

SECURITY INFORMATION

*Smith Rec. file.*  
*13 Oct 1952*  
*PE*

Basic Intelligence Course

I. Purpose

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The purpose of the Basic Intelligence Course is to give newly-appointed junior professional employees an understanding of the nature, objectives, and organization of intelligence activities as conducted by the United States Government; to train them in fundamental principles and methods of intelligence work; and to reinforce their interest in intelligence as a career profession.

II. Scope

The Basic Intelligence Course deals with the purposes of intelligence activity; the types of intelligence; the principles and methods used in the collection, production, and dissemination of intelligence; the organization, mission, and functions of the national security agencies of the U. S. Government; the organization, mission, and functions of the offices of CIA; the organization, mission, and functions of the IAC agencies; the role of intelligence in support of national security; and the nature of the world situation, with particular reference to the threat to national security presented by the USSR and the communist movement.

III. Conduct of the Course

The Basic Intelligence Course is conducted by a permanent staff of experienced intelligence officers. Special lecturers are drawn from within CIA and from the national security agencies of the Government. Time is allotted for questions following lectures and for small discussion groups. Prescribed readings are assigned on the subjects covered in the course.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

and additional books and periodicals are available in a branch of the CIA Library. The trainees are given problems and projects illustrative of common types of intelligence work, and their performance is reviewed and criticized by members of the staff. Practice in clear and concise writing is stressed.

The course is organized in two sessions. The first session is devoted to the orientation and instruction considered necessary for every junior officer entering the Agency. The second session is closely related to the first, but the training is specially designed for new personnel of the offices under the DD/I and for unassigned Junior Officer Trainees. In the second session emphasis is placed on the methods, techniques, and practices utilized in offices producing intelligence, and the training is mainly through supervised student problems and projects.

#### IV. Assessment and Assignment

Trainees assigned to CIA offices before entering the course return to their respective offices upon completion of the course. Unassigned Junior Officer Trainees are assessed by the Office of Training and assignments recommended on the basis of their interest, temperament, educational background and special skills and aptitudes. These recommendations are reviewed in the light of office requirements for junior professional personnel, and interviews in Agency offices arranged for the trainees. An office desiring the permanent assignment of a Junior Officer Trainee may arrange the transfer through the Personnel Office; alternatively, a trainee may be detailed from the Office of Training for a trial period.

SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL

V. Curriculum

A. First session

1. General subjects, including introduction to course, types of intelligence, principles and methods, history of U. S. intelligence, security, maps and their uses, foreign intelligence services, and intelligence and foreign policy
2. The intelligence process, including collection, observation and description, interviewing, reporting, production, presentation, and dissemination
3. National Security Agencies--NSC, JCS, PBS
4. The intelligence community--OIR, G-2, ONI, AFOIN, JIC
5. CIA--mission and organization; operations; communications; and the function of various offices under the DD for Intelligence
6. Foreign areas and U. S. security--a survey of major strategic areas
7. The USSR and Communism--geography, military and air capabilities, industrial and scientific potential of the USSR; Soviet intelligence agencies; theory and practice of Communism
8. Student exercises--map problem, selection of types of intelligence, editing problems, and analysis and evaluation problems

B. Second session

1. General--security commitments of U. S. and its allies, the strategic importance of areas, informational and propaganda activities
2. National Security Agencies--AEC, FBI, R&DE, MSA
3. CIA--analysis of types of production
4. Foreign areas as subjects of intelligence interest--intelligence

problems connected with major world areas

5. USSR--Soviet imperialism, Soviet techniques of aggression
6. Student exercises--interviewing problem; distribution, formulation and allocation of requirements; abstracting; message writing; writing for intelligence summaries, digests, reports, and estimates; preparation and use of map overlays; preparation and presentation of an area estimate
7. Rapid reading course--a laboratory course to increase reading speed and comprehension

OTR/HMS:ebb (13 October 1952)

SECURITY INFORMATION