

MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AREA STAFF MEETING, 7 NOVEMBER 1955

PRESENT:

[REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] commented on two matters that came up at the last staff meeting. The first concerned the problem of Military Reserve business matters being handled during office hours, a practice that is not desirable except in rare instances. The second question from the last staff meeting concerned the ascertaining of continued interest in CIA employment during the long clearance period. [REDACTED] said that Personnel sends every 30 days to each prospective employee a letter asking if they are still interested in CIA employment and requesting notification if they are not interested.

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2. [REDACTED] commented that yesterday had brought a small flap on the political status of Outer Mongolia. The E & E on Outer Mongolia was sent to the DD/I.

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3. [REDACTED] commented that he attended [REDACTED] lecture last week, which reported on his round-the-world trip.

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4. [REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] is in town and that efforts are being made to extend his stay in Washington by three weeks. It now seems desirable to establish him with permanent station in Rome instead of Paris. Consideration is also being given to add the United Kingdom and the Low Countries to [REDACTED] area and to add the four Scandinavian countries to [REDACTED] area.

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[REDACTED]

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6. [REDACTED] said that the [REDACTED] report on activities in Antarctica has been well received. [REDACTED] commented that four copies of it were sent to the Executive Office of the White House.

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7. [REDACTED] asked about the IAC Intelligence Glossary. [REDACTED] said that terms we think should be included are to be listed and submitted by C.O.B., 8 November 1955, plus comments on the value of such a Glossary. The terms need only to be listed at this stage. Definitions are to come later.

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DOCUMENT NO. [REDACTED]
NO CHANGE [REDACTED]
CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED]
DATE [REDACTED]
BY [REDACTED]
1-11-79
REVIEWER: 372044

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8. ██████ asked ██████ about the priority of the

25X1A9a New Lands Project. ██████ said that the Agricultural Branch will

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receive the study early in 1956. Eleven maps have been requested of ██████

25X1A9a by ██████ to be finished by 1 January 1956. ██████ indicated

that this completion date would require that something else less important

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would have to give way, probably the city plans or the work on NIS Chapter I.

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██████ indicated that the city plans would have the lower priority.

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9. ██████ reported that interest in Langley photography has revived again and that Colonel White has requested the new photography.

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10. ██████ asked about the new Operation Alert that has been mentioned in the newspapers as planned during the next three months.

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██████ said that it was discussed at the last staff meeting and that it will be held in December or January with probably no warning.

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11. ██████ questioned the inclusion in the monthly report of the type of project reporting covered by St/PC Status Reports. It was decided to examine the situation carefully to ascertain the amount of overlap and whether this was desirable.

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12. ██████ reported that he has attended the two meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee formed to advise OTR on Area Training. The Committee has emphasized to OTR that the Area Courses should be adequately intelligence-oriented if they are to be of maximum value. The question of reducing the class time from 8 hours a week to 6 hours a week has been discussed, and OTR will probably agree to this. It has also been recommended that courses not require any definite amount of off-duty preparation. If the student is completely ignorant of area knowledge, then he may have to spend a great deal of off-duty time in order to keep up with the class; however, if the person already has considerable area knowledge he may have to spend very little off-duty time in class preparation. Adequate quantities of outside reading material should be available to the students so that they can take the unclassified materials home with them to read. It appears that OTR will probably go along with these recommendations although it is not definite.

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*13. ██████████ reported that the ORR/CSB had a special meeting this morning to discuss a staff study on promotion policy that had been prepared for the DCI by Colonel White. The study proposes more leeway on promotion policy. Two important recommendations are to increase the 1 percent ceiling on assignment of higher grade personnel to lower grade jobs and the recommendation to recognize superior performance on a job by promotion above the grade of the job without getting the job classification raised. ORR will probably not go along with these proposals.

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*14. ██████████ reported that he now has a copy of the Mobilization Plan plus Annexes.

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*15. Mr. ██████████ asked ██████████ about the probable date of transfer 25X1A9a

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for ██████████ and ██████████ indicated around the first of December as a possible date.

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