

Post-Mortems on U-2

C. I. A. Is the Only Agency Relatively Untarnished by Show of Weaknesses

By HAYSON W. BALDWIN

Post-mortems on the U-2 purposes of the National Security Council are still being held this week. The President and a balanced judgment will be made in forming coordinated national security policies.

The National Security Act of 1947, which established the National Security Council and the Central Intelligence Agency, provided that the council should advise the President with respect to the integration of domestic, foreign and military intelligence relating to the national security.

It also said the council should consider policies on matters of common interest to the departments and agencies of the Government concerned with the national security. The Central Intelligence Agency was charged with coordinating the intelligence activities of the Government and with advising the National Security Council in intelligence matters.

The two principal victims of the incident, besides the pilot, Francis Gary Powers, were the reconnaissance plane program, since suspended by the President, and the credibility of the United States Government. World public opinion on the truthfulness of United States Government spokesmen—though partly restored by the later acceptance by the President of full responsibility for the U-2 program, has certainly been badly shaken by what are now admitted to have been outright falsehoods.

The Senate committee's inquiry disclosed that perhaps the most flagrant and inexcusable instance of unnecessary official falsehood was the indignant public assertion by the White, official State Department spokesman, that there had never been any deliberate attempt to violate Soviet airspace.

Mr. White, who knew nothing of the U-2 flights over the Soviet Union, was permitted to make this statement at a time when the United States Embassy in Moscow already had reported that an American U-2 pilot had been captured by the Russians.

An equally damaging fact admitted has been the apparent admission that there was no planning for the possible loss of a U-2 and pilot to the Russians. The Central Intelligence Agency was charged with the top operational management of the program and in this capacity undoubtedly prepared the original cover story released by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

But Allen W. Dulles, the C. I. A. director, has been careful to draw a line between intelligence collection, analysis and evaluation and the formulation of policy. He has tried to avoid the danger inherent in every secret intelligence operation of being drawn into the partisan government of policy.

But the U-2 incident obviously required, after May 1, a decision that apparently was never contemplated until though intermittent inspections afterward. Mr. Dulles seems to have had clear control over the management and operational aspects of the U-2 program, but whether this board meets the management and need for objective and continuing supervision is a question.

EISENHOWER DUE IN ALASKA TODAY

He Will Spend Day and Night in Anchorage Area on Way to the Far East

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, June 11 (AP)—About 30,000 Alaskans are expected to turn out here tomorrow to greet President Eisenhower on his first visit to the new forty-ninth state, which has a total population of 22,000.

It will be the first Presidential visit to Alaska since Franklin D. Roosevelt made a wartime stop in the Aleutian Islands. Military officials declared the Elmendorf Air Force Base "wide open" and prepared to receive as many as 7,000 persons at the field when President Eisenhower's jet transport arrives from Washington at 10:15 A. M. (4:15 P. M. Eastern daylight time).

Other thousands will line Anchorage's Fourth Avenue, the main business street. State and local officials have called for a big reception for the President as a send-off on his fifteen-day goodwill mission to the Far East.

The trip through Anchorage, a city of 47,000, will follow the ceremony. After the tour expected to last about an hour, the President will return to Elmendorf by way of Fort Richardson, an Army installation.

The President and his party will be honored in the afternoon at a reception for about 300 guests at Elmendorf. He will leave for Wake Island Monday morning. The President will be accompanied by Gov. William A. Egan, who will extend Alaska's official greetings to the President during a fifteen-minute ceremony at the air base.

night at Elmendorf's Alaskan Chateau, where dignitaries visiting the base are quartered. On only one other occasion has a President of the United States participated in public functions in Alaska. In 1923 Warren G. Harding came here to inaugurate the Lasken Road. He was stricken ill after leaving Alaska and died in San Francisco less than two months after his visit.

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