

17 March 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Comments on Draft dated 16 March, of Proposed  
Covert Action Operations Seminar

1. Reconsideration of a number of features of subject draft is urged. These have been grouped, for convenience, under labels "Priority A" or "Priority B."

PRIORITY A

2. Sunday evening session. One would expect most of this kick-off session to be devoted to introducing the course rather than the subject.

*ask about*  
Suggest presenting a rationale for the course and expectations of results, plus providing a hearing for students' interests and problems. Important thing is, this session must capture interest of the group--stimulate and challenge. Topics proposed in draft belong with next day's program.

25X1

3. Monday 1/15 hours. [redacted] has strong reservations about including this topic [redacted] *in this form.* 25X1

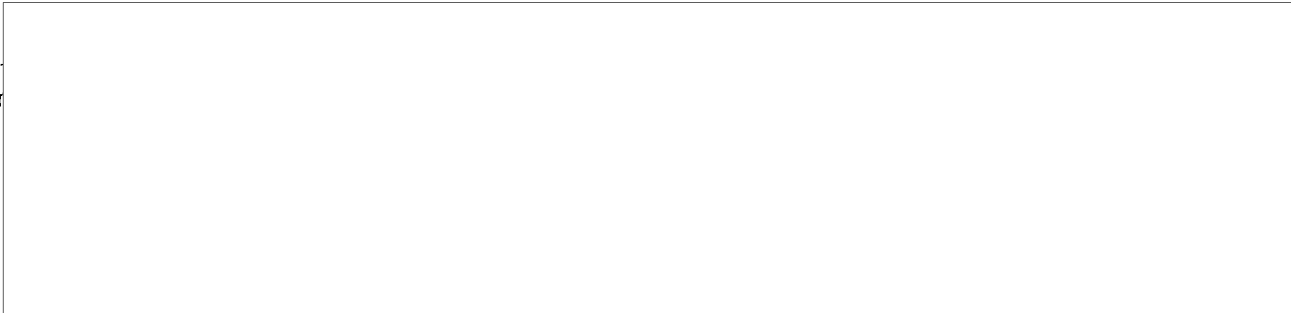
4. Evening sessions, Monday and Tuesday. On the basis of experience with full-time courses, I would seriously doubt: that a three-hour evening session would be either productive or tolerated, on top of a full day of formal class; that an evening session even of reduced length would be productive unless the students are drawn into discussion for most of the session. That is to say, I suggest a session not to exceed two hours, and to be informal, emphasizing student participation.

5. Wednesday morning. Believe much more intensive results can be gained by a reorganization of this block. For realizing the benefits of a true seminar, the two cases should not be handled separately, rather, a single discussion of objectives, methods, problems, weaknesses, etc. should be gener-

ated, with full participation by the student body. As the program stands in subject draft, most of the time is likely to be taken up by one or the other guest expert, and, in any event, cross-fertilization between the two speakers and between <sup>discussions of</sup> the two subjects will be minimal. Suggest a careful reading of the cases at Headquarters in the prior week, then perhaps a 20-minute brush-up period at the outset of the Wednesday morning class. The morning's program should then be organized topically and handled as a true seminar. ?

25X1

PRIORITY B



*put in letters*

*No*

25X1

two hours. As suggested in our comments on the first draft, [redacted] should handle. He has rare expertise in this field and is a superb speaker.

8. A considerable number of sessions, presently limited to one hour, will almost certainly be found to need more time in order to satisfy both Chief Instructor and students. To allow enough time only for students' questions after a speaker finishes, an hour and a quarter should be scheduled.

But if this course is to qualify as a seminar, some discussion time should also be provided. Recommend provision for an hour and a half, particularly when guest speakers are featured, as: Monday 1300, 1415, 1530; Tuesday 0945, 1300, 1530. This will be desirable especially when a well-known personality such as [redacted] is the guest, or when more than one guest is participating, as Monday at 1530 and Tuesday at 1415.

ILLEGIB



25X1  
25X1  
25X1

9. Monday 1115. Suggest stating topic more positively, as

25X1

"Threats to U.S. Security from Stresses within the Developing World."

*prepare to state Communist threat - not talk 'well-known'*

CA/BJ - [redacted]