

C O N F I D E N T I A L

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC #6797-83
21 September 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NIC Staff Meeting - 20 September 1983
Discussion of Monthly Warning Meetings and Warning Reports

1. A good discussion of the value of the monthly warning meetings and associated reports was held with participation of all NIO's. There was general agreement on the following areas:

--Meetings with the community of analysts are extremely valuable, often serving an integrating role;

--Focus should most properly be outside of the area of current events. C/NIC suggested that these meetings serve a useful gap-fill role between DDI current analysis and long-term analysis, i.e., 30 to 120 days. VC/NIC recommends six months as the target, and NIO/W suggests outside two weeks.

--NIO's must drive the community outside their narrow perspectives through the use of specific agenda items, positing of controversial opinions, use devil's advocates, etc.

--NIO's must try to get policy feedback interjected into the meetings;

--While concern about the size of meetings was expressed, it was generally acknowledged that they should accommodate as many as possible. It was suggested that other, smaller meetings could be held, such as working lunches for small numbers of analysts.

--Collection gaps, reporting deficiencies, must be identified actively;

--NIO's should be cognizant of cross-target warning topics which should be addressed by ad hoc warning groups.

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--Significant work must be done to make the reporting other than old-hat. Where differences exist in the community, they should be clearly identified.

2. In sum, the consensus appeared to be that the meetings were valuable and necessary, and that NIO's should constantly emphasize that the focus is to be at least outside the immediate time frame, i.e., from one to three months. The issue will be reopened briefly again for final guidance from C/NIC.



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Distribution:

- 1 - Each NIO
- 1 - C/NIC
- 1 - VC/NIC (Mr. Meyer)
- 1 - VC/NIC (Mr. Waterman)
- 1 - NIO/W
- 1 - A/NIO/W
- 1 - NWS
- 1 - NIO/W Chron
- 1 - DDI Registry

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