

TOP SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

23 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)
VIA : Acting Assistant Director for Policy Coordination
SUBJECT : Organization of the Psychological Strategy Board

1. This memorandum is a response to your request of 1 July for my impressions of the President's letter on the Organization of the Psychological Strategy Board.
2. I concur with your opinion that the language closely parallels the recommendations agreed to by the Board.
3. You will note that the following statement appears on page 4 of the Bureau of the Budget's report: "The Board's role and responsibility for strategic planning may thus need to be reaffirmed. The Board thus will need the support of a clarification, or more properly, an iteration, of the forward and strategic aspects of its role under the April 4, 1951, directive." Immediately following this statement are two comprehensive recommendations with respect to this matter. True, the President, in his letter, does not discuss this point, or "reaffirm" it, but I would judge the President to be entirely sympathetic to this concept, since he commends these sections to the particular attention of the Board.
4. Reflected throughout the Bureau of the Budget's detailed recommendations on page 4 is a note of restraint on tactical planning and operational coordination. I believe it to be the intent of the President with respect to "study and appropriate action by the Board" that the Bureau of the Budget's recommendations are to be followed in spirit and in principle.
5. I should hope that in the not too distant future there can be initiated strategic deception planning of such a nature and upon such scale that it may produce the psychological effect of throwing the enemy off

balance and

NSC review completed.

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balance and keeping him guessing; thereby permitting us to assume and hold the cold war initiative. I believe the terms of reference of the PSB are permissive enough to include such undertakings within the "forward strategic planning" concepts stressed by the Bureau of the Budget. CIA can certainly play a very prominent role in both the planning and operational phases of strategic deception. We were hopeful that the Stevens Committee would be able to resolve this issue.

5. You will recall that a member of ADPC's staff, on the 16th of April, submitted a memorandum to you on "Activities of the Psychological Strategy Board," which, I believe, you intended to pass informally to [redacted] I believe these comments to be valid, that they lend emphasis to the long-range planning concept, and that they conflict in no way with the broader principles raised by the Bureau of the Budget. I recognize the memorandum is a composite of many views, which, nonetheless, should furnish some of the principal officers of the Psychological Strategy Board Staff with "food for thought," which, I believe, they will sincerely welcome.

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[redacted]

Chief

Psychological Staff Division

Encls. 2

1-Memo for CPY from DD(P)

2-Memo for PSB from the President,
attaching Bureau of the Budget Report

opc/PY/CSP/FRZ:blr

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