

APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE  
Historical Collections  
Division  
HR 70-14  
Date: 2 May 2012

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31 July 1951

STAFF CONFERENCE

Minutes of Meeting held in Director's  
Conference Room, Administration Building  
Tuesday, 31 July 1951, at 1100 hours.

General Smith Presiding

Present

William H. Jackson, Deputy Director  
Joseph Larocque, Jr., Executive Assistant to the Director  
Colonel Chester B. Hansen, Assistant to the Director  
Frank G. Wisner, Acting Deputy Director for Plans  
L. T. Shannon, Asst. Deputy Director for Administration  
Trubee Davison, Director of Personnel  
James D. Andrews, Advisor for Management  
James M. Andrews, Asst. Director for Collection and Dissemination  
George G. Carey, Asst. Director for Operations  
H. Marshall Chadwell, Asst. Director for Scientific Intelligence  
Kingman Douglass, Asst. Director for Current Intelligence  
William L. Langer, Asst. Director for National Estimates  
Max F. Millikan, Asst. Director for Research and Reports  
James Q. Reber, Asst. Director for Intelligence Coordination  
Maj. Gen. Willard Wyman, Asst. Director for Special Operations  
Col. Kilbourne Johnston, A/Asst. Director for Policy Coordination  
Captain Frank C. Acker, Deputy Director of Training

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1. Mr. Reber discussed the present method of debriefing returning Government officials. Dr. Langer stated that he saw little to be gained from the present method whereby large groups, on a comparatively low level, attended the debriefings. He would like to know however the names of returning Government officials so he could have them meet with a few of his people in O/NE. Mr. Carey said that the only reason he could see to continue on the present basis was from the point of view of training of low-level personnel.

After some discussion the Director stated that he did not believe the present system was the correct one and that the number of persons present at current debriefings militated against securing the maximum amount of intelligence for the specialists. He believes that there is too constant a flow of returning officials reporting in a not too inspiring way and that the present method is time-consuming.

The Director further stated that in the future he believed that the State Department and the Services should debrief their own returning personnel but that CIA should be advised of the names of the returnees, the time for debriefing, and the areas to be covered. The product of such debriefings should be disseminated where security permits. If a prospective debriefing appeared to be of moderate interest, one or two CIA representatives should attend. If the subject matter appeared to them of sufficient interest, further intensive debriefings could be arranged at CIA.

Mr. Reber suggested that a single point of contact in CIA, namely O/CD, should receive notifications of the names of returning officials, areas to be covered, and debriefing time. Further that where CIA (O/CD) receives knowledge of returning non-IAC officials, it will inform the IAC agencies in order that they may be represented at the debriefings of these officials.

2. Mr. Carey briefly discussed his proposed NSCID for Foreign Documents Division. He pointed out that the Division had two main functions: (a) translation and (b) exploitation. Exploitation he described as being the scanning of products in the light of existing requirements. This is the function that FDD is exercising as a service of "common concern" and for which Mr. Carey believes an NSCID is necessary. He pointed out that we had inherited a number of captured World War II documents from the Army and Navy and then passed on from these

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to current exploitation for the benefit of the other agencies. He feels that a time will shortly come when it will be difficult to meet both CIA and IAC requirements.

Dr. Langer asked how our exploitation tied in with outside surveys of current literature. Mr. Carey stated that we had in the past tried to pass the exploitation of foreign documents to outside organizations but that this had been almost impossible due to security.

Dr. Millikan is primarily worried about the lack of systematic recording of publications or documents in foreign languages. He believes that there are many such documents in this country of whose existence we are ignorant. These should be catalogued, preferably on machines, instead of as in the past merely issuing accession lists.

The Director asked if we currently had the responsibility of exploitation as a service of common concern. Mr. Carey stated that this was not our legal responsibility but that we had gradually become involved. Mr. Reber pointed out that more material would be collected if collection remained uncoordinated. Mr. Jackson stated that we never tell collectors not to collect something. The more they collect the better.

After considerable discussion as to what other departments and agencies were exploiting foreign documents, Mr. Carey stated that he believed, outside of the field of captured documents, CIA was the only agency engaged in such exploitation in this country. He further stated that this exploitation was based on known current requirements. The Director suggested that the problem might possibly be met by handling it in the same manner as special source material.

Mr. Jackson stated that there appeared to be three alternatives: (1) to stop exploitation of foreign documents as a service of common concern; (2) to continue such exploitation illegally; (3) to legalize such exploitation by asking for an NSCID. He stated that he was in favor of taking the matter up with the NSC. Mr. Reber suggested that he and Mr. Carey and Mr. Andrews could iron out some minor objections that Mr. Andrews had to the proposed NSCID and further agreed that Dr. Millikan's ideas in regard to indexing should receive special attention. Mr. Jackson recommended that the interested Assistant

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Directors should draw up recommendations for the Director so that the problem could be brought up before the NSC, probably through the IAC.

3. Mr. Wisner mentioned the fact that other interested Government departments and agencies were furnishing Mr. Gordon Gray with one or two people for his staff for a period of two months to work on problems arising from a possible break-down in cease-fire negotiations in Korea. CIA should also furnish one man. Mr. Wisner questioned whether it is necessary to draw this man from O/PC. He has asked Mr. Hunt to speak to various Assistant Directors and see if a man can be taken out of some other office.

Mr. Wisner stated that Mr. Dulles would upon his return prepare a memorandum of his talks with Embassy Paris and Embassy Rome on the Communist situation in France and Italy. If any of the Assistant Directors are interested he will provide them with a copy.

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