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Executive Registry
76-7810/3

PERS 76-1207

11 MAY 1976

DD
76-2354

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Brent Scowcroft
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

FROM : George Bush
Director

SUBJECT : Nomination of Lt. General Vernon A. Walters,
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence,
for the National Security Medal

1. Attached is a recommendation (Tab A) that the National Security Medal be awarded to Lt. General Vernon A. Walters. This recommendation has been prepared in accordance with Executive Order 10431 which establishes the National Security Medal and the Regulations promulgated by President Truman concerning its award. (Copy attached as Tab B.)

2. General Walters' outstanding career began when he enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1941. He was commissioned and assigned to an Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon the following year. His military assignments included close service to the nation's top military leaders, key attache positions, and staff assistant assignment to Presidents. Because of this unique background and experience he was appointed Deputy Director of Central Intelligence in 1972 and has served in that capacity under four Directors of Central Intelligence. Since that time, veteran intelligence careerists have acclaimed his contribution to the intelligence effort. His knowledge of foreign affairs, keen intellect, and unusual linguistic ability made him a strong asset to the Intelligence Community and it is fitting that his career, a model of dedication, integrity, and service to country, should be capped by this outstanding performance.

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3. If the President approves the award, it will be necessary for him to sign the enclosed certificate, which accompanies the medal. It would also be appropriate for the President to present the award if his schedule would permit.

4. I strongly support this recommendation. The award is justly deserved and will appropriately recognize the outstanding contributions that General Walters has made to the Agency, the Intelligence Community, and his country.

/s/ George Bush
George Bush

Attachments a/s

Distribution:
0 - 2 - Addressee
1 - DCI
1 - ER
2 - DDA
1 - D/Pers
1 - DC/BSD
1 - Exec Sec/HMAB

(Signed) F. W. M. Janney

Originator: _____
Director of Personnel
10 MAY 1975

AT OP/BSD/ [redacted] jp (7 May 76)

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CITATION

Lt. General Walters' outstanding career began in 1941 when he enlisted in the U. S. Army. He was commissioned the following year and served with distinction in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Italy. After the war he was selected for numerous key assignments at Attache posts, SHAPE Headquarters, NATO, and as staff assistant to Presidents. His successes in these important positions were further recognized when in 1972 he was appointed Deputy Director of Central Intelligence.

General Walters brought to his new assignment not only a keen intellect and an invaluable background in foreign affairs, but he also possessed the highest degree of integrity, initiative, and desire for preservation of his nation's security. Serving under four Directors of Central Intelligence, his accomplishments won the acclaim of veteran intelligence careerists. At a time when the Central Intelligence Agency withstood its severest test, General Walters provided strength of character, high moral conviction, and courageous leadership that reflect great credit on himself, the Intelligence Community, and his country.

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Proposed Award of the National Security Medal
to Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

1. The National Security Medal was established by President Truman via Executive Order 10431 on 19 January 1953. Under the Executive Order's provisions, the National Security Medal may be awarded by the President (or by such persons as he may designate) for "distinguished achievement or outstanding contribution" in the field of "intelligence relating to the national security." The implementing regulations for the National Security Medal, also approved by President Truman on 19 January 1953, provide that the contribution of recipients of the award should consist of "exceptionally meritorious service performed in a position of high responsibility." It is our desire to nominate Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters for this award. At this writing, he is Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, though he will relinquish that post as soon as his successor, Mr. Enno H. Knoche, is confirmed by the Senate and sworn in. It is our opinion that General Walters' service to his country in the field of intelligence more than meets the criteria established for the National Security Medal. Upon his retirement, General Walters will have completed 35 years of distinguished military service, most of which was spent in Intelligence. His career encompasses unique close service to Presidents, military leaders, high government officials, and as deputy to four Directors of Central Intelligence.

