in the Gulf of Tonkin, especially the patrol of USS Maddox which began 31 July 1964 (RIN 72, RDI 30 72.1). P.L. 86-36
10. Any internal NSA directives, reports, or documents concerning NSA's role or interest in DE SOTO patrols of 1964, especially the Maddox patrol of 31 July.
11. Mission directives to Lt. [redacted] USNR (head of the USS Maddox's special communications contingent during the patrol of 31 July 1964) from Naval Security Group, [redacted] and/or from NSA.
12. CINCPACFLT message 021104Z, August 1964 (to CTIO 72.1).
13. Detailed organization charts of the Studies and Observations Group (MAC/323) under COMUSMACV from 1963-65, and names of key personnel in MAC/323 during that period.