

NR010 LA CODE

827PM IMMEDIATE 10-19-71 DLK

TO DIRECTOR

[Redacted]

ATTN: DID

BOSTON

[Redacted]

NEW YORK

[Redacted]

SAN DIEGO

WASHINGTON FIELD

[Redacted]

FROM LOS ANGELES

[Redacted]

5P

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-11-82 BY [Redacted] MAH

MC LEK, SIO. SUMMARY TELETYPE.

[Redacted]

INTERVIEWED

OCTOBER NINETEEN INSTANT REGARDING AN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY LOS ANGELES TIMES CORRESPONDENT JULES WITCOVER WHICH APPEARED IN THE SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER ONE NINE SEVEN ONE ISSUE OF THE "COLUMBIA JOURNALISM REVIEW." THE ARTICLE RELATED BEN HAIG BAGDIKIAN, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR, THE WASHINGTON POST, HAD MADE A TELEPHONIC INQUIRY OF [Redacted] CONCERNING THE PENTAGON STUDY PRIOR TO THE PUBLICATION OF THESE PAPERS BY THE NEW YORK TIMES ON JUNE THIRTEEN LAST.

END PAGE ONE

[Redacted]

REC

lead

[Redacted]

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[REDACTED]

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED] ADVISED HE VAGUELY RECALLED RECEIVING A CALL FROM BAGDIKIAN THE DAY BEFORE THE NY TIMES PUBLISHED THE PENTAGON PAPERS ON JUNE THIRTEEN SEVENTY ONE. [REDACTED]

MEMORY IS HAZY AS HE DID NOT MAKE NOTES ON THE CALL.

IT WAS [REDACTED] IMPRESSION THAT BAGDIKIAN'S CALL CONCERNED A RAND STUDY ABOUT VIETNAM IN THE EARLY NINETEEN FIFTIES.

AS BAGDIKIAN REFERRED TO IT AS A RAND STUDY, [REDACTED] DID NOT ASSOCIATE HIS INQUIRY WITH THE MC NAMARA REPORT. [REDACTED] TOLD

BAGDIKIAN THAT HE KNEW OF NO SUCH RAND STUDY "AND DREW A BLANK".

NOTHING FURTHER WAS DISCUSSED ON THE VIETNAM PAPERS AT THAT TIME.

TWO OR THREE DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION BY THE NEW YORK TIMES ON JUNE THIRTEEN LAST AND ON THE NIGHT PRIOR TO THE PUBLISHING OF THE

PENTAGON PAPERS BY THE WASHINGTON POST, HE ATTEMPTED TO CALL

BAGDIKIAN IN WASHINGTON, D. C. FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASKING

ADVISE CONCERNING THE HANDLING OF PRESS RELATIONS

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[REDACTED]

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PAGE THREE

EXPECTED BY THE RAND CORPORATION AS A RESULT OF THE PUBLISHING OF THESE PAPERS. [REDACTED] STATED HE DID NOT KNOW THE WASHINGTON POST ALSO HAD THE PAPERS AND INTENDED TO MAKE THE INQUIRY OF BAGDIKIAN AS HE WAS A FRIEND AND HAD FORMERLY BEEN A CONSULTANT AT THE RAND CORPORATION. [REDACTED] STATED HE WAS UNABLE TO REACH BAGDIKIAN AND SPOKE WITH [REDACTED] INSTEAD AND LEARNED

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[REDACTED] RECALLED ON THE NEXT DAY BAGDIKIAN RETURNED HIS CALL, HOWEVER, AS THE WASHINGTON POST HAD NOW STARTED TO PUBLISH THE CLASSIFIED PAPERS, [REDACTED] TOLD BAGDIKIAN THERE WAS NO POINT IN DISCUSSING WHAT HE HAD ON HIS MIND THE PREVIOUS EVENING. [REDACTED] ADDED THAT DURING THEIR CONVERSATION BAGDIKIAN MADE NO STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE WASHINGTON POST ACQUIRED THEIR MATERIAL NOR ANY OF THE MECHANICS INVOLVED. [REDACTED] ADDED HE RECALLS HE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL APPROXIMATELY JUNE FOURTEEN LAST FROM REPORTER [REDACTED] OF THE WASHINGTON POST, WITH WHOM HE IS ACQUAINTED, DURING WHICH [REDACTED] INQUIRED REGARDING RAND'S PARTICIPATION IN THE "VIETNAM STUDY." [REDACTED] STATED HE "PLEADED IGNORANCE" AND GAVE [REDACTED] NO INFORMATION.

[REDACTED]

ON OCTOBER NINETEEN INSTANT [REDACTED] WAS CONTACTED. HE STATED HE HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO ANSWERING QUESTIONS REGARDING HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE VIETNAM STUDY TASK FORCE AND AN APPOINTMENT

END PAGE THREE

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