

15 JUN 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

STATINTL

FROM : ██████████
Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 10 June 1976 OTR Staff Meeting

1. The 10 June 1976 OTR Staff Meeting convened at 1400 hours and adjourned at 1555 hours. The DTR opened the meeting by welcoming the DDA, Mr. Blake, to the session. He outlined the general scope and content of these biweekly staff meetings and also of the daily 1640 meetings.

2. The DDA began his remarks by expressing his strong feelings concerning the need for him and the A/DDA to visit the Directorate Offices periodically to communicate with people. He then gave his assessment of the Agency today. He noted that the turning point seemed to have been in the September-October 1975 period. He summarized the events leading up to this time--the Seymour Hersh article, the Rockefeller Commission, and the House and Senate Select Committees. By this time all of the sensationalisms had come out. There were then four stories extant: the Agency would be abolished; the Agency would be split into two parts; covert action would be transferred to the State Department; technical operating components of the DDS&T would be transferred to the DOD. Fortunately, none of these actions were taken, and the DDA opined that the Agency is stronger today than ever before.

3. Early this year there was a decided change in attitudes toward the Agency. The DDA suggested several reasons for this. The death of Mr. Welsh brought home the risks involved in some of the Agency's work. People became disenchanted with the irresponsibility shown by the House Committee. There was a distinct change in Congress after they had talked with their constituents during the Christmas recess, and the Senate Committee settled down and held constructive sessions.

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4. In mid-August 1975 the Agency began drafting an Executive Order at the request of the White House, incorporating 20 of the 30 recommendations in the Rockefeller Report. The result was Executive Order 11905 of 18 February 1976. The DDA characterized this as a solid document which was referenced frequently in the report of the Senate Committee. The Order validates the organization and functions of the Agency, some of the latter for the first time--the DDA gave several examples of these. He then went on to characterize the status of the Agency today as one of stability. All of the changes in senior personnel have been made or at least announced. He gave some background on the DCI, describing him as committed, dedicated, and a man of integrity, empathy, and principle.

5. The DDA then looked to the future. He noted four distinct differences on the horizon which will affect the way the Agency works; first, Mr. Knoche's role as manager of the Agency while the DCI manages the Community. This will have some effect, but no one knows the extent of it, probably including Mr. Knoche himself; second, the new Intelligence Community hierarchy with the CFI and a greatly expanded IC Staff; and third, the new Senate Oversight Committee, a 15-man standing Committee with a full-time staff of up to 20 people. Finally, a rejuvenated and forceful House Appropriations Committee which has already shown signs of being tough if they do not receive full and complete answers to any and all questions.

6. The DDA spoke briefly about the Directorate and OTR. He feels the Directorate is in a fairly strong configuration. The House Appropriations Committee made only one cut in funds in the Directorate's proposed budget. We currently have good relationships with the other Directorates. Turning to OTR, he noted that needed changes in operations training had been put into effect. He stressed the need for the Office to be aware of and understand changing needs. He cited the changes in the information science and management training areas as being wholesome, and also the Office's continuing insistence on language training. The DDA closed by saying that the Agency is stable today and he is optimistic about the future. (The DD/A departed the meeting at this point.)

7. The DTR briefly discussed Mr. Knoche's visit on 22 June. The agenda currently is limited to three items: the DDA/DDO agreement and activities of the D/OT, the MOTC, and the revised charter and new name for [REDACTED]. The DTR hopes also to have walk-throughs of TAP, LLC and possibly part of TSS. He will contact Mr. Knoche to try to obtain more time for the visit.

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8. [REDACTED], the IG-designate, will visit OTR on 23 June. EO/TR has coordinated an agenda for this. The DTR enjoined the Unit Chiefs to prepare what they are going to say, including handouts as appropriate. This visit will also include some walk-throughs. The DTR will schedule a visit to [REDACTED] separately.

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9. The DTR noted that he is planning to visit the training component of NSA in the near future. He suggested that the DDTR, Chief, LLC, and Chief, II, be included in the party. In response to the DTR's invitation, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] indicated their desire to be included.

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10. [REDACTED] distributed copies of the OTR personnel report of 4 June. He noted that this is a weekly report submitted to the DTR which is good both for information and as a historical document. He explained each section of the report in detail. The DTR stated that this report will be a standing item on the agenda for each biweekly staff meeting.

11. The DTR asked for status reports on pending action items from the responsible officers. All items were found to be on schedule. One item was added--a reply to Colonel [REDACTED] DIA, on special operations training for a Navy officer.

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12. [REDACTED] discussed the OTR Planning Conference. He explained the package of materials which had been distributed and outlined his method of putting together the agenda. He noted that each member will also be provided with a loose-leaf binder of supplementary material for each agenda item. The members briefly discussed administrative arrangements for the Conference.

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13. [REDACTED] reported on the Annual Curriculum Plan. A report has been prepared for the DTR which summarizes the comments of the Senior Training Officers. He suggested that a Curriculum Committee meeting be scheduled for 24 June, vice a Staff Meeting, to discuss the report. [REDACTED] noted that a Career Board meeting which he attends was scheduled for that day, but Dep/Ops, [REDACTED] should attend the Curriculum Committee meeting. In view of this, a special Curriculum Committee meeting will be held on 1 July 1976.

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14. The DTR reported items from the DDA morning meeting. He then went around the table for Unit reports.

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OTR Staff Meeting

Thursday, 10 June 1976, 1400 Hours

AGENDA

1. Welcome to the DDA Mr. Fitzwater

2. Comments by the DDA Mr. Blake

3. Mr. Knoche's Visit to
OTR, 22 June 1976 Mr. Fitzwater

4. ██████████ Visit to
OTR, 23 June 1976 Mr. Fitzwater

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5. Visit to the NSA Training
Organization

Mr. Fitzwater

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6. OTR Personnel Report



7. OTR Pending Actions

Mr. Fitzwater

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8. Agenda for the OTR
Planning Conference,
16-18 June 1976



9. Status Report on the OTR
Annual Curriculum Plan

10. The Day's Events

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