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M I N U T E S

Sixteenth Meeting of the  
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD  
October 30, 1952 2:40 P.M.  
Director's Conference Room  
Administrative Building  
Central Intelligence Agency

MEMBERS:

General Walter B. Smith, Director of Central Intelligence,  
Chairman  
Mr. David K. E. Bruce, Under Secretary of State  
Mr. Charles A. Coolidge, Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Legal and Legislative Affairs)

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OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Department of State

Mr. Howland H. Sargeant, Assistant Secretary for Public  
Affairs

Office of Secretary of Defense

Brig. General John Magruder, USA (Ret.)

Central Intelligence Agency

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Psychological Strategy Board

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Deputy Director  
, Executive Officer

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Secretary to the Board

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Agenda Item No. 1 - Program of Psychological Preparation for  
Stalin's Passing from Power  
(PSB D-24), October 27, 1952

The Board approved the recommendations for the preparatory work outlined in this paper to be undertaken, and authorized the designation of a staff member from each member agency and from the staff of the Board to serve as principal point of contact concerning this work. Upon the development of an agreed United States Government position with regard to the contingency of Stalin's sudden death, the Department of State Member indicated his Department would initiate informal discussions with certain other foreign governments in order to ensure consistent positions mutually satisfactory to the governments concerned.

Agenda Item No. 2 - PSB Quarterly Report to the President and  
the National Security Council  
(PSB D-34, October 30, 1952)

The Board approved the draft report with the revisions presented by the Director prior to the meeting. The Board requested the Director to study the matter of periodic reports to the President and the National Security Council, with a view to developing recommendations with respect to period to be covered, format, procedure and other relevant aspects thereof.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Fiscal Year 1954 Escapee Budget  
(PSB D-18a/5)

The Board approved the paper in principle, subject to working out by the Department of State, with the Bureau of the Budget, of justification for the Congressional presentation. In view of certain sensitive considerations involved in expanding the program, the Board's approval was contingent on no mention being made of Yugoslavia or other sensitive areas of the world, in the authorizing legislation. It was agreed that the language employed in delineating areas should be broad enough to cover contingencies not possible now to foresee. It was further agreed that the Board's review of the legislative approach to Congress would await the results of the State Department's discussion with the Bureau of the Budget.

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