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DM-449

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Monday, 28 November 1955

PRESENT: Mr. Dulles, Gen. Cabell, Mr. Wisner, Col. White,
Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Helms, Bissell, Roosevelt, Sheldon,
Gen. Truscott, [redacted]

Mr. Dulles:

a. Discussed the draft CIA comments on the Stassen report. Mr. Amory suggested that comments should be limited to those matters of essential interest to the DCI and the Director agreed. Mr. Bissell pointed out that even limiting the comments to intelligence matters it would still be a great deal since the whole program for disarmament or reduction of arms places an accent on intelligence activities. General Truscott said the Task Force considers the whole inspection problem to be an intelligence problem. Mr. Dulles asked [redacted] and [redacted] to look it over. Mr. Amory said the deadline was 1 December but that probably none of the agencies concerned would be able to meet that deadline.

b. Discussed a staff study on revised personnel and promotion policy. Col. White pointed out this new policy permits the placing of an individual in a position vacancy of lower grade than the one held by the individual. However, the overall total within each career service must not exceed the established limit. Mr. Helms stated he felt this was a real step forward. The Director approved the staff study.

e. Asked Mr. Helms to study IN 34496, which is CINCPAC's views on our plan regarding the SEATO Subversive Committee. Directed that a copy of the Director's letter in this regard be sent to Col. Musgrave for his information and possible use.

(This was done after the meeting.)

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f. Expressed concern over two cables (OUT 95834 and OUT 95973) which indicated CIA policy and upon which he had not signed. In both cases Mr. Helms indicated it was probably unfortunate wording of the cables and it was agreed that the [redacted] cable would be revised. Gen. Cabell expressed concern that the cable might be interpreted to say that we were just now getting interested in secret operations in [redacted]. Mr. Wisner said we have always had some secret operations in [redacted] and as a result of the discussion the DCI asked that a further explanatory cable be sent.

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General Cabell:

a. Mentioned a cable regarding further difficulties with [redacted] and stated he would call Admiral Radford on this matter suggesting that since both Secretaries Brucker and Thomas are going to the [redacted] they should be briefed on this particular problem in connection with an overall briefing on our activities in the area. The Director agreed.

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b. Asked if we should not have the national estimate on the [redacted] situation. Mr. Wisner said he felt the whole problem of [redacted] was sufficiently related to put into one estimate. Mr. Wisner stated that a roundup on this subject had recently been prepared. Mr. Amory said he felt there were too many other priority items before the Board at this time and Gen. Cabell stated he felt there was nothing more important than a close watch on the [redacted] situation. The Director said he was inclined to agree with both but pointed out that if [redacted] went behind the Iron Curtain, it was gone, but if [redacted] went behind the Iron Curtain, we could get it back.

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Mr. Wisner:

a. Said he was having lunch with Dillon Anderson and asked if he might report on the [redacted] situation in some detail and the Director approved. Mr. Wisner pointed out we have now been formally requested by the State Department to step up our [redacted] activities. Stated that Mr. Hoover said he would [redacted]

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[redacted]

b. Stated that [redacted] was about to make a trip and that she would like a briefing in December. In contact with her she said she had never received an indication that we received her report from [redacted] of a year ago. On her next report she would prefer to make it direct. The Director asked Amory to check with State on her [redacted] report.

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Mr. Helms:

a. Reported that [redacted] would be back from [redacted] on Sunday.

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[Redacted]

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Mr. Roosevelt:

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Asked if the Director made a commitment to [Redacted] that CIA would pick up the tab on R&A activities [Redacted] The Director said he had not seen [Redacted] for quite a while and that, in any event, while we might participate in the program we should not pick up the whole tab. He thought the program was a good one.

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Mr. Bissell:

Reported that Gen. Doolittle wanted to see the Director on Thursday. (This was later cancelled by Gen. Doolittle.)

Col. White:

a. Reported on a film strip being shown at East Bldg. at 3:00 today.

b. Reported the latest developments on the building.

Mr. Amory:

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[Redacted]

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the next fiscal year. Mr. Bissell said he understood the plan was simply to hold back funds as possible reserve for use the latter part of the year. Mr. Amory pointed out he thought it was penny foolishness to make the [Redacted] cutback from what Congress had appropriated and particularly unwise in view of the current developments.

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[Redacted]

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