

MINUTES OF GEOGRAPHIC AREA STAFF MEETING, 3 JANUARY 1955

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PRESENT:



25X1A9a 1. [redacted] commented that the DDI Newsletter was discussed at the AD/RR staff meeting this morning. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform overseas personnel of activities at the headquarters, rather than of overseas trips of headquarters personnel, which they probably already know about. Appropriate subjects might be major accomplishments, organizational changes, or new lines of work. [redacted] wants the division chiefs to personally consider each month the problem of what should go into the DDI Newsletter. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 2. [redacted] showed the group a draft paper by [redacted] and [redacted] on coordination of requirements for collection. This paper will be routed to the divisions for review and comments. The section on map procurement will be of primary interest to D/GL and the section on procurement of photography of primary interest to D/GP. The paper is to be issued on 7 January 1955 and comments should be made before then. The paper goes to [redacted] and on to the DCI. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 3. [redacted] displayed two copies of a paper on National Intelligence Objectives, which resulted from IAC deliberations. This should be read with care by D/GP and D/GG, particularly with regard to whether requirements are adequately stated. [redacted] requested that the paper be returned to him by this Thursday, at which time he will send it to D/GL and D/GC. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 4. [redacted] brought up the subject of whether the Geographic Area should rely so heavily on consumer requests. It is possible that we can better fulfill our intelligence mission by devoting more effort to striking out in new directions or to filling gaps in the overall intelligence picture. Maybe we are not making the best possible use of our resources, but possibly we are. This is not as much a problem for D/GC and D/GL as it is for D/GG and D/GP. [redacted] commented that requested work puts you in a stronger position than does self-initiated work, as you have someone else to back you up on the value of the project. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a [redacted] commented that D/GP has been doing some long range planning and has decided that, for example, they need personnel familiar with the China coast, with the Arctic coast of Siberia, and with industrial complexes of the USSR. [redacted] suggested that the Geographic Area is passed by in the determination of answers to most of the major intelligence problems. The group discussed possible contributions to such problems that the Geographic Area might be able to make. The lack of regional analysis of the USSR, involving interrelation of all aspects within a region, was discussed. [redacted] asked if D/GG could produce a sample study of some region in the USSR. [redacted] suggested that geographers might put more emphasis on the problem of valid "indicators." 25X1A9a

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25X1A9a [redacted] also suggested that the emphasis on nuclear warfare in our national defense plans may have inhibited some types of intelligence research. [redacted] commented that geographers should have a valuable contribution to planning the allocation of the funds that will be used to bolster economies of peripheral countries, assuming a long period of coexistence. [redacted] said that D/GG personnel have given considerable thought to planning new types of geographic research and that one project they have considered has been an analysis of the economic regional structure of the USSR, but lack of available personnel and time has prevented such projects from being initiated. [redacted] commented that the Economic Area may drag us into the fringes of regional analysis of the USSR and that it might be better to get such a study underway before that time. [redacted] commented on the value of regional studies consisting mostly of maps with possibly some text.

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5. [redacted] commented that he has spent the last month writing letters and reports, following up on his trip to N.W. Europe. He reported his opinion that a great deal of the correspondence pertaining to map procurement can be handled from Washington, rather than by the Geographic Attaches. This would permit the attaches to spend more time on developing new procurement possibilities.

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7. [redacted] reported that the USSR Branch has completed for DD/P a study of the Chukotsk Peninsula. It is a very complete study of this area, and D/GG plans to issue it as a "G" report. For the "G" report, D/GC would need to reproduce by the gelatin method the maps that accompany the study. [redacted] said he thought it possible to start on the maps right away. [redacted] commented that DD/P will concur on wide distribution for the study. [redacted] said he wanted to see the study before it is distributed.

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8. [redacted] reported that [redacted] has returned from his convalescent leave and plans to resign on 28 January 1955.

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9. [redacted] reported that [redacted] entered on duty with the Agency as of today.

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10. The second E & E course will be held in February, according to [redacted]. The lectures will be on 2 February and the field work will be accomplished 3 February ( $\frac{1}{2}$  day), 4 February (full day), and 5 February ( $\frac{1}{2}$  day).

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11. [redacted] reported that the evasion geography studies have become more detailed and that D/GG now tries to get them reviewed by DD/P "experts" before publication.

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12. [REDACTED] commented that D/GC has prepared a plan of space utilization in the D/GC area.

25X1A9a 13. [REDACTED] reported that D/GP may move into Q Bldg. by Feb.

25X1A9a 14. ONI has considered bringing Capt. Regner Thoren, Swedish War College, to this country. Capt. Thoren has considerable Russian photography as well as experience in fighting the Russians, and [REDACTED] has suggested that ONI use Capt. Thoren to teach an intelligence P.I. course, with ONI reserving a number of seats for D/GP and D/GG analysts.

25X1A9a 15. [REDACTED] reported to the group on the radar course that he attended recently at Mather Air Force Base, California.

25X1A9a 16. [REDACTED] informed that [REDACTED] will start their survey of D/GG files this afternoon. [REDACTED] is now ORR records management officer and he will follow up with the divisions on the results of the [REDACTED] survey. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 17. [REDACTED] said he has been informed that finance companies and other loan outfits now recognize CIA badges and sometimes ask to see them for identification. The CIA badge is not to be used for such purposes.

25X1A9a 18. [REDACTED] commented that he has been unable to get any statement on availability of space for D/GL at the Munitions Building.

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\* 20. Vital storage needs have been reviewed by [redacted] and [redacted] and new equipment should be placed there for possible future use. The needed 25X1A9a  
equipment includes a projector, six small drafting tables, and six  
portable light tables and would cost about \$2,000. ORR money may have  
to be used to purchase this equipment, and [redacted] is checking on the 25X1A9a  
possibilities. [redacted] advised that the equipment be ordered.

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Distribution:  
1 to each division.

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