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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

24 February 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
SPECIAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Basic Assumptions for OSO and CIA Planning
Purposes

In accordance with your memorandum of 14
February 1951, we have reviewed your Basic Assump-
tions/3 and submit our comments herewith.

WILLIAM L. LANGER
Assistant Director
National Estimates

attachments

OAD/NE: [Redacted]

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Distribution:

- Cys 1, 2, 3 to AD/SO w/attachment
- ✓ Cys 4 and 5 - AD/NE

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*Clearance copy of
Attachment sent
to Dulles, 6 March 1951
with memo from
AS/NE. BULLSTIN*

FEB 24 1951
NE-75

ES/CSC-7530

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6 March 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANS

SUBJECT : Basic Assumptions for OSO and CIA PLANNING
PURPOSES

REFERENCE : Memorandum from DD/P, dated 26 February 1951
to AD/NE, same subject

1. O/NE comments on O/SO "Basic Assumptions" were forwarded to the AD/SO on 24 February 1951. A copy of these comments is attached hereto. It was the opinion of the Board of National Estimates that O/SO and, for that matter, O/PC, were entirely justified in basing their assumptions on the worst possible contingencies. Obviously, this cannot be the basis on which National Intelligence Estimates are built. For that reason, it does not appear that the Basic Assumptions for O/SO and O/PC operations need necessarily correspond with the assumptions made for NIE's.

2. O/NE is ready at all times to give such advice and aid to O/SO and O/PC as may be required or possible. I should be glad to confer with you and the AD/SO and AD/PC whenever it seems to you convenient.

WILLIAM L. LANGER
Assistant Director
National Estimates

Attachments - 4

Copy #4 of 53194, dtd 24 Feb 1951

Copy #3 of 56145-a

Copy #1 of 56116

Copy #27 of 47769

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~~SECRET~~ TS REGARDING BULLETIN
7.1.80

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26 February 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Office of National Estimates
(Dr. Langer)


FROM : Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT : Basic Assumptions for OSO and CIA Planning
Purposes

1. I have been reviewing the AD/SO memorandum to you of 14 February 1951, together with the attached papers from OSC entitled "Basic Assumptions."

2. My first question is, how far are the assumptions in line with National Estimates; and second, whether an office such as OSO (and possibly OPC for that matter) should proceed on the basis of the same assumptions as those which underlie National Estimates.

3. National policy presumably must be predicated on probabilities. Emergency planning in offices such as OSO and OPC may be based upon the possibilities, even though somewhat remote, so that we are not caught out in the event that the improbable happens. Your views and guidance on these papers would be appreciated. Possibly a conference between us would be useful at which I should be able to have AD/SO and AD/PC present.


ALLEN W. DULLES

cc - AD/SO

Attachments (3)

Memo frm AD/SO to AD/ONE dtd 14 Feb 51 (TS 56145-a)

Paper frm OSO entitled "Basic Assumptions/3" dtd 10 Feb 51 (TS 56146)

Memo frm Chief, Staff B to Staff Chiefs, Division Chiefs and Chiefs ICS, TRD, BLC dtd 12 Jan 51 entitled "Draft of Basic Assumptions" (TS 47769)

TS # 43668

Copy 1 of 3 Copies

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