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28 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : SIGINT Evaluation

REFERENCES: (a) USIB-M-243, Special Annex, Item 11, 12 December 1963
(b) USIB-S-15./3, 18 February 1963

1. Pursuant to United States Intelligence Board (USIB) instructions in reference (a), the SIGINT Committee has prepared and forwarded for the information of USIB members an initial report on a qualitative evaluation of the SIGINT end product from NSA.

2. This evaluation, which covered the period 1-31 January 1963, was considered by the SIGINT Committee of sufficient interest to warrant the following actions:

a. Providing it to the Office of the Secretary of Defense informally, on 20 February 1963, in connection with the current OSD review of the combined cryptologic program, together with an explanation of the experimental nature of the project and the caveats to be observed in its interpretation.

b. Establish the SIGINT Evaluation Subcommittee as a permanent group and charge it with developing more detailed comments and recommendations based upon its initial report for SIGINT Committee review.

3. The initial report was based upon evaluations by primary and secondary consumer agencies of individual reports in a recurring series produced by U.S. cryptologic agencies. The report contained two annexes:

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a. A compilation of narrative evaluations of each overall series by the agencies of primary responsibility.

b. Statistical summaries of evaluations of individual reports showing correlations of subjects with qualitative evaluations and with SIGINT targets.

X1 4. [redacted] was prepared to comment on the initial evaluation report at the 20 February USIB meeting, but the heavy agenda precluded his doing so. Therefore, unless so requested by a USIB member, it is not planned to place this subject on the Board agenda, at least until the SIGINT Committee reviews the more detailed comments and recommendations being developed by its Evaluation Subcommittee.

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Executive Secretary

Attachment

cc: DDCI
Chairman, SIGINT Committee
CIA Member, SIGINT Committee

ES/USIB:JSL:mmk(27 Feb 63)

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