

~~TOP SECRET - U. S. EYES ONLY~~

PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

16 April 1954

SUBJECT: Visit of [redacted] 13 April 1954, in regard to Circuit MERCURY

Mr. [redacted] explained to me that he was acting in the absence of Brigadier Tiltmen who had gone to Canada to make farewells up there.

He had gone to Captain Taylor to try to get amplification of the simple, categorical negative that Captain Taylor had communicated to him as a result of last Friday's meeting of USCIB in regard to the Circuit MERCURY matter. He had a good talk with Captain Taylor, but he wanted to get some technical reasons, if he could, behind the decision.

[redacted]

I took occasion to go slowly and carefully into the technical reasons for the USCIB decision. I told him that that decision was not reached in a helter-skelter fashion, after just a few minutes deliberation, but only after considerable length of time and full discussion.

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I explained that in the course of the USCIB discussion I had answered some technical questions that arose and said that the Board, after listening carefully, had decided it was the better part of wisdom to go along with the original thought that General Canine had, of

[redacted]

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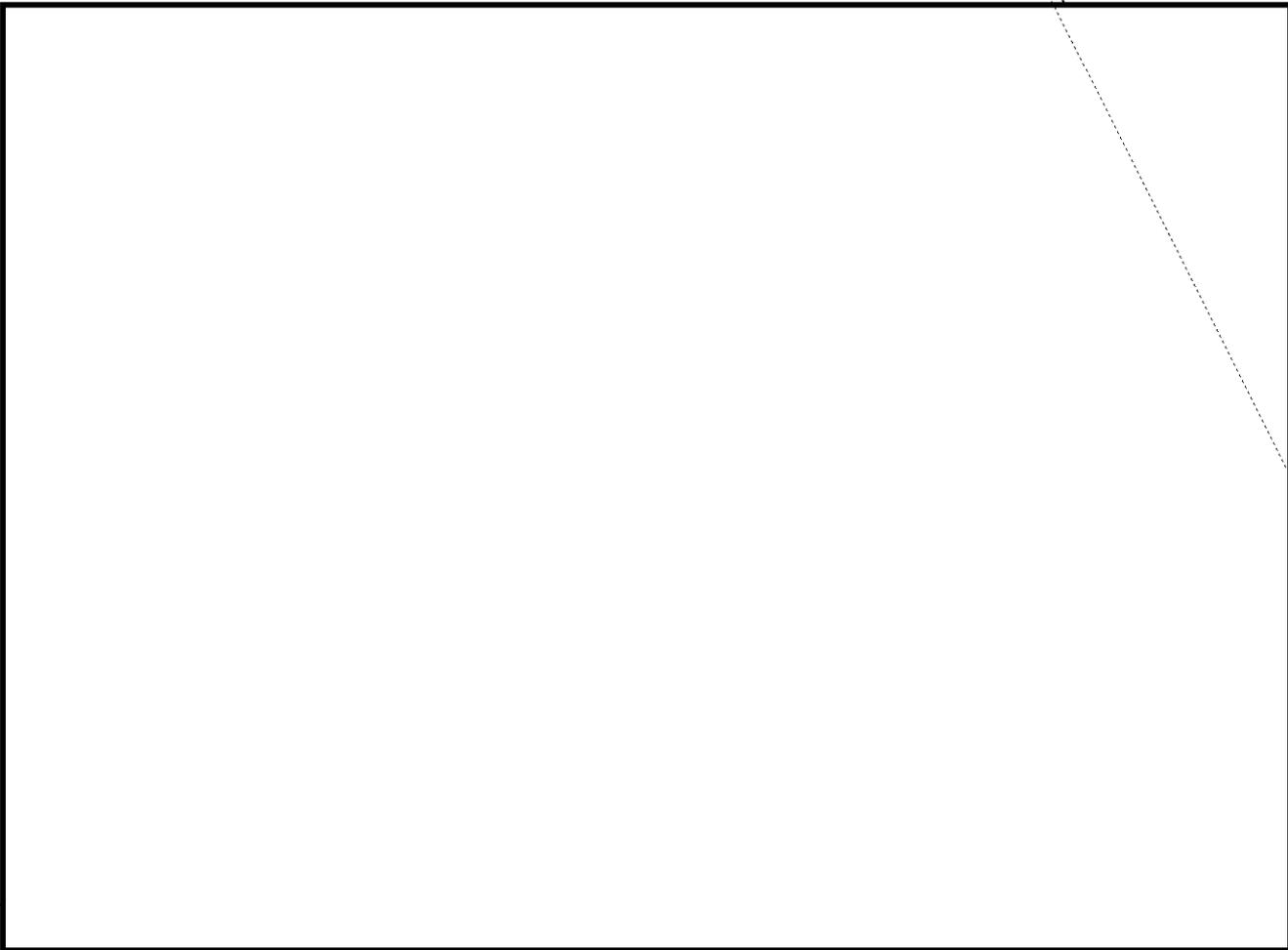
That is the way we left it. He was quite content. He feels he got a very fair and good picture of our reasons; sound, honest, nothing more than a real desire on our part not to do anything that would be a hindrance to the US/UK COMINT business at the highest level, 

