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21 August 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel White

SUBJECT : Transfer of the Foreign Publications Branch
Functions from the Department of State to CIA

1. A meeting was called for 21 August 1953 by the Assistant Director for Intelligence Coordination which was attended by representatives of most of the offices of the Agency to discuss the above subject.
2. Prior to the freeze in personnel and funds, arrangements had been made to transfer 18 people from Department of State to CIA. These 18 people were to perform the same work under CIA jurisdiction as they had been doing for the Department of State. As a result of the freeze, funds and more particularly the slots for these people became real problems. Methods of solving these problems were presented for discussion. These ranged from advising Department of State that we could not take over the function to going to the Bureau of the Budget for new funds and personnel. Included in this range, was a proposal to obtain the slots from other offices of the Agency on a proportion basis. After considerable discussion, it was decided that since the activity provided a product about 50% of which was for other Governmental facilities that it was decided to go to the DCI via the PRC and request additional 18 slots. It was further decided that if this was not successful and as it was the consensus of opinion that the activity was of such importance to the Agency that it should be obtained even if the only way it would be provided for was by obtaining slots from the other Agency offices on a proportion basis to be worked out at a later meeting.
3. In endeavoring to review its own functions to determine if slots could be found, a study was made of publication procurement including the procurement of periodicals and daily newspapers. It was decided at the meeting, as a secondary step, that a memorandum should be issued by the DDI Office requesting analysis and review of publication procurement with particular reference to the cutting down of the number of copies of periodicals and newspapers delivered to the various offices.

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