



1 April 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Meeting with Mr. Norman Precoda

1. At your request I arranged a small meeting yesterday to listen to a briefing by Mr. Precoda on "an orderly and systems approach to the national security problem." Present at the meeting were Sherman Kent, Abbot Smith, Edward Proctor,



2. Mr. Precoda's scheme is still in a formative stage; he expects to publish it when complete. It represents an attempt to depict on a chart the degrees of conflict and tension which exist here and there in the world, and to combine with this a graphic presentation of the means and instruments which the US has to deal with various levels of conflict. It is, therefore, a scheme probably more applicable to the problems of policy-makers, and especially of force planners, than to those of intelligence producers. Mr. Precoda's chart would depict in a rough fashion the ordinary and average trend of affairs in the world; but we in our estimating business are concerned most

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importantly with trying to foresee what is abnormal and alarming. Mr. Precoda agreed that his scheme would not be of much help in this aspect of our business. Nevertheless, his presentation was interesting and we had an agreeable and productive conversation afterwards.



ABBOT SMITH

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Attached is a piece of work on another subject, which Mr. Precoda asked me to pass on to you, because of your interest in matters Californian.

