

8 March 1948

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON FOREIGN  
SCIENTIFIC PERSONALITIES

In view of the fact that scientific data are not an allocated field, and since biographic information on scientists is of common interest to all IAC agencies, it is proposed that the Biographical Intelligence Register, Reference Center, A & M, C. I. A., henceforth be assigned primary responsibility for the maintenance of biographic data on foreign scientific personalities. Contemplated procedure, on the working level, might be as follows:

- a. The analysts of each agency would henceforth be absolved of responsibility for biographic data on foreign scientific personalities received by them from other agencies. (O.N.I. analysts would cease <sup>analyzing</sup> such data when received by them on War Department or State Department forms.)
- b. The analysts of each agency would continue, as they are now doing, to abstract biographic data on foreign scientific personalities when received by them from their own agency's output. (O.N.I. analysts would continue, for example, to abstract such data from Naval Attache reports.)
- c. Copies of all abstracts would be transmitted to the Biographical Intelligence Register, Reference Center, C. I. A.
- d. The Register would codify and index, by machine methods, all such data received; and would incorporate the actual abstracts in its files.
- e. Participating agencies would thereafter call upon the Biographical Intelligence Register, C. I. A., for biographic data on foreign scientific personalities (just as all now call upon the War Department for data on foreign military personalities, and upon the Navy Department for data on foreign naval personalities and upon State for political personalities).

It is thought that this might be a practical step of advantage to all agencies.

First proposal of a DCI on this subject is attached.

ENCLOSURE (2)