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31 August 1966

HISTORY OF THE FOREIGN MISSILE
AND SPACE ANALYSIS CENTER

To provide a history of the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center a certain framework of events which began almost 10 years ago must be reconstructed. The missile and space age for the Intelligence Community began in 1957 when the USSR fired its first full range ICBM and placed Sputniks I and II into orbit around the earth. For the next few years, Soviet missile and space activity was of great interest to the major intelligence consumers in government and it was analyzed and reported on in great detail by various segments of the community. By 1960, however, it became apparent that Soviet efforts in this field were expanding in both complexity and in the number of operations. As a result, the first major external research contract calling for technical assistance in missile and space analysis was let by the Office of Scientific Intelligence to [redacted] in 1960.

The next several years continued to witness an expanding Soviet effort in missileery; in space the first full orbital flight was accomplished by Yuriy Gagarin in April 1961. During this period the great majority of the actual technical analysis was performed by external contractors [redacted]

[redacted] One segment of the Intelligence Community, however, strongly urged that technical analytical competence within the government be increased, not to replace the contractual relations with the aerospace industries but to develop the ability to understand, assess, build on and present their work.

The Cuban missile crisis in 1962 served to endorse the views of this faction. When the first aerial photographs of the deployed missiles in Cuba were obtained, it was possible

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to identify these weapons with a fair degree of confidence as the SS-4 MRBM. It was also possible to inform the highest policy levels of the government exactly what this weapon could be expected to do in terms of its yield, accuracy, refire capability, and other technical characteristics if it were fired against the U.S.

Another situation in Washington also had a bearing on the formation of the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center. The DCI had become increasingly uncomfortable about community assessments of Soviet weapon systems -- notably those involving the SS-8 ICBM. As Chairman of the United States Intelligence Board, he was disturbed to see that different agencies could take the same technical information and from that information derive conclusions that were poles apart. This led him to conclude that he needed an organization within CIA with the technical expertise to provide him assessments of foreign missile and space systems. He recognized that such an organization could also evaluate for him the effectiveness of various technical collection systems targeted against foreign missile and space activity. These systems consumed a sizeable position of the annual national intelligence budget and it was his responsibility, as DCI, to identify which systems were not performing in an effective manner.

As a result of these many inter-related factors, the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center was formally established 7 November 1963 by a CIA Headquarters Notice. This notice identified FMSAC as an office of the DD/S&T and it also outlined its substantive responsibilities which included reference to the evaluation of collection activities. Mr. Carl E. Duckett was named as the Director of FMSAC. In January 1964 FMSAC moved into its own space in the "A" corridor on the first floor of the Headquarters Building. [redacted] from the Office of Current Intelligence, joined FMSAC as Executive Officer at this time. The organization then consisted of the Office of the Director and the Activities Interpretation Division with a total compliment of [redacted] The Activities Interpretation Division, which was headed by [redacted] was staffed by personnel from the former Test Range Branch of the Office of Scientific Intelligence. In February 1964, Mr. David S. Brandwein, formerly of the Space Technology Laboratories in California, joined FMSAC as Deputy Director.

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On 1 March 1964 construction of the FMSAC Control Center was completed and a 24-hour watch office was established which has been maintained to the present time. In March personnel on duty in the Control Center began publication of a Daily Missile and Space Summary for CIA internal use which described significant foreign missile and space activity on a current basis. In November 1964 certain articles from this publication were selected for inclusion in a daily wire version which was circulated to various elements [redacted]

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[redacted] Both of these publications still exist. As of 31 August 1966, 446 issues of the external Missile and Space Summary have been disseminated.

The initial substantive responsibilities that were assigned FMSAC involved only the analysis of significant missile and space firing events. FMSAC did not have the responsibility for analyzing the characteristics of weapon or space systems. This responsibility rested with the Ballistic Missile and Space Division of the Office of Scientific Intelligence. By early 1964, the organizational structure required to fulfill its analytical responsibilities had been constructed by FMSAC. In addition to the office of the Director and the Activities Interpretation Division which already existed, a Trajectory Analysis Division was formed with [redacted] who had recently joined CIA from the Department of the Army, named as acting chief. A Signal Analysis Division was also created in the same time period [redacted]

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[redacted] was named acting chief of that division. A Reentry Physics Division was also created but its sole incumbent was [redacted]

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[redacted] who was serving with FMSAC as an industrial service contract employee. A technical staff was also organized to advise the Director/FMSAC in such diverse matters as computer application and collection effectiveness.

[redacted] was the only professional officer assigned to that unit. He had come to FMSAC from the Office of the Deputy Director for Science and Technology. [redacted] also had additional duties as Executive Secretary of the Scientific Advisory Board to the DCI.

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In April 1964, FMSAC commenced the publication of a series of Event Reports. These reports contain a detailed technical analysis of significant Soviet missile and space operations based on all of the information collected by this government on each particular event. Through 31 August 1966, 138 of these reports have been disseminated [redacted]

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Personnel recruiting during 1964 concentrated on attempting to obtain professional personnel with scientific and engineering backgrounds with various levels of experience and education. By the end of 1964 FMSAC had increased its on-board strength [redacted]

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On 25 October 1965 the missions, functions, and analytical responsibilities of the Ballistic Missile and Space Division of the Office of Scientific Intelligence and the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center were combined [redacted]. The new organization retained the name FMSAC and Messrs. Duckett and Brandwein remained as Director and Deputy Director, respectively.

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The original FMSAC had, by the time of this organizational change, achieved a personnel strength of [redacted] personnel were transferred from OSI to FMSAC with this merger.

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Certain elements of the organizational structure of the original FMSAC organization, including the Activities Interpretation Division, the Trajectory Analysis Division, and the Signal Analysis Division were retained. In order to fulfill the new responsibilities of FMSAC three other organizational units were created. A Project Staff, [redacted] replacing the former Technical Staff, was established as a unit directly responsible to the Director and Deputy Director of FMSAC. This staff was given the responsibility for systems analysis of all foreign missile and space systems except defensive weapons, the preparation of various special assessments, and submissions to National Intelligence Estimates. It was organized into groups responsible for such problems as ICBM and IRBM systems, space systems, tactical, naval, and the various non-Soviet missile and space efforts.

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2 | The second new unit established within the new organization was the Applied Physics Division. This division incorporated the responsibilities of the old Reentry Physics Division, but its interests were expanded to cover a wider variety of subjects in the field of physics. [redacted] who had recently joined FMSAC from [redacted] was named to head this unit.

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An Executive Staff, headed by [redacted] was also formed. This staff was given the responsibility for all administrative functions of the office including the editorial effort. The FMSAC representative at the Defense Special Missile and Astronautics Center at Fort Meade and the Secretariat of the Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee were also placed under the Executive Staff for administrative purposes.

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3 | Following this merger, arrangements were made with the Office of Scientific Intelligence to continue producing certain types of reports through the Production Staff of that Office, thereby negating the need for duplicative production establishments. A technical editor from OSI was assigned to FMSAC in a liaison capacity. Since late 1965, a total of 20 reports have been published through this mechanism.

On 16 May 1966, Mr. Carl E. Duckett was appointed Assistant Deputy Director for Science and Technology and Mr. David S. Brandwein was named to succeed him as Director, Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center. As of this writing, no Deputy Director of FMSAC has been appointed.

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