

**SECRET
EYES ONLY**

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Mr. Johnson said that the State Department would concur in the project provided a moderate and practical attitude toward the government and toward the [] is maintained, and that a continued assessment be made of the effectiveness of the operation. He also cautioned that the government will probably assume that the project is being backed by [] and urged that the government reaction to the expanded activities be very closely watched.

25X1

It was pointed out that [] has approved the proposal. 25X1

Noting the above comments and stipulations, the Group approved the project.

5. []

This project was approved for one year only, in the amount of []. The Group stipulated that a hard look be taken at results after the first year, with the clear understanding that this does not imply in any way tacit approval for continuance.

6. NSAM 99

General Lemnitzer called the Group's attention to NSAM 99, asking whether operation WHIPLASH should be considered by the Special Group under the terms of that paper. It was felt that this is not necessary. There was some discussion as to the responsibility of the Special Group in connection with NSAM 99, and the Chairman undertook to look into this further.

7. Information for UN Registration of Satellites

Mr. Gilpatric said that Dr. Charyk has prepared a list of information to be provided for short-lived satellites, as discussed last week. He said that this would be distributed to the members.

8. Briefing of Executive Director of the Space Council

General Taylor noted that suggestions had been made that, in order to avoid any unwitting conflict of interest, the Executive Director of the National Aeronautics and Space Council, Mr. Edward C. Welsh, be fully briefed on reconnaissance activities. Mr. Johnson said that he had already given instructions that this be done.

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9. Proposed Operation Against Airfields

General Lemnitzer called attention to the supply operations that are being conducted from the airstrips at Vinh and Tchepone. He said that he believes a covert operation of some kind is desirable in order to neutralize these fields or the aircraft operating from them. The Group agreed that this is the proper forum in which to discuss such a proposal and General Lemnitzer said he would table one.

Thomas A. Parrott

Distribution

Mr. Johnson
Mr. Gilpatric
General Carter
General Taylor

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