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UNCLASSIFIED LECTURE ON "THE ROLE OF CIA" (

By: [REDACTED]

I. THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE

- A. Colonial Days - Committees for Secret Correspondence.
- B. Benjamin Franklin and his secretary, Edward Bancroft.
- C. Washington's counter-intelligence network on Long Island.
- D. Civil War Activities - Allan Pinkerton; Rosa Greenhowe.
- E. World War I - Best intelligence operations in Naval field - e.g., British competence in breaking German Naval code.
- F. Between World Wars - Reluctance to continue intelligence activities. The "Black Chamber". Stimson's Classic remark - "Gentlemen don't read other people's mail".
- G. General Donovan's missions just prior to World War II. He returned with a healthy respect for the British Intelligence system.
- H. World War II - Donovan becomes COI - then head of OSS. Although OSS overseas activities have been greatly exploited, it played an important role here in Washington in producing the finished intelligence product.
- I. The CIG - 1946-47.

II. THE NSC

The National Security Council was created in 1947 to provide the Executive Branch with a high-level planning

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group to assist in making important decisions in the area of national security policy. The membership of the NSC consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Director of the Office of Emergency Planning. Events occurring during the post-war years have required opinions and advice from a number of interested departments and agencies before a final decision can be made.

The Director of Central Intelligence, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Special Assistant for National Security Affairs, serve as advisers to the Council. Many decisions of far-reaching importance to our national security effort come out of NSC deliberations.

III. INTELLIGENCE AN INTER-AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY

Many agencies share in the responsibilities for the collection, production and dissemination of intelligence - as some agencies are better equipped to handle certain jobs than others. For example, the FBI is particularly well-suited to handle domestic counter-intelligence activities within the United States and therefore has been given this job. It has the sole legal intelligence responsibility here. Other agencies having major intelligence responsibilities include the D.I.A., N.S.A., Department of State/INR, and A.E.C.

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The Director of Central Intelligence has been given the responsibility of coordinating all the foreign intelligence activities of the U.S. Government. In this capacity, he must make sure that the intelligence which is needed by the policy makers is coming in from the proper agencies, in accordance with the proper priorities and requirements. He thus actually serves in three capacities: first, as the intelligence adviser to the National Security Council; second, as head of the Central Intelligence Agency; and third, as the coordinator of the entire foreign intelligence effort as Chairman of the U.S.I.B. He does not, of course, have operational control over any agency other than CIA.

IV. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIA

A. CIA was created by the National Security Act of 1947 - the same act which created the National Security Council and the Department of Defense.

It was set up to perform four functions:

- (1) to ADVISE the National Security Council on intelligence matters relating to our National Security.
- (2) to COORDINATE the various foreign intelligence activities of the Federal Government.
- (3) to produce NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE. Taking the

contributions of a number of other agencies

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into consideration, CIA produces intelligence estimates to be used by the policy makers. Usually if the National Security Council is considering a certain policy regarding a certain country, it calls upon the CIA to present an estimate of the effects such a policy is likely to have. The final estimates submitted represent a cross-section of the judgments of various top intelligence officials in a number of different agencies which make contributions to the overall effort.

- (4) to provide certain SERVICES of COMMON CONCERN which can best be performed by a single agency. Since we are by definition a Central Intelligence Agency, we are assigned certain jobs in the collection, production, storage and dissemination of intelligence which can best be handled in this way.

B. What CIA Cannot Do.

- (1) We are not in any sense a police agency, and have no arrest or subpoena powers.
- (2) We have no authority to conduct strictly departmental intelligence activities for other agencies, such as those specifically assigned

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to the military departments. We do however, coordinate their activities in the national intelligence field.

- (3) We have no authority to conduct intelligence operations within the confines of the U.S. Anti-Communist activities within this country are the strict prerogative of the FBI.
- (4) We have no investigative authority outside our own Agency.

C. Our Most Vital Job - Producing national intelligence, both estimative (long-range) and current (for use in day-to-day decisions of the policy makers). In estimative intelligence, we predict the long-range probabilities of what will happen in a given situation; in current intelligence reporting, we must make a quick analysis and evaluation of facts coming in from many sources - sometimes almost as soon as they are received.

D. The Methodology of Intelligence

Utilizing all available sources readily available and not so readily available, we must continually gather and evaluate information coming in from around the world. Intelligence people are utilizing more and more the methods of automation and technology to

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meet the ever-increasing requirements being placed upon them. The most important asset in intelligence, of course, is professional, skilled manpower. We are always seeking out young men with backgrounds in many different skills and professions as career employees to meet the demands of intelligence, which itself is a most challenging profession.

E. Clearing-up Some Misconceptions

It should be kept in mind that CIA is in the intelligence-gathering and intelligence-producing business. It obtains the facts, evaluates them and produces finished intelligence for our policy people. We have no policy functions; as a matter of fact, we are forbidden by law from getting into the business of policy formulation.

There have been reports also that CIA operates independently from the rest of the Government. The very law which created us put the Agency directly under the National Security Council, of which the President himself is chairman. In addition, the Agency's activities are carefully checked by several congressional committees, and by the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, an independent group of informed and knowledgeable citizens

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consisting of:

Mr. Clark M. Clifford (Chairman)
Dr. William O. Baker
Mr. Gordon Gray
Dr. Edwin H. Land
Dr. William L. Langer
Mr. Robert D. Murphy
Mr. Frank Pace, Jr.
Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, USA Ret.
Adm. John H. Sides, USN Ret.
Mr. Augustus C. Long
Mr. Patrick Coyne, Exec. Sec.

F. Summary: Why a CIA is Needed Today

In the complexity of modern foreign relations, the number of important decisions to be made by the Executive Branch are tremendous. Unless the policy maker has access to all the facts, obtained from all possible reliable sources, processed and evaluated in a systematic way, the chances and risks are greater that an erroneous decision may be made.

For this reason a highly professional centralized intelligence organization is an absolutely essential supporting arm to our policy makers in a world in which many nations continue to offer serious threats and challenges to our way of life, our system of Government and in the final analysis, to our very survival.