

16 APR 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lieutenant General Thomas F. Hickey
Director of the Staff, Net Evaluation
Subcommittee

SUBJECT : CIA Representation on NESC Staff

1. Last November General Twining informed me that the 1959 Net Evaluation would be presented to the President in the spring, and that plans for a 1960 Net Evaluation were to be cancelled. I understand that work on the 1959 report has been completed, and that you are awaiting an opportunity to present the results to the President.

2. Mr. [] tells me that some recommendations regarding a possible new 1960 study will be presented to General Twining, and a decision as to the desirability and nature of such a study will then have to be made. For the present, therefore, it appears that future responsibilities of the NESC Staff are uncertain.

3. In the circumstances, I would much appreciate your views on the possibility of releasing Mr. [] from his assignment to your Staff. He is badly needed here for a key substantive position in the Office of National Estimates for which he is peculiarly well qualified.

4. If it is decided that the work of the NESC is to continue, I feel that people of top professional competence should serve it. For my part, I am prepared to assign an equally competent officer to replace Mr. [] when the further duties of the Staff are decided.

SIGNED

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE)

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

O/NE:SKent:12Apr60

Rewritten (minor change) DDCI:mfb 14Apr60

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60-2617

12 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Release of [redacted] from NESC Staff

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1. I have read and send forward herewith Mr. [redacted] memorandum to you which contains his request for release from the NESC Staff.

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2. I believe that a change in CIA representation could not be better timed. There is a hiatus at present, pending a determination as to the Staff's future. The 1959 job is wrapped up, and [redacted] withdrawal at this time can cause no great problems.

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3. There is no question that we have in O/NE an urgent and serious need to fill the job of Chief, Estimates Staff, and that [redacted] is the best possible candidate. Further, I can guarantee to produce a senior and qualified man to replace him on the NESC Staff, if in fact it turns out that one is required.

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[redacted]

25X1

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

DCI:
Concur as amended.
CFC
DDCI
(14 Apr 60)

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TS # 142087

Cy 1 of 5 cys

8 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Net Evaluation Subcommittee Meeting and Request
for Recall of CIA Representative on NESCS Staff

1. This memorandum is primarily for your information, but contains in paragraph 7 a proposal for your action.

2. As you know, General Twining has called a meeting of the Subcommittee for 2:30 p.m., on Thursday, 21 April 1960. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the presentation of the 1959 Net Evaluation and to approve the report.

3. I will deliver a copy of the report to you, with a briefing note, about 15 April. You may desire to have General Cabell, Mr. Amory, and Mr. Kent read the report as well. I have an appointment to discuss the report with you on Tuesday, 19 April. The presentation at the White House is tentatively scheduled for 28 April.

4. Meanwhile, General Hickey on his own initiative has proposed to General Twining a new study to be completed about a year from now. I proposed to the Staff that it recommend

against further studies. A copy of my memorandum is attached; it contains the same arguments and proposals that I made to you in January. General Hickey, however, felt that it was inappropriate for the Staff to make such a recommendation, and he has therefore directed the Staff to develop assumptions and methodology for a new study.

5. The Staff is decidedly split about the nature of any new studies. I believe, and most of the Staff members agree, that if a new study is undertaken it should be a study of a Soviet pre-emptive attack arising out of a situation of crisis, for example, over Berlin or Formosa. General Hickey, on the other hand, desires a type of study which would maximize damage to the US; this, he believes, would be a situation of complete strategic and tactical surprise.

6. I do not yet know whether General Hickey will present his plans to General Twining before the 21 April meeting or whether General Twining, if he receives them, will present them to the Subcommittee. If he does, you presumably will have an opportunity to discuss the desirability and the nature of any future studies.

7. Mr. Kent is sending you a note about the position as Chief, Estimates Staff, which he would like me to assume if my release from the NESC seems feasible to you. I would like very much to accept this position if you think my withdrawal from the NESC Staff can be arranged without embarrassment or prejudice to the Agency. A draft of memorandum from you to General Hickey is attached for your consideration.

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attachment

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SIGNATURE RECORD AND COVER SHEET

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