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Noted
WVB

17 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Deputy Director, ONE

25X1 1. [] and I met with [] for about an hour and a half yesterday afternoon, to discuss OER/ONE relations, and to seek an evaluation of OER production. We talked about evaluation procedures in general. 25X1

25X1 2. [] said that ONE had tried to work up a "score card" on its work and predictions for the Director and Mr. Colby, waiting for five years after the fact in order to strengthen objectivity. ONE had a good record, with the Cuban missile paper being the "atrocious" exception. He was not sure that a similar approach would reveal much about OER.

25X1 3. [] said that relations with OER are good. He knows both the Director of OER and his Deputy over the years, and was formerly an economist himself, so feels he knows the office well. OER has "continued to improve," while he characterized State as continuing to go "down." He reviewed the history of State's reduction of economic work, which had reached the point now where an AID man (with all the biases of being committed to achieve a certain result in a given country when it is clear that they are not susceptible to realization) appear together for discussions of economic questions.

4. OER and ONE work on joint economic papers, mixing the economics and politics of a situation. [] said that he had pushed for papers that reflected how things really are, politics, economics and other factors being mixed, rather than there being a political section and an economic section, etc. OER has worked well on this approach. New relationships are developing, with studies on economic trends on Latin America, and there will be similar studies on the Near East. Substantively the Agency has become stronger than the other intelligence organizations around town, and OER is very much a part of this. 25X1

5. Noting that ONE used consultants in its reviews and post mortems we asked what steps were feasible for OER. He felt that having them in every two or three years would suffice, repeating 25X1

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his earlier opinion about letting time pass to ensure objectivity. He commented on OCI's recent attempt to solicit comments from the community, which he termed "disastrous." We repeated Dick Lehman's description of the results.

25X1 6. [] stated that some of ONE's best men, past and present, had come from OER, which he viewed as a reflection of the high standards of the office. He couldn't think of any real problems that resulted from basic deficiencies, observing that there will always be issues of balance in analysis, etc., which is an important part of the job.

[]

S. D. Breckinridge

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