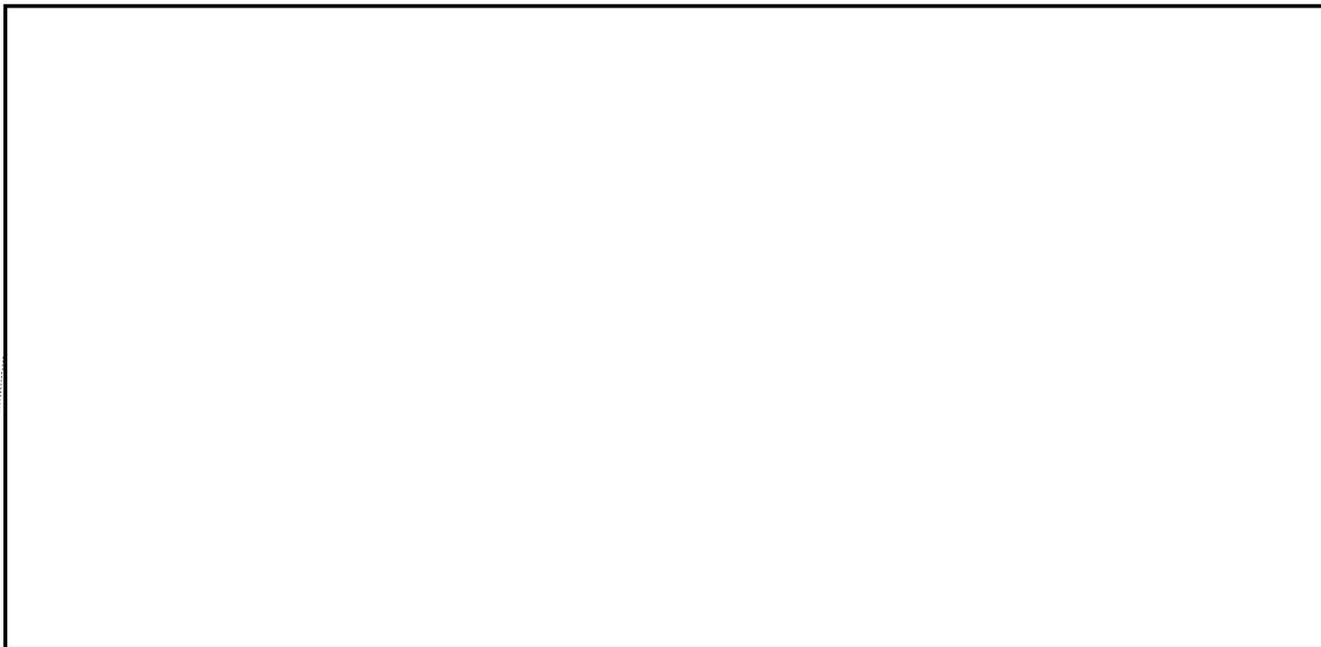
Capt. Agnew: Did you tell him these were your informal views and that USCIB had rejected the request of Capt. Taylor that the USCIB decision be accompanied by reasons given therefor?  
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Mr. Friedman: Yes. But I told him that Mr. Dulles had already signed a memorandum to the Director General of LSIB informally explaining something about this negative decision. I told him that they were personal, informal remarks rather than a formal declaration. 



Mr. Patton: Did he make a major point of the 





It was agreed to advise him by telegram of the visit.

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*W.F.F.*