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Summary of Statement by DCI to USIB Principals and Committee Chairmen Regarding the President's Memorandum of 30 November 1963 on Economy in Government

In an executive session with USIB principals and Committee Chairmen at the 4 December Intelligence Board meeting, the DCI tabled copies of the President's memorandum of 30 November regarding economy in government and in a statement with respect thereto:

a. Commented on the great seriousness with which the President had issued this memorandum and the unrelenting strength of his purpose, now as in the past, to eliminate waste and extravagance in government.

b. Noted that, while the President's pledge and firm intention for economy in government would be communicated to Board members through departmental channels, he wished to emphasize to the USIB the special importance which he attached to this call for action because of the unique nature of the intelligence community's interlocking arrangements for performing its functions on a coordinated basis.

c. Advised that he had assured the President in recent discussions that the intelligence community had already directed significant efforts toward conducting its activities in an economical manner and that it would continue to pursue this objective.

d. Expressed his determination that the interface between U.S. intelligence agencies be examined in order that steps, as necessary, be taken to make improvements and remove any undesirable duplication of function and activity.

e. Requested specifically that each Board member study the activities of his agency as related to those of the other intelligence agencies and consider whether reliance could not be placed on particular agencies to conduct certain of those activities and thus reduce possible duplication.

f. Informed the Board members that in initial response to the President's memorandum he was directing a thorough-going review of CIA activities at all levels, in both its headquarters and field components.

g. Addressed the USIB Committee Chairmen, who were present, and stressed to them their individual responsibility as agents of the intelligence community to apply the President's instruction to the work of their respective committees.

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Remarks:

At General Carter's request, the attached summary of the statement by the DCI at the 4 December USIB meeting regarding the President's instructions on economy in government is transmitted herewith in one copy for each addressee.

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