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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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18 NOV 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. McGeorge Bundy
Special Assistant to the President
The White House

SUBJECT : British Guiana

1. [Redacted]

barring any unforeseen circumstances between now and the elections on 7 December which might adversely affect the situation, a coalition of the opposition parties should win a majority of votes cast. [Redacted]

[Redacted] the People's Progressive Party (PPP) will receive about 40% of the vote; the People's National Congress (PNC) about 40%; the United Force (UF) about 15%; and the Justice Party (JP) about 5%. For comparison purposes, in the 1961 elections the PPP received 43%, the PNC 41% and the UF 16%. It is not possible to gauge accurately the number of votes the JP will receive. This party has been very actively campaigning in Jagan's strongholds and has had a very high attendance at its meetings. This has been of considerable concern to the PPP which has used hecklers and intimidators to break up these meetings. It is possible that the JP may be making more of an impact than is judged and may win more than the 5% of the votes which we estimate.

2. [Redacted]

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E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5
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By SJ, NARA, Date 11/30/04

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After the elections and assuming that the PPP has not been returned to office, it is believed that Jagan will play a wait-and-see game for two to three months in the hope that the PNC/UF/JP coalition will collapse. If the coalition proves to be viable and if U.S. financial support moves swiftly into British Guiana, [redacted] Jagan may resort to violence in order to prevent Burnham from governing and to bring about his downfall.

3. The British have currently two battalions in British Guiana. Recently two other battalions have been brought into the Caribbean area ostensibly on maneuvers. One battalion is in British Honduras and the other is in Dominica. In the event of violence these two additional battalions could be quickly despatched to British Guiana.

4. A copy of this memorandum is being sent to Mr. J. Harold Shullaw of the Department of State.

[redacted]
Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

LBJL, NSF, Intel File, Box 5, Folder "British Guiana Special File"

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