

C O P Y

11 September 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Creditable Service for the Purpose of Making CIA Longevity Awards

1. The question has been presented as to just what service shall be creditable as service with the CIA and its predecessors for the purpose of CIA longevity awards.

(a) For example, the functions [REDACTED] were lifted from the Federal Communications Commission together with some of the personnel who were performing the functions which were transferred to CIA. Shall such personnel receive credit for longevity award purposes with CIA for such FCC duty?

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(b) In addition, there are situations where a function of CIA or a predecessor was transferred to another agency and then reassigned to CIA or a predecessor agency. Also some functions of the CIA or its predecessors have been transferred to other government agencies such as the Bureau of Ships of the Navy Department, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Army. How much, if any, of such service shall be creditable for CIA longevity purposes?

2. The original ancestor of CIA was the Office of the Coordinator of Information which was established by Executive Order of the President on 11 July 1941. By military order of the Commander-in-Chief (the President) dated on 13 June 1942 the Office of the Coordinator of Information (exclusive of the foreign information activities transferred to the Office of War Information by Executive Order of the same date) became the Office of Strategic Services. OWI remained a separate entity and went out of existence in 1945. The Research and Analysis Branch and the Presentation Branch of OSS were by Executive Order of 12 September 1945 transferred to the Department of State, effective 1 October 1945 and the remaining activities were transferred to the War Department. The Secretary of War established the Strategic Services Unit to carry out such functions transferred to the War Department. By letter of 22 January 1946 jointly directed to the Secretaries of State, War and Navy, the President established the Central Intelligence Group responsible to the National Intelligence Authority. The National Security Act of 1947 established the Central Intelligence Agency and transferred to it the personnel, property and records of the Central Intelligence Group.

3. It is believed that longevity for CIA award purposes should be strictly construed, that is, should be based only on service with CIA or one of its direct lineal ancestors. For example, where an employee of OSS was located in the Research and Analysis Branch his employment, for CIA longevity purposes, would terminate 1 October 1945 with the transfer heretofore referred to, of that Branch to the Department of State. Longevity credit would recommence when and if employment of the individual was later begun with SSU, CIG or CIA. An OSS employee who was transferred to the War Department as part of SSU would of course have no break in continuity of service. The [REDACTED] employee who performed such function with the FCC would receive no credit for CIA service prior to actual transfer to CIA.

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4. It is believed that to adhere to other than a strict construction of what is service with CIA and its predecessor agencies, would furnish an unrealistic basis for longevity awards for CIA service and, in addition, would involve administrative determinations which would be difficult if not impossible of solution. In summary, therefore, it is suggested that service with CIA for the purpose of making longevity awards be interpreted as including aggregate service with the COI, OSS, SSU, CIG and CIA, and that no other service be creditable.

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Office of General Counsel

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