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CONTROL NO. 496971

30 June 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretariat, Economic Intelligence Committee
FROM : Secretary, EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture
SUBJECT : EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture Annual
Report for FY 1961

A. Activities of the Subcommittee During Fiscal Year

1. Review of the Intelligence Product in the Subcommittee's Field of Competence.

The Subcommittee discussed the planned economic research programs on Sino-Soviet Bloc agriculture as presented by representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of State and CIA.

2. Research and Collection Deficiencies

a. Research Deficiencies

The Subcommittee updated its statement on "Priority Research Deficiencies on Sino-Soviet Bloc Agriculture."

b. Collection Deficiencies

The Subcommittee has not prepared any Collection Deficiency statements in FY 1961. The Subcommittee has reviewed some of the CIA/ORR "Gaps in Information" statements. The Subcommittee found that the statements reviewed had in some cases been outdated by subsequent information. The Subcommittee found that these statements, after updating and Subcommittee review and approval, could be appropriate Subcommittee statements of "Priority Collection Deficiencies."

3. Review of Substantive Papers

None

4. Review of Proposals for External Research

None

5. Maintenance of Agreed Basic Statistics

There have been informal discussions among some Subcommittee members on current agricultural production statistics of bloc countries. In most cases there has been substantial agreement.

6. Projects Undertaken at the Request of the EIC or Proposed to the EIC.

None

7. Intelligence Research Techniques

The techniques of research on the relation of weather to crop yields, has been discussed by some Subcommittee members.

8. Special Coordinating Functions of the Subcommittee

Specialists from the Department of State, the Department of Agriculture, and CIA have regularly discussed the effects of weather on crop production in the bloc countries.

9. Evaluation of the Role of the Subcommittee

Members of the Subcommittee feel that the Subcommittee has been effective as a medium for interagency review and coordination, and as a mechanism for improving economic intelligence research within its field of interest. Nevertheless, it is felt that there is a definite need for closer and more frequent interagency collaboration on matters of mutual interest at the working level.

B. Future Program of the Subcommittee

No changes in the structure or in the functioning of the Subcommittee on Agriculture are contemplated for FY 1962.

The Subcommittee should continue to identify gaps in research and collection, approve external research projects, serve as a coordinating body for all agencies and departments having responsibilities in food and agriculture, and serve as a clearing house for information and data on western countries which could be useful in appraising developments in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. The Subcommittee should also be alert to significant developments, activities and situations in the field of food and agriculture throughout the world.

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Chairman
EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture