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4 November 1946

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

ASSIGNMENT OF FUNCTIONS TO THE FIELD  
OF STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE TO THE CENTRAL  
INTELLIGENCE GROUP

References: a. C.I.G. 13  
b. Minutes, I.A.B. 8th Meeting, Item 3

Memorandum by the Secretary

1. Pursuant to discussion at the 8th meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Board, a committee representing the Director of Central Intelligence and the I.A.B. members was appointed to conduct the study proposed in C.I.G. 13.

2. The enclosed memorandum by this committee is circulated herewith for consideration at the next meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Board.

RELEASED IN FULL

JAMES S. LAY, JR.

Secretary, N.I.A.

APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE DATE 3/1  
2008

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ENCLOSURE

ASSIGNMENT OF FUNCTIONS IN THE FIELD OF STATIC INTELLIGENCE TO THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

References: a. C.I.G., 13  
b. Minutes, I.A.B. 8th Meeting, Item 3

Memorandum by the Special Committee  
Appointed to Study the Above Problem

1. On 8 October 1946 the personal representatives of the I.A.B. members met with representatives of the C.I.G. as a Committee to undertake the preparation of the study requested by the Office of Naval Intelligence "to determine the practicability of the performance by C.I.G. of elements of common concern in the field of static intelligence."

2. C.I.G. offered the broad outlines of a plan, suggested by the O.N.I. proposal, which it believed would:

a. Assure to each agency the untrammelled conduct of its departmental intelligence;

b. Assure to each agency the maintenance by C.I.G. of those intelligence activities of common concern;

c. Assure to each agency the exchange between agencies of those intelligence reports prepared by one agency for its own primary operational use but having a secondary value to other agencies.

3. In the general discussion which followed, the O.N.I. representative made certain concrete proposals with respect to centralization of foreign intelligence functions in C.I.G., including the offer to transfer O.N.I. personnel engaged in Strategic Intelligence to C.I.G. provided other agencies participated in like manner. These proposals were unacceptable to the M.I.D. representative, who explained that the Military Intelligence Division could not subscribe to a plan at present by which it would lose direct control over any intelligence functions which were related to its staff and command problems.

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4. The representative of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff-2 stated that final determination of specific functions to be centralized should be a matter of evolution, possible of accomplishment by unilateral proposals to or from, and agreements with, C.I.G. As an example, he continued, the Air Force has recently undertaken production of Air Order of Battle as an overload, and that A-2 might, following this principle, approach C.I.G. with a suggestion that Air Order of Battle be developed by C.I.G. There is nothing, he stressed, in the production of Air Order of Battle as a whole that needs to be related intimately to the staff and command problems of the Air Force.

5. The State Department representative felt that the proposal seemed to have a much broader scope than he had before understood. He emphasized the State Department's inescapable responsibilities, particularly in respect to political and economic intelligence, and then suggested that individual elements of the general problem were already being carefully studied by interdepartmental groups sponsored by ICAPS. He wondered if the present discussion might begin with a consideration of the type of study now being produced under the direction of JANIS.

6. In the opinion of the committee, the discussion disclosed such fundamentally divergent views on such basic problems as fields of primary responsibility and general areas of common concern, that a further approach to the problem as presented by O.N.I. is not now feasible.

7. The discussion disclosed, however, that all agencies believed that positive results in some fields can be obtained through the current series of interdepartmental round table discussions, and that the development of bilateral agreements between C.I.G. and the individual agencies should be adequate initial implementation of those provisions of the President's letter of 22 January 1946 which require the C.I.G. to perform

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for the benefit of the participating intelligence agencies such services of common concern as the N.I.A. determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally.

8. It is therefore the Committee's recommendation to the I.A.B. that it be relieved of the charge to continue the study proposed by O.N.I. and approved by the I.A.B.

Mr. Donald Edgar, C.I.G.  
Brig. Gen. J. A. Samford, U.S.A.  
Col. E. J. Treacy, U.S.A.  
Capt. R. K. Davis, U.S.N.  
Col. E. P. Mussett, U.S.A.  
Mr. A. S. Buford, State  
Capt. E. Watts, U.S.N., C.I.G.

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