

SECRET
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24 September 1951

Staff Conference

Minutes of Meeting held in Director's
Conference Room, Administration Building
Monday, 24 September 1951, at 1100 hours.

Allen W. Dulles Presiding

Present

Frank G. Wisner, Deputy Director for Plans
Walter R. Wolf, Deputy Director for Administration
25X1 [redacted] Jr., Executive Assistant to the Director
25X1 Colonel Matthew Baird, Director of Training
[redacted], Advisor for Management
James M. Andrews, Asst. Director for Collection and Dissemination
George G. Carey, Assistant Director for Operations
H. Marshall Chadwell, Asst. Director for Scientific Intelligence
Trubee Davison, Director of Personnel
Kingman Douglass, Assistant Director for Current Intelligence
Kilbourne Johnston, Assistant Director for Policy Coordination
25X1 [redacted] D/Assistant Director for National Estimates
25X1 [redacted], D/Asst. Director for Special Operations
Assistant Director for Communications
Max F. Millikan, Asst. Director for Research and Reports
James Q. Rober, Asst. Director for Intelligence Coordination

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1. Mr. Dulles reported on the safe arrival in France of the Director and stated that he would sail for the United States on the 29th of September. If there are any matters which the Assistant Directors would like to take up with the Director while he is abroad, they should be passed through [] for coordination.

25X1

2. Mr. Dulles mentioned that CIA had received a letter from Mr. Huie, Editor of The American Mercury, asking some rather searching questions []

25X1

[] He read a draft letter which in the future may be used in replies to such inquiries. Among other things, it mentions that under the terms of the National Security Act of 1947, the Congress provided that the Director shall be held "responsible for protecting intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure".

3. Mr. Dulles discussed the question of CIA personnel traveling outside of this country. On the operating side, this is presently well handled as both O/PC and O/SO have established procedures. It is more difficult, however, in the case of the producing offices, such as O/NE, O/RR, O/CI and O/SI. He stated that if such personnel go under Agency auspices, the trip should be coordinated and the Senior Representative in the area to be visited.

[] said that a central clearing organization was being established to provide coordination and give administrative support. This organization will advise I&S and the DD/P of prospective travelers.

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4. Colonel Baird spoke on the next Agency orientation course which begins on October 2. He said there were certain changes in the course and that the new one would be beamed at older employees as well as incoming ones. It will, therefore, be necessary to give new employees a prior briefing on the position of the Agency in the intelligence fraternity.

There was some discussion in regard to [redacted] suggestion that all of the Assistant Directors appear at the first orientation session to be introduced by the Director or the Deputy Director. Mr. Dulles feels that this would be a waste of time. Mr. Reber stated that he believed it might be a valuable idea for morale building purposes. [redacted] disagreed with this and felt that the primary morale builder was the knowledge of what the various Offices in CIA accomplished. Mr. Dulles suggested a modification in the program so as not to have mass attendance by the Assistant Directors. They should be fitted in only where necessary.

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[redacted] said that in O/SO the Assistant Director and his Deputy met the new employees once every two weeks. Some such procedure is employed by some of the other Offices and Mr. Dulles stated that this was a procedure that should be followed by all Offices.

25X1

5. Mr. Douglass brought up a personnel problem that was becoming somewhat trying to O/CI. He feels that many of the personnel in the overt offices spend too much time at their desks in Washington and they have evidenced a great desire to travel. He is afraid that consequently he may lose a number to SO or PC. Mr. Dulles suggested that Mr. Wisner, Mr. Douglass, Colonel Johnson and [redacted] get together and discuss a possible basis for exchange agreements. In this way, Mr. Douglass might possibly assign to SO or PC personnel on a temporary tour of duty basis for foreign assignment.

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Dr. Chadwell and Dr. Millikan are also interested in working out an exchange basis similar to that developed by Mr. Douglass.

6. [redacted] reported that recently there had been severe magnetic storms and consequent traffic delays. In such cases, he will notify interested offices and will work out some method of rerouting traffic.

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7. Mr. Reber discussed the new system of decentralized debriefing of returnees. Various agencies and/or departments have asked if it would be possible to sit in on CIA debriefings of CIA returnees. The consensus of opinion among the Assistant Directors was that this would be possible only on a highly selective basis.

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