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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Special Intelligence Staff

DATE: 21 February 1956

FROM : Chief, Requirements Section

SUBJECT: Comments on TAB A of the Bissell Paper

1. IAC-D-50/5 directs the Special Assistant to the Director for Planning and Coordination review the existing provisions for the development and coordination of information requirements and collection tasks in conformity with established priority national intelligence objectives.

2. Paragraph 4 of the draft memo to the DCI states as follows: "A fuller description of the coordination of requirements is submitted as TAB A." This TAB is therefore concerned with coordination of requirements only. To carry out the IAC directive, TAB A should also be devoted to a complete review of the coordination of collection tasks, or another TAB be prepared on the coordination of collection activities. However, with regard to TAB A, the questions posed appear to cover all the necessary steps for determining whether or not requirements have been coordinated in Headquarters, although we may disagree with certain parts of the discussion of these questions. The following specific comments on TAB A are submitted:

a. Paragraph 1a. Can the Answer to the Requirements be Found in Washington?

- (1) Agree that this is an essential step in the handling of a valid requirement.
- (2) I would disagree with the first sentence "that Requirements Officers in research offices normally seek assurance from researchers that the information requested is not available in Washington, etc." In OCI, the Requirements Officer does not rely on the analyst's word that the information is not available in Washington, but instead makes a careful check to determine whether or not such information is available.
- (3) In discussing NSCID 16, the last sentence of this paragraph states that "the machinery exists etc."

I feel that this sentence is misleading and should be qualified as follows "...that machinery exists in the field of foreign language publications for concentrating our efforts to prevent unnecessary levying of requirements on collectors."

b. Paragraph lb. Have Requirements for the Same Information Already Been Levied?

- (1) Agree that this is an essential step in the handling of a valid requirement.
- (2) The third sentence mentions consideration is currently being given to the establishment of a central register in CIA. This is an excellent idea. It appears, however, that this register would assure against duplication of CIA requirements only. It is suggested that other IAC agencies adopt this idea within their own offices, if they have not already done so. Such registers should be open to all IAC requirements and collection officers.

c. Paragraph lc. Which Collection Facility Should Receive the Assignment.

- (1) Agree that this is an essential step in the handling of a valid requirement, but should follow, not precede, paragraph ld.
- (2) The third sentence reads as follows: "Each agency understandably thinks first of the capability of its own collection facility." As far as OCI Requirements is concerned, this is an inaccurate statement. This office thinks first of the IAC collection facility responsible for obtaining a particular type of information.
- (3) The last sentence of this paragraph states "the machinery exists for providing the necessary overall direction for clandestine collection etc." I am sure IAC-D-50/5 not only requires a review of existing machinery, but also a review of the effectiveness of this machinery. This statement leads one to believe that the IPC is working efficiently.

d. Paragraph ld. Does the Requirement Reflect the Immediately Related Needs of Others than the Originator?

- a. Agree that this is an essential step in the handling of a valid requirement.

- b. Inter-agency committees should be utilized to the fullest extent in coordinating requirements problems, but unfortunately these committees are few and are concerned only with specialized problems in specialized fields.
- e. Paragraph 1e. Is the Requirement Properly Handled in Keeping With Its Importance and the Capabilities of the Collection Facility to Which it Has Been Assigned?
- (1) Agree that this is an essential step in the handling of a valid requirement.
 - (2) Paragraph 1e (1) is good and demonstrates the need for further translation of PNIOs into intelligence requirements.



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