2. General Walters was born in New York City on 3 January 1917. He lived abroad with his parents and attended St. Louis Gonzaga School in Paris, France and Stoneyhurst College in England. His military career began on 2 May 1941 when he enlisted in the U. S. Army. In early 1942 he attended the Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and graduated as 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry on 29 May 1942. After taking part in the assault landing at Safi in Morocco in November 1942, for which he was awarded the Legion of Merit, he served in Algeria and Tunisia. As a Captain, he was assigned as Aide to General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, and subsequently became Combat Liaison Officer with the 1st Brazilian Infantry Division, a position which he held until the end of the war. He was then assigned as Assistant Army Attache in Brazil from 1945 to 1948 and during this time was called upon to accompany President Truman, General

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Eisenhower and General Marshall as Aide and interpreter on various trips that they made.

3. Because of his keen intellect, remarkable linguistic ability and unusual competence it was inevitable that General Walters would be singled out for increasing positions of responsibility. In June 1948 he was assigned to Ambassador Averell Harriman as Assistant Military Attache-at-Large with duty station in Paris, and in 1949 he was appointed Army Attache-at-Large. Returning to the United States with Ambassador Harriman in June 1950, he became Military Assistant to the Special Assistant to the President. In addition to his subsequent selection for various key attache positions and assignment at SHAPE Headquarters and NATO, General Walters was a Staff Assistant to President Eisenhower. Because of his unique abilities he accompanied President Eisenhower and President Nixon on numerous foreign visits.

4. General Walters was appointed by President Nixon to be the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence in March 1972. He took the oath of office and assumed the position on 2 May 1972. Within days of assuming office, General Walters was the object of an attempt by individuals in high political office to draw CIA into improper use of its special authorities in a domestic political matter. Although he had only just taken up the job, General Walters' instinctive sense of propriety and high personal integrity enabled him to refuse to allow CIA to be used improperly.

5. In recognition of General Walters' key role in preventing the Agency from being misused, Director Schlesinger awarded General Walters the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, the Agency's highest award.

6. The four years of General Walters' tenure as DDCI coincided with the most turbulent years in the Agency's history. Coping with this situation in Washington largely preempted the time of the four Directors under whom General Walters served as Deputy. In this strained situation for the Agency, General Walters' unique talents and abilities enabled him to render brilliant service in the essential task of maintaining contact with the leaders of cooperating foreign intelligence services, authoritatively reassuring them of the Agency's continuing ability to perform the essential functions of this country's foreign intelligence service, and to maintain the willingness of the foreign services to continue their vital cooperation with the United States.

7. To speak of General Walters' unique abilities in dealing with senior foreign officials fails to do adequate justice to the very special talents of this man. He has not only the exceptional ability to speak directly with great fluency with most senior officials among friendly nations, but also has the masterful warmth and style necessary to deal effectively with leaders from various cultures in creating

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quickly a relaxed, constructive and friendly atmosphere. He is by practice and unparalleled experience a highly skilled diplomat supported by an exceptional knowledge of history and international affairs. By his tireless application of his special talents at home and abroad, General Walters has made an absolutely unique and invaluable contribution to the foreign intelligence mission of the United States. These special talents have also caused General Walters to be used by various national administrations for extremely sensitive diplomatic missions involving heavy responsibility.

8. If the United States has produced a complete professional foreign intelligence officer in the broadest sense of the term, with the widest possible range of experiences and responsibilities, surely General Walters' name must come to mind.

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DRAFT ADDENDUM TO

BACKGROUND STATEMENT FOR GENERAL WALTERS' NSM

General Walters was appointed by the President to be the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence in March 1972. He took the oath of office and assumed the position on 2 May 1972. Within days of assuming office, General Walters was the object of an attempt by individuals in high political office to draw CIA into improper use of its special authorities in a domestic political matter. Althouth he had only just taken up the job, General Walters' instinctive sense of propriety and high personal integrity enabled him to refuse to allow CIA to be used improperly.

In recognition of General Walters' key role in preventing the Agency from being misused (and contrary to the media campaign of misleading innuendo), Director Schlesinger awarded General Walters the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, the Agency's highest award.

