





THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Dear John:

Following our conversation on the future functions and membership of USIB, I asked my staff to prepare the attached memorandum for your consideration. Our recommendation is that it be forwarded to the President over your signature since USIB is principally your advisory and deliberative body.

Bob McNamara and I are convinced that this action will not only improve the national intelligence support which is required by the President and the National Security Council but also may pave the way in the months ahead for a very hard analysis of the rather elaborate USIB substructure of committees, subcommittees, and boards which has developed over the last few years. In order to discharge their USIB responsibilities, the members of USIB have required representation on the majority of USIB subcommittees. As a consequence, with six DoD representatives on USIB, it seems to us that many of the USIB subcommittees are concerned today as much with coordinating the intelligence activities of the several components of the Department of Defense as they are involved in integrating the intelligence activities of the entire national intelligence community.

It is our expectation that when the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) becomes fully operational we will have in Defense a management structure capable of keeping our own house in order without resort to inter-agency committees to do the job for us. When DIA assumes full responsibility for the functions it has been assigned, we should be able to provide you in both your role as Director of Central Intelligence and as Director of CIA with far more effective DoD support than has been the case in the past. Coordination of the majority of CIA, State, DIA, and NSA activities should be obtainable through normal staff and liaison procedures without resort to the extensive USIB substructure of formal inter-departmental committees which exists at present.

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

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You will note at the middle of page 4 of the draft memorandum to the President a paragraph which relates to the termination of FBI and AEC membership on USIB. Neither Bob nor I have ever discussed this aspect of the Joint Study Group recommendation on reducing USIB membership with J. Edgar Hoover or Glenn Seaborg.

Sincerely,

*Robert G. Repetti*

Attachment

The Honorable John A. McCone  
Director of Central Intelligence

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- DRAFT -

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Functions and Composition of the United States  
Intelligence Board

The United States Intelligence