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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

22 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Science & Technology
Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: Proposed Topics for Memoranda

NOTE

This listing cannot be all-inclusive. Undoubtedly we will be producing additional memoranda on short deadlines to meet requests by the Director and/or policy-making officials. We will also be preparing and circulating staff notes and other highly informal papers within ONE -- and, in some cases to interested analysts elsewhere -- for the purpose of testing hypotheses, stimulating debate and exploring new lines of thought.

Chief, Estimates Staff
National Estimates

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Distribution:

- 1 - Addressees
- 1 - D/OCI
- 1 - D/OER
- 1 - D/OSR
- 1 - D/SRS
- 1 - D/OBGI

GROUP 1

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downgrading and
declassification

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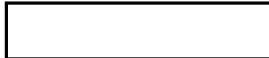
SUBJECT: Proposed Topics for Memoranda

1. PANAMA AND THE US: MORE TROUBLE AHEAD

September

(Here we will take a hard look at Torrijos, his staying power, his propensity for generating new anti-US sentiment, his likely future position on Canal negotiations. What alternatives are there to his continuing role? The Board will consider a revised draft of this paper in the next few days.)

(Coord: OCI, OER, DDP)



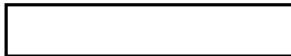
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2. THE PACIFIC POWERS AND THE STRAIT OF MALACCA

October

(A look at the interests and roles of the powers in this strategic region and their relations with the coastal states -- Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore. The focus will be on Soviet and Japanese prospects for increased influence.)

(Coord: OCI, DDP)



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3. THE OUTLOOK FOR GHANA

October

(Ghana's experiment with Western style democracy is running into snags. The massive foreign debt, rising unemployment, and a cumbersome bureaucracy pose major problems for Prime Minister Busia. Busia's relations with parliament, the supreme court, and his own foreign minister are touchy. Other Africans are watching the events in Ghana with interest or concern. Our memorandum will assess Busia's future and speculate about Ghana's political prospects.)

(Coord: OCI, OER, DDP)



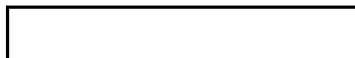
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4. ISLAND NATIONS OF THE PACIFIC: SOME PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

October

(A follow-up to a 1963 NIE on a neglected subject; timely in view of recent rapid decolonization in the area -- particularly of Fiji in late 1970 -- and US problems in handling the political evolution of the Trust Territory.)

(Coord: OCI, OBG, DDP)



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5. THE TOLL OF TIME ON CHINA'S LEADERSHIP

October/November

(We still want to have a try at this subject and are hopeful that events in the next few weeks will provide additional data. Our focus will be on the implications for China of its continuing dependence upon an aged and dwindling band of top leaders.)

(Coord: OCI, SRS, DDP)



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S-E-C-R-E-T

6. CUBA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

November

(Here we will discuss possible changes in relations between Cuba and some of the Latin American states and the repercussions of such changes on the Organization of American States, on US relations with Latin America and on Soviet relations with Cuba and Latin America.)

(Coord: OCI, OER, DDP)

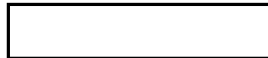


7. INTELLECTUAL PROTEST IN THE USSR

November

(An attempt to look at this particular phenomenon in a new way -- to explore angles and aspects not frequently discussed. How is dissent evolving, whom does it involve, and where may it be leading? Is the regime's reaction to it symptomatic of its attitude toward other problems domestic and foreign? Is the regime likely to magnify the problem and does it run the risk of alienating key elements of the Soviet intellectual class /including some within the establishment/? We have read OCI's recent paper on Intellectual Dissent in the USSR, and we feel there is ample room for the different sort of paper we have in mind.)

(Coord: OCI, SRS, DDP)



8. PEKING'S STRATEGIC STANCE AND POLICY PRIORITIES

November

(This will speculate about the broad strategic concepts probably held by China's top leaders and how

(Coord: OCI, OSR, SRS, DDP)

S-E-C-R-E-T

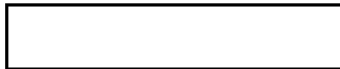
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will consider the outlook for such operations. It will also examine the proposition that a coordinated movement may develop among the disparate terrorist groupings in the hemisphere, and assess the impact of terrorism on the governments and peoples of Latin America.)

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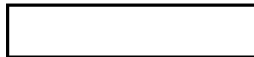
12. SOVIET PERCEPTION OF THE US

December/January

(Is the Soviet perception of the US and the stance of the US Government changing? How much? How fast? What is the evidence? This paper will be an experimental effort.)

(Coord: OCI, FBIS, SRS, DDP)

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S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

recent Chinese advances in technical and military spheres seem to fit or not fit⁷ this conceptual pattern. Can we draw any inferences as to future Chinese priorities?)

9. BLACK AFRICAN ATTITUDES TOWARD THE UK AND THE COMMONWEALTH

November

(This piece will explore the changing attitudes of Black African states, particularly the ex-British colonies, toward the UK. An assessment will be made of their likely policies toward the UK and the Commonwealth as the British move toward accommodation with White minority regimes in southern Africa.)

(Coord: OCI, OER, DDP)

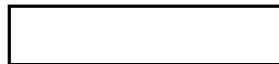


10. THE GDR AND OSTPOLITIK

December

(Brandt's Ostpolitik poses some especially delicate and difficult problems for East Germany; relations with the USSR, the rest of Eastern Europe, and, of course, Bonn itself are involved. This paper would identify the issues and ponder their implications for the future.)

(Coord: OCI, DDP)



11. URBAN TERRORISM IN LATIN AMERICA

December

(This will survey recent developments in the modes and motivations of those who have resorted to urban terrorism including kidnapping⁷, and

(Coord: OCI, DDP)

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