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9 May, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Subject:

Reference: Memorandum of General Vandenberg, dated 8/5/46.

1. Statement in reference memo that "A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies" is an inaccurate interpretation of the President's letter of 22 January 1946.

2. Paragraph 3.c. of the President's letter states that the Director of Central Intelligence shall "perform ----- such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally."

3. Only when the criterion of greater efficiency applies, is the performance of a service intended to devolve upon the Director of Central Intelligence. The evidence in the case of the monitoring of press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers shows conclusively that the Central Intelligence Group cannot perform the function most efficiently and that, on the contrary, only the War Department - being free of the lacks which hamper the other agencies considered - can perform the function most efficiently.

4. Although the Department of State is shown by statistics to display a somewhat greater interest than War and Navy Departments in the intelligence information collected by means of the monitoring service, the non-military character of the bulk of the information collected does not remove it from direct and important War Department interest. The existence of the large "Pol-Ec" Branch of M.I.D. and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces are outstanding evidences of that fact.

Captain, U.S.N.
Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

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