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29 JAN 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Officer, DDA

FROM:               Bruce T. Johnson
                    Director of Data Processing

SUBJECT:            Executive Committee Agenda Items

REFERENCE:          DDCI Memo to ExCom Members, dtd 21 Jan. 1980,
                    Subject: Executive Committee Staffing
                    (DD/A 80-0225/1)


1. The only agenda item I can suggest is one so fundamental
in nature that its presentation may be difficult, even impossible.
Each year, as the budget squeeze gets tighter, we in the DDA
repeat our perception that the Agency is permitting its support
base to erode. We present our case in program reviews and budgets,
but little is done to stem the erosion. Would it not be advanta-
geous to have the ExCom address "Basic Support Issues," much as
it recently addressed "R&D Planning Issues"? There is always the
danger that other managers may try to manage DDA affairs, but I
believe it would be useful to have the ExCom spend some time
discussing these questions: What kinds of support services does
CIA need? What mechanisms are necessary to provide such services?
How do we ensure that we have such mechanisms?

2. As I write it occurs to me that this might also be a
(perhaps the) topic for the Office Directors' Conference. "The
DDA in 1985--What Functions, What Services, What Organizational
Structure, How Big?" The results of our conference discussions
could be summarized and become the basis for ExCom review.

3. A related topic that might be worth discussing with
Jim MacDonald is the ridiculous inefficiency of the GSA. Should
the ExCom explore the possibility that today's resergent interest
in having an effective intelligence service could be used as a
basis for extricating CIA from the stranglehold GSA has over our
housekeeping, space acquisition and renovation programs?

                                    /s/ Bruce T. Johnson

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