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DM-265

(P)

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Thursday, 18 February 1954

PRESENT: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Mr. Wisner, Colonel White, Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Helms, Sheldon, Bissell, and Earman

Mr. Dulles:

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

a. Asked Mr. Helms to dispatch a cable [redacted] requesting his views on the possibility of a coup in Italy in light of the present existing labor situation.

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

b. Referred to the [redacted] and asked Mr. Wisner to see if this could not be played up in the American press.

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

c. Noted a cable from the Senior Representative, Saigon (IN--19566) and a State cable No. 1450, and stated in view of the information contained in these messages we should proceed with caution on Colonel Lansdale's proposed assignment. The Director also noted he was considering advising the other members of the Committee appointed on Indochina that any further discussions would be futile until official comment is received from the French Government respecting U.S. assistance in Indochina.

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

General Cabell:

a. Reported on his conversation with General Samford respecting the pictures that appeared recently in the newspapers and the "Aviation Weekly" of the two Russian Aircraft. Mr. Sheldon noted that the Air Force had this matter under investigation and it had been agreed that CIA would delay any action temporarily in order not to cross Air Force wires. The Director said this had not been his understanding with General Samford, and asked General Cabell to call him and confirm the agreement as it now stands. The Director said in any event we should retain the ball on this matter in view of our responsibilities to protect intelligence methods and sources and to collect foreign intelligence within the continental limits of the U.S.

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TOP SECRET**Mr. Wisner:**

a. Reported that we had been in touch with Dennis Flynn in State respecting security of American officials at the forthcoming conference in Caracas, Venezuela, and a record of this action had been made in the form of a memorandum to Mr. Flynn, a copy of which had been furnished the DCI.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

c. Referred to a cable from the Senior Representative, Manila, (IN-18864) and received the Director's approval to bring the information therein to the attention of Assistant Secretary of State Robert Murphy.

Colonel White:

a. Reported Mr. Pforzheimer had received a call from Mr. Sprangle indicating that Congressman Taber and Sprangle wanted to come to CIA in the near future for a "tour." Colonel White stated we were attempting to get further information on this. It was also noted Congressman Taber had requested that we prepare for him a "black book" as we did last year on our budget.

b. Stated that Mr. Houston had been successful yesterday in his talk with the [redacted] Insurance Company, who had agreed to pay double indemnity in the case of one of our employees lost in an airplane crash.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

c. Stated that one of our FBIS employees had been called to appear before the Board trying Colonel Schwable to testify to the fact that he did monitor Schwable's broadcast. The Director approved.

d. Reported on the space now occupied in the "Hill Complex." He said in conversations with Messrs. Helms and Sheldon it had been agreed it would be most impracticable to move selected parts of DD/P and DD/I to the Hill. The Director concurred.

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Mr. Kirkpatrick:

a. Reported that [redacted] of Colonel Edwards' office had been called to appear before the Subcommittee on Internal Security, to testify in connection with certain Naval Intelligence records destroyed during the war. It was noted that such testimony would in no way involve CIA or [redacted] activities with the Agency.

(b)(3)
(b)(6)

b. Reported that Mr. Grimes, the new counsel for the Internal Security Subcommittee, had requested from G2 certain publications used in connection with the Strategic Intelligence School. Mr. Kirkpatrick said these publications contained a number of CIA reports, i.e., SO, OO, and FBIS. After some discussion it was agreed that under our mandate to protect intelligence methods and sources we could not agree to the release of these documents to the Subcommittee until such time as we had an opportunity to examine the CIA reports in question. It was noted, however, that in all probability it might be possible to release these reports provided the source is deleted.

(b)(3)
(b)(6)

Mr. Sheldon:

Referred to a discussion at the Deputies' Meeting on 15 February regarding Room 1040 in M Building, and stated through a misunderstanding NIE's had been read by one of the junior officer trainees. However, this problem had now been resolved.

Mr. Helms:

Raised the question of CIA opposition to State's request to the Russians to interview the U.S. defector, Lt. Adkins. The Director stated he was under the impression that the Soviets had, in fact, offered to make Adkins available and if this is true we could not interpose any objection. The Director, therefore, asked Mr. Helms to discuss this with Fisher Howe, of State.

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