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10 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable John D. Ehrlichman
Assistant to the President for
Domestic Affairs
The White House

SUBJECT : Contact with Mr. E. Howard Hunt

1. I met with Howard Hunt on 22 July 1971. At some point during the period from about two weeks to about two days prior to his visit, I received a call over the White House line direct to my office as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence stating that Mr. Hunt would call on me to ask for some support and that he was working on a matter for the person calling. I cannot recollect at this late date who placed the call, but it was someone with whom I was acquainted, as opposed to a stranger.

2. Mr. Hunt stated that he had to elicit information from an individual whose ideology he was not certain of and for that reason would like to talk to him under an alias and requested that I provide some documentation to back up his alias identity. He said this was a one-time interview. I said that, yes, we would provide a driver's license and what is called pocket litter which would indicate the identity which he wished to assume for this one-time operation.

3. On 27 August I found that Mr. Hunt was requesting further support in the form of credit cards and a New York phone number which he could use through an answering service.

4. In my opinion this tended to draw the Agency into the sensitive and forbidden area of operations against Americans and I could no longer comply with his requests. Consequently, at 1100 on 27 August I called Mr. Ehrlichman and explained why we could not meet these requests. I further indicated that Hunt was becoming most demanding and troublesome and, in my opinion, indiscreet. Mr. Ehrlichman indicated assent to our cessation of support for Mr. Hunt.

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R. E. Cushman, Jr.
General, USMC