Secret Memorandum Says Nixon Supported Snooping

Following is the text published in today's edition of The New York Times of what it describes as a top secret decision memorandum, dated July 15, 1970 and signed by Tom Charles Huston, who was the chief architect of a broad intelligence plan:

TOP SECRET

DECISION MEMORANDUM The White House

Washington, July 15, 1970 TOP SECRET

Handle via Comint channels only

Subject: Domestic intelligence

The President has carefully studied the special report of the Interagency Committee on Intelligence (ad hoc) and made the following decisions:

1. Interpretive Restraint on Communications Intelligence.

National Security Council Intelligence Directive (NSCID-6) is to be interpreted to permit N.S.A. to program for coverage the communications of U.S. citizens using international facilities.

2. Electronic Surveillances and Penetrations

The intelligence community is directed to intensify coverage of individuals and groups in the United States who pose a major threat to internal security. Also, coverage of foreign nationals and diplomatic establishments in the United States of interest to the intelligence community is to be intensified.

3. Mail Coverage

Restrictions on legal coverage are to be removed; restrictions on covert coverage are to be relaxed to permit use of this technique on selected targets of priority foreign intelligence and internal security interest.

4. Surreptitious Entry

Restraints on the use of surreptitious entry are to be removed. The technique is to be used to permit procurement of vitally needed foreign cryptographic material and against other urgent high priority internal security targets.

5. Development of campus sources

Coverage of violence-prone campus and student-oriented groups is to be increased. All restraints which limit the coverage are to be removed. Also, the CIA coverage of A merican students (and others) traveling or living abroad is to be increased.

6. Use of Military Undercover Agents

Present restrictions are to be retained.

7. Budget and Manpower Each agency is to submit a detailed estimate as to projected manpower needs and other costs required to implement the above decisions.

8. Domestic Intelligence

Operations

A committee consisting of

the directors or other appropriate representatives of the FBI, CIA, NSA, DIA and the military counterintelligence agencies is to be constituted effective August 1, 1970, to provide evaluations of d omestic intelligence, prepared periodic domestic intelligence estimates, carry out the other objectives specified in the report, and perform such other duties as the President shall, from time to time, assign. The director of the FBI shall serve as chairman of the committee. Further details on the organization and operations of this committee are set forth in an attached memorandum.

The President has directed that each addressee submit a detailed report, due on September 1, 1970, on the steps taken to implement these decisions. Further such periodic report will be requested as circumstances merit.

The President is aware that procedural problems may arise in the course of implementing these decisions. However, he is anxious that such problems be resolved with maximum speed and minimum misunderstanding. Any difficulties which may arise should be brought to my immediate attention in order that an appropriate solution may be found and the President's directives implemented in a manner consistent with his objectives. --Tom Charles Huston