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16-02-97

FS-1247-74
31 July 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: I. Irving Davidson

1. At 1000 hours on 31 July 1974, in compliance with instructions from Mr. Halpern, I met with Nial Ainsley, Chief, Covert Procurement/OL, relative to the Davidson matter. Ainsley read the Washington FO memo regarding the subject and then called Billy Morgan and asked him to join us. Morgan as Chief, Operations Support Branch, Supply Division/OL, has the direct responsibility of funding for, receiving, and storing items of the type that Davidson is seeking to peddle. After Morgan read the Washington memo, a long discussion ensued from which the following points emerged:

a. Per instructions from Mr. Colby, the CIA is currently engaged in a dialogue with the DoD to determine the mutual responsibilities of the CIA and the DoD in future paramilitary operations. One of the most important aspects of this matter is logistical support. Although this has not yet been settled, the assumption is that the CIA will continue to bear the major responsibility for procuring Soviet, Bloc, and PRC arms and ammo to support paramilitary ops. This has never been a mission of the three military services and they have no capability for this type of acquisition. (The principal CIA rep in these discussions with the DoD is James Cigrum, Deputy Chief, SOG.)

b. The CIA inventory of 7.62 Soviet ammo has been seriously depleted in the past year and, for several months, Ainsley has been seeking to procure up to 4 million rounds through different sources without success. Each attempt to secure ammo involves some security risk.

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