

Recommendations and Problems
Monthly Reports for November 1960

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

The full-time assignment of two senior analysts to special project work outside GG/S further depletes the available USSR Branch manpower, which is already below strength because of the difficulty in obtaining a suitable candidate for the vacant position in the Branch. The rapidly developing Soviet Central Asia area has had to be covered on an ad hoc basis for over a year. These new assignments will increase the difficulty of clearing up the heavy load of outstanding projects and of assuming new commitments in the future.

FAR EAST/PACIFIC BRANCH

The unverified report that analysts will not have personal access to CIA Library stacks in the new building continues to be a source of apprehension. It is recommended that clarification of this matter be obtained at an authoritative level. *Not now a problem, analysts and have free access to the stacks. EGN*

EUROPE BRANCH

The reassignment of responsibilities consequent upon the shifts in personnel will require analysts to acquaint themselves with new areas and may slow down production for awhile.

We are not getting all the documents we should in order to carry out most effectively our support of I/GM. We also continued to have the feeling that the missile deployment question is not very well coordinated. We shall attempt to tackle both problems in the near future, although we may be somewhat naive in assuming that the second named problem can even approach solution.

USSR BRANCH

In March 1960, a purchase order was submitted for a subscription to "Soviet Geography, Review and Translation", a monthly periodical published by the American Geographical Society in New York City. It was not until the second half of November that issues number 7 through 9 were received. Meanwhile, the supply of the earlier issues has been exhausted. These missing issues provide much useful information for the project on Soviet earth sciences, and the failure to obtain them could have been serious were it not for the fact that a member of the branch had a personal subscription. It seems that OCR's procedures for procuring domestic subscriptions need to be re-examined.

~~SECRET~~

MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

D/GL has experienced repercussions from the Department of State's cutback in funds. The map mounting and framing position in the Department has been abolished and State personnel have no access to facilities for this service. The Map Library supplies maps only. Expensive mounted wall maps are not available for purchase through D/GL.

SPECIAL COLLECTION SUPPORT BRANCH

The greatest problem that we face now and will continue to face regards DD/P priorities for collection of Statellite topographic maps. This isn't just a matter of putting this in a relative priority position within the entire Bloc, which we have done, but rather a battle for recognition in EE Division. It appears that the best argument will be found in Army tactical requirements.

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

Although there has been steady progress on city plan production, the Division is faced with the problem of re-arranging manpower for continuing production of initial planimetric work since the shift of Mr. Owens from this program has halted this phase of the work.