

DD/S&T# 2574/74

DDI-2000-74

ORD 2458/1/74

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Assistant/DD/S&T

SUBJECT: Additional Comments on Perspectives for Intelligence, 1975-1980

1. In formulating our long-range plans for R&D work we have identified world food production, supply, demand, control, and distribution as likely future problems important to the Intelligence Community. We recommend that additional consideration be given to them in "Perspectives for Intelligence, 1975-1980."

2. As world population and affluence have increased and food consumption has outpaced per capita production, global food reserves have decreased. The equivalent grain reserves as a share of the total grain consumption has decreased from 26% in 1961 to 10% in 1973 (8% projected for 1974). Low food reserves leave the world in a dangerous short-term position in the event of adverse crop years. Moreover, climatologists predict with high confidence that average earth temperatures will decrease in future years leading to a reduction in crop yields of as much as 30%.

3. The food problem could be emphasized in the paper by adding the following:

Page 3, first sentence: change to read "The changing balance between the world's supply of and demand for natural resources and food and the increase in population will strain the world's political, economic, and social institutions."

Page 9, insert after first full sentence and before last sentence of paragraph 8: "Food shortages triggered by regional crop failures and/or long-term climatic changes compounded by shrinking world food reserves could cause disproportionate deaths and economic and political upheavals for some of the Third World nations."

/s/

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[Redacted Signature]

Director of Research & Development

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[Redacted Box]

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Remarks: —

Comments from D/ORD, DDS&T for incorporation into package sent to you on Friday re. Agency comments on "Perspective for Intelligence"

O/DDI

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