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Official Diary

Tuesday, 5 August 1952

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1. Passed on to [redacted] and to Frank Wisner the Director's desire to use the services of [redacted] whose activities are known to one [redacted] in the Operational Offices. 25X1A9a 25X1A5a1

2. At the Deputies' meeting, expressed irritation at the nature of the questions raised in the letter from Director Allen of PSB to the DCI, and indicated that I would prepare a memorandum giving the full background of this matter. The DCI indicated that this was not necessary; that all that was required was a draft of reply to the Allen letter and I undertook to draft same.

3. At the Deputies' meeting, reference was made to the deteriorating economic situation in Poland.

4. The DCI instructed me to confirm with Doc Matthews of State that the Department had no objection to Mr. Buck visiting Moscow, upon the understanding that no barter deal was contemplated. I later confirmed this with Undersecretary Matthew, who said that the Department would accept our judgment as to the value of such a trip and had no objection thereto, so long as Buck did not undertake to deliver copper or lead, or other prohibited items, to the Soviets. The Department would have no objection to having Buck purchase manganese for cash.

5. Prepared and forwarded to Adm. Dennison CIA's comment on Senator Sparkman's letter to the President relating to the FTC report on oil.

6. Chatted with Gen. Weckerling respecting his replacement as Chairman of the Watch Committee. We agreed that it would be best at this time to appoint an acting chairman and [redacted] was mentioned. 25X1A9a

7. Discussed with Dr. Whitman, Chairman of R&DB, and Dr. Chadwell, the R&DB request for an over-all estimate on 'Soviet scientific and technical capabilities'. I explained to Dr. Whitman the status of NIE 65 and said that we hoped the scientific and technical portion of this paper would be adequate for R&DB's needs this year, even though it would come in somewhat later than the time he had specified. In subsequent years, we hoped to key the estimating program into the budgeting program, in which event an appropriate estimate would be ready in time for R&DB. Dr. Whitman indicated his agreement to this procedure and said that he would be satisfied

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with a coordinated estimate as of December 1, 1952, and if that could not be obtained by that date would accept a CIA, uncoordinated paper on this subject. This would obviate the need for any request being made through the NSC or the NSC Senior Staff. Dr. Whitman indicated that he had discussed this matter with Sec. Lovett, who had authorized him to make requests on the NSC, if necessary.

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8. Met with Messrs. Sheldon and [redacted] respecting the CIA position on the ad hoc USCIB committee on P/T. This was a preliminary discussion.

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9. Discussed briefly with Messrs. [redacted] the timing of sending Strategic Division personnel to Adm. Overesch. No final decision was reached, pending further discussion with Adm. Overesch.

10. Authorized Mr. Reber to cancel the IAC meeting this Thursday and later notified the Director.

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11. [redacted] in connection with the discussions of [redacted]

[redacted]

I later mentioned this in the IADs' meeting and requested that such profiles be prepared.

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