The four years of General Walters' tenure as DDCI coincided with the most turbulent years in the Agency's history. Coping with this situation in Washington largely preempted the time of the four Directors under whom General Walters served as Deputy. In this strained situation for

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To speak of General Walters' unique abilities in dealing with senior foreign officials fails to do adequate justice to the very special talents of this man. He has not only the exceptional ability to speak directly with great fluency with most senior officials among friendly nations, but also has the masterful warmth and style necessary to deal effectively with leaders from various cultures in creating quickly a relaxed, constructive and friendly atmosphere. He is by experience and unparalleled experience a highly skilled diplomat supported by an exceptional knowledge of history and international affairs. By his tireless application of his special talents at home and abroad, General Walters has made an absolutely unique and invaluable contribution to the foreign intelligence mission of the

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United States. These special talents have also caused General Walters to be used by various national administrations for extremely sensitive diplomatic missions involving heavy responsibility.

If the United States has produced a complete professional foreign intelligence officer in the broadest sense of the term, with the widest possible range of experiences and responsibilities, surely General Walters' name must come to mind.

7 May 76

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SUGGESTED DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT ASSOCIATED WITH

GENERAL WALTERS' NATIONAL SECURITY MEDAL

President Ford today awarded the National Security Medal to Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, retiring Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, in recognition of a unique and distinguished career in the intelligence services of his country.

General Walters' intelligence career started early in World War II when he led an Army intelligence team ashore with the American landings in Morocco. After the war, as an Army officer, he held numerous responsible intelligence assignments overseas, was a staff assistant to President Truman concerned with national security questions, and served brilliantly as Military and Defense Attache in Italy, Brazil and France. In March 1972, General Walters was nominated by President Nixon to be Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. In this position he has served with high personal integrity and exceptional ability. Once again General Walters rendered unique and outstanding service to his country by employing his unusual talents in a series of delicate, unheralded intelligence missions and assignments. In so doing, he has made a most valuable contribution to the Central Intelligence Agency's vitally important national foreign intelligence mission. General Walters is the first Deputy Director of Central Intelligence to receive this award.

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Carl —
My suggestion is to include phraseology that is a little more specific, tout.

Once again he has been able to render unique and outstanding service to his country by employing his unusual talents in a series of delicate, unheralded missions and assignments. General Walters is the first deputy director of Central Intelligence to receive this award.

follows the word "integrity"

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SUGGESTED DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT ASSOCIATED WITH
GENERAL WALTERS' NATIONAL SECURITY MEDAL

President Ford today awarded the National Security Medal to Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, retiring Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, in recognition of a truly unique and distinguished career in the intelligence services of his country.

General Walters' intelligence career started early in World War II when he led an intelligence team ashore with the American landings in Morocco. After the war, he held numerous responsible intelligence assignments overseas, was a staff assistant to President Truman concerned with national security questions, and served brilliantly ~~successful tours~~ as Military and Defense Attache in Italy, Brazil and France. In March 1972, General Walters was nominated by President Nixon to be Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, in this position ~~in which~~ he has served with high personal integrity ~~and once again rendered unique and outstanding service with his most unusual talents. General Walters is the first deputy Director of Central Intelligence to receive this award.~~

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1 July 76/1500

Notified by Sam Hoskinson's office that President Ford will present National Security Medal to General Walters on Thursday, 15 July 76, at 1430.

Instructed to go ahead and invite people on list submitted to Hoskinson on 11 June 76. White House will invite any others they wish to include.

Invitees should drive to SW Gate, enter, and park at Diplomatic Entrance under the SW Portico. Congregate there. Will be ushered into Oval Office. Must be there by 2:20.

STAT

Civ clothes or uniform

OK

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Guests Present Invited by White House:

Vice President Rockefeller
Secretary of State Kissinger
Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld
Deputy Secretary of Defense Ellsworth
Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff General Brown
Asst to the President for National Security Affairs General Scowcroft
Deputy Asst to the President for National Security Affairs William Hyland

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11 June 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sam Hoskinson

SUBJECT : Award of the National Security Medal to Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, USA Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

1. General Walters would be grateful if the award could be made on the 28, 29th, or 30th of June. On the 29th he would not be available between 1030 and 1400 due to his participation in a Retirement Parade and luncheon in his honor hosted by the Chief of Staff of the Army at Fort Myer. He prefers to receive it before the end of the month, but, of course, if the President's schedule will not allow it, it can be scheduled later in July.

