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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

18 December 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR:

[REDACTED]
Colonel Gerald F. Lillard, USA (G-2)
Captain Allan L. Reed, USN (ONI)
Colonel Jack E. Thomas, USAF (AFOIN-2B)
Captain John A. Holbrook, USN (JIG)

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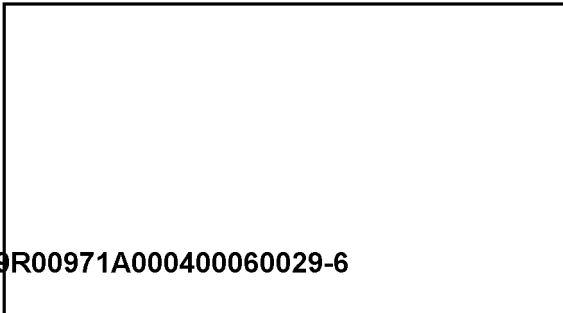
SUBJECT : Post-Mortem on NIE-21/1: "Austrian Security Capabilities Following Withdrawal of Occupation Forces"

1. Background. NIE-21/1 originated in a request from the Office of the Secretary of Defense for intelligence on Austria's security capabilities in the event of four-power troop withdrawal. A Board estimate was forwarded to the Secretary on 12 November. The Board recommended and the IAC agreed that the Board estimate should be coordinated and issued as NIE-21/1. Meetings were held with the IAC representatives on 13 and 18 November. The estimate was approved by the IAC on 1 December.

2. Intelligence Gaps. No serious intelligence gaps were encountered in the estimate. It would be desirable to have firmer evidence on Communist (Werkschutz) para-military capabilities and on probable Austrian Government intentions with respect to expansion of the Special Gendarmerie and the control of Soviet-owned properties following four-power withdrawal. We anticipate that data on these points will become available through State Department channels, and perhaps also through service channels. Hence, we do not believe that IAC sponsorship of a special collection effort is required.

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3. Recommendations:

- a. That no post-mortem meeting be held on NIE-21/1; and,
- b. That the IAC agencies note the Intelligence Gaps indicated in paragraph 2 above and ensure that research and collection activities under their respective control are cognizant of these points.

4. Action:

Please telephone your concurrence (or non-concurrence) to the undersigned by close of business Tuesday, 23 December.

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Executive Secretary

cc: Assistant Director/Intelligence Coordination

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