No Objection To Declassification 2008/04/29: NLC-24-70-5-5-8



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

3/8 7714854 17

Washington, D.C. 20520

SECRET EXDIS

June 9, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Cocaine Trafficking in Colombia (NSC #3424)

The Department has noted the President's reaction to Dr. Peter Bourne's memorandum and his decision not to deliver the helicopters promised Colombia under our international narcotics control program. On June 1 the issue of the helicopters was placed before Secretary Vance for a second time and he reconfirmed the decision he made on May 3 to withhold delivery pending the outcome of a visit to Colombia by Dr. Bourne and Ms. Mathea Falco, the Secretary's Senior Adviser on Narcotics Matters. This visit is scheduled for the end of June.

Peter Tarnoff Executive Secretary

State Dept. review completed

NSC Review Completed.

SECRET

No Objection To Declassification 2008/04/29: NLC-24-70-5-5-8

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON .

SECRET

June 6, 1977

with EXDIS attachment

ACTION TO:

S/NM ARA

MEMORANDUM FOR

COPIES TO:

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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SUBJECT:

Cocaine Trafficking in Colombia

S/S-S

TMC

S/S-I I transmit herewith, for appropriate action as indicated, the

XDIS Presidential reaction to the memorandum to the President from

FILE (jhw) Peter Bourne.

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Zbigniew Brzezinski

SECRET Attachment

No Objection To Declassification 2008/04/29: NLC-24-70-5-5-8

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 2, 1977

ENORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Peter Bourne

SUBJECT: Cocaine trafficking in Colombia.

Do not send helicopters - Give me CIA info.

J.C.

Our present cocaine policy with regard to Latin America is a complete failure. We are spending more than \$7 million now in Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia to support law enforcement activities with little evidence that we are reducing the flow of cocaine to this country. We have a potential obligation for an additional \$45 million for crop substitution programs in Bolivia (a commitment made by Kissinger). Peru is pushing for similar amounts of money, and Colombia is complaining because we have failed to deliver 3 helicopters we promised. These countries want our money, but it is clear these programs especially the crop substitution programs will not work because there is no commitment at the top to deal with cocaine trafficking. Even with commitment I doubt the crop substitution programs will work because cocaine will grow easily almost anywhere in these countries.

Coca grows in Bolivia and Peru. It does not grow in Colombia, but that is where it is converted into cocaine and smuggled to the U.S., and therefore is where the immense amounts of money are made.

In her meeting with President Lopez-Michelsen, Rosalynn should make the following points.

- (1) She should stress that you and she are seriously concerned about drug abuse. You both place high priority on developing effective efforts to reduce drug abuse, particularly with regard to interdicting the illicit traffic in heroin and cocaine. You have established a special office in the White House, to strengthen our own efforts to reduce drug abuse and to keep you personally informed of progress.
- (2) The illicit traffic in cocaine has serious consequences for the United States and for Colombia. You understand President Lopez-Michelsen has publicly warned about the debilitating effects of cocaine trafficking and attendant corruption on his country. (It is estimated that 40 tons of cocaine a year come into the U.S. from Colombia, bringing half a billion dollars back into the Colombian economy, equal to the

SECRET



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

3424

195

SECRET

INFORMATION
June 2, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

FROM:

GREGORY F. TREVERTON

SUBJECT:

Memorandum to the President from Peter Bourne re Cocaine Trafficking

in Colombia

I am puzzled why Bourne is sending in the memorandum now. His suggested talking points are virtually identical to the detailed talking points already in Mrs. Carter's briefing book (save only that the time of Bourne's trip to Colombia is now more definite). From the only memcon I have seen on one of Mrs. Carter's substantive conversations, she permitted her discussant to guide the conversation, so I would judge that she is unlikely to raise the cocaine issue unless Lopez Michelsen does, which I doubt. The only reason to send the Bourne memorandum to the President would be to let the President decide if he wants specifically to ask Mrs. Carter to raise the issue. I doubt that he needs to be troubled by such a decision.

Attachment

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