

SECRET

11 OCT 1957


MEMORANDUM FOR: The Deputy Director for Coordination

SUBJECT : NSCID 5 Definition of Counterintelligence

1. Reference is made to the NSCID 5 Working Group meeting of 9 October 1957. As you know, Colonel Dalton, Army representative, requested two changes in paragraph 1b (definition of counterintelligence). One of these was a request for the elimination of the word counter-espionage from the opening sentence.

2. It is the view of the CI Staff that the retention of this word is necessary. Counterintelligence is a defense against certain kinds of aggressive and hostile clandestine activity. Of the three elements of counterintelligence, countersabotage and countersubversion are defensive techniques, whereas counterespionage is an aggressive technique frequently encountered abroad. The CI element must defend against counterespionage because this activity is directed against it as militantly as is espionage.

3. It has become apparent that the intelligence components of the military services tend to oversimplify by considering FI active and CI passive. This concept fits their counterintelligence activity much more accurately than ours. It is felt that it would be a disservice to CIA to omit from this definition, which governs all following portions of the draft, the countering of aggressive CE. The fact that counterespionage is an element of counterintelligence is not germane here. The pertinent fact is that the four forms of aggressive clandestine activity against which the U.S. services must defend themselves are espionage, counter-espionage, sabotage, and subversion.

 per direction
of James Angleton
Chief, Counterintelligence Staff

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If this memorandum meets with your approval, it is considered that it would be appropriate for the DD/P representative concerned to state the position described herein to the members of the IAC Working Group at the meeting of 14 October 1957.

Concur

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