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13 June 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: President Truman's Alleged Remarks About CIA

1. On 9 June 1964, Lt. General Marshall S. Carter, DDCI, accompanied by his assistant, Enno H. Knoche, briefed President Truman at the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. From his notes which he kept of the meeting, Mr. Knoche has dictated the following extract.

"General Carter opened the meeting by referring to President Johnson's request that President Truman be briefed periodically. President Johnson had wanted to ensure that President Truman was kept up-to-date on the world situation. Mr. Truman expressed great appreciation of this and said it was the nicest thing that any President had done for any ex-President.

"President Truman referred to the great importance of CIA. He said he had been the founder of the Agency and had established it in order to get as total and as objective a view of developments as possible. He said that prior to the establishment of CIA, too much importance to the Presidency was kept bottled up in the State and Defense Departments. The primary purpose of the CIA, as he envisaged it, was to collect such information and make it available to the President. General Carter reminded the President of the decisions made during the Truman administration for covert actions in Italy, Greece and Turkey. The President agreed that this had been necessary.

"The session then turned to the text of a formal briefing given to President Truman by General Carter."

Prior to going into see President Truman, General Carter and Mr. Knoche chatted briefly with David Noyes, who had been, I believe, a White House assistant when Truman was President and continued to serve him in various capacities in retirement. Noyes evidently drafts Mr. Truman's statements and articles and admitted quite freely the authorship

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of the Truman article on CIA which was published on 22 December 1963 in various newspapers, including the Washington Post. It is highly doubtful whether President Truman ever saw the article prior to its publication as he was already beginning to age considerably at that time.

Walter Pforzheimer  
Curator  
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