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12 May 1947

Appendix II: Functions of Special Document Section

1. The mission and functions of SDS may be summarized as follows:

- a. Extracting from captured German and Russian documents factual information pertaining to the USSR, and European satellites.
- b. Preparing full translations of selected captured German and Russian documents.
- c. Preparing project studies from collated documents on selected subjects, as assigned or approved by the Chief, Intelligence Group, ID, WDGS.

NOTE: All current projects will be completed or merged with the Industrial Card File before the transfer to CIG except two:

- (1) Transportation and Communications of the USSR and European Satellites
- (2) Soviet Military Potential

- d. Extracting and translating intelligence information from current Russian newspapers and periodicals for inclusion in the above projects or in the Industrial Card File.
- e. Maintaining and operating the Industrial Card File. This file contains in fragmentary form all available information on individual industrial installations in the USSR and satellite countries. It was established by the Intelligence Division in October, 1946, in direct coordination with the State Department, A-2, ONI and other interested agencies. Agreement was reached on the essential elements of information to be obtained on each plant and on a standard card format. Since captured German and Russian documents proved the most prolific and dependable source of such information, SDS was designated as the central working agency for the project. The ICF now consists

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of approximately 17,000 items which have been produced and circulated, and 15,000 which are in process of reproduction.

The majority of the information is still extracted by the staff of SDS from captured documents, which are borrowed from GMDS and other document repositories and agencies in the USA and abroad. Information from other sources is carded by the participating agencies and submitted to SDS for collation, assignment of ICF number, reproduction, and dissemination. Direct channels were set up between SDS and member agencies for all matters pertaining to the ICF and to captured documents.

On completion of the card file, it is planned to have competent analysts examine the information on each individual plant. After further collation, checking, evaluation, and analysis of the collected data, they are to produce a current basic plant list which will be adaptable for use on International Business Machines.

2. Documents Branch will assume the functions described in Paragraph 1, a through d, and will continue the extraction of ICF information from foreign documents. A ~~detailed~~ plan for the continued operation of the ICF by CIG, and the possible incorporation of the ICF into the Foreign Industrial Establishments project, should the latter be implemented, will be prepared by ORE ~~in conjunction with OO and OCD.~~

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German Military Documents Section**

- i. The following functions are now performed by the exploitation sub-section of German Military Documents Section:
  - a. Screening of all incoming documents shipments for material of intelligence value; determining priorities for setting up (by the archival sub-section) of documents or document collections (1) which contain material needed by Special Documents Section or other intelligence agencies for exploitation or special projects, (2) which require detailed screening and indexing for items of intelligence interest.
  - b. Advising the archival sub-section as to the disposition of captured documents which are (1) of no intelligence or military value; to be deposited on permanent loan with other government agencies. (2) Of primary technical value; to be exploited by the technical services of the War Department.
  - c. Preparing information abstracts and compiling and maintaining an index (known as the GMDS Intelligence Catalogue) of all items of intelligence value contained in documents in the German Military Documents Section collection.
  - d. Indicating which documents are of particular interest to agencies maintaining liaison groups with GMDS, such as the FBI, War Crimes Commission, etc.

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- Coordinating with the War Department*
- (e) ~~Determining~~ the security classification of captured German documents, i.e., the upgrading or downgrading, from the overall classification of "confidential," of individual documents or information therefrom. ~~(as authorized by~~ (Chief, Information Control Branch, Security Group, ID, WDGS)
- (f) Determining the availability within GMDS of all documents containing intelligence information on a specific subject in response to requests from authorized agencies. This involves searching the collection for, and assembling the relevant documents for the interested agency, but does not include the translating of documents.

2. Documents Branch will assume the above functions and provide a CIG detachment to operate in the Pentagon in direct conjunction with the Adjutant General. The latter will take over the title "German Military Documents Section," and all non-intelligence functions, such as those of the archival sub-section. These including receiving, library, cataloguing, shelving, storing, *loaning to other agencies*, recording, and otherwise handling and disposing of documents. A detailed plan for coordination and cooperation between CIG, the Adjutant General, and the Intelligence Division on such matters as declassification, directives to field collecting agencies, etc. will be submitted later.

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