2. General Walters prefers to wear his military uniform for the ceremony. Please let us know if this meets with the approval of the White House Ceremonies Office.

3. Attached is a proposed guest list. General Walters understands that it should not exceed 25 persons and he has limited it to 20, thereby allowing the White House Ceremonies Office the flexibility of including other guests whose attendance they may feel appropriate (such as the Vice President, Secretary of State, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs). The DDCI's staff is prepared to do the actual inviting of the guests. If that is appropriate, please furnish the instructions to be conveyed to the guests (date, time, place, etc.).

4. A proposed Press Statement is being prepared and will be forwarded as soon as it is completed.

[redacted]
EA/DDCI

STA

Enclosure
Proposed Guest List

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Proposed Guest List
for
Presentation of National Security Medal
to
Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, USA

Called out of Town trying to work it in.

Secretary of the Army, Martin R. Hoffmann

yes ✓ Chief of Staff of the Army, General Fred C. Weyand

yes ✓ Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Lieutenant General Samuel V. Wilson, USA

yes ✓ Deputy Director, Defense Intelligence Agency Lieutenant General Eugene Tighe, USAF

yes ✓ Assistant Chief of Staff of the Army for Intelligence Major General Harold R. Aaron, USA

yes ✓ Director of Central Intelligence, George Bush

yes ✓ Deputy Director-Designate of Central Intelligence E. Henry Knoche

yes ✓ Deputy to the Director of Central Intelligence for the Intelligence Community, Admiral Daniel J. Murphy

yes CIA Deputy Director for Administration, John Blake

yes ✓ CIA Deputy Director for Operations, William Wells

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

17 June 1976

Mr. Hoskinson,

Herewith the promised draft press statement in connection with the award of the NSM to General Walters. Please keep me posted re time and date presentation can be made by the President. Thanks.

STAT

Staff Assistant

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SUGGESTED DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT ASSOCIATED WITH GENERAL WALTERS' NATIONAL SECURITY MEDAL

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	UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET

OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	[redacted] EA/DDCI 7 D 6013, Hq.		
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Attached is a copy of the National Security Medal recommendation concerning General Walters.

[redacted]

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER	
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Deputy Chief, BSD/OP 5 E 69, Hq. [redacted]	17 May 76

	UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET

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1-67

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Asst. to the Director		AA
2	(Mr. Thuermer)		
3	EA/DDCI		
4	[redacted]		
5			
6			

X	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Angus,

Per our conversation, here is a first cut of a proposed press statement for the White House to use in connection with the award of the National Security Medal to General Walters. Please make any changes you feel appropriate, clear with DCI and return to us for delivery to the White House by June 17 if possible, please.

see my chitti.

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO.	DATE
[redacted] EA/DDCI	11 June

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UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	[redacted] ~~EA/DCI~~		
2			
3	DCI:	6/16/76	[redacted]
4	OK per DCI		
5			
6			

	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Attached is a draft proposed press statement for the White House to use in connection with President Ford's award of the NSM to General Walters.

The draft has been cleared with Falkiewicz.

Please obtain Mr. Bush's approval together with any desired changes and we will send to Sam Hoskinson.

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
[redacted] EA/DDCI	16June76

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Asst. to the Director Attn: Mr. Falkiewicz	6/16/76	[redacted]
2	[redacted] EA/DDCI		
3	BX-3		
4			
5			
6			

	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Andrew,

Attached for your review is a suggested revised draft statement for use by the White House in connection with General Walters' NSM. Please make any changes you believe appropriate and return to this office for forwarding to Sam Hoskinson in the White House. We can get DCI clearance through [redacted] unless you prefer to do so.

Thanks.

Karl: Just fine, thank you AJB DX-4

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		RESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
	[redacted]	/DDCI	16 June76
	UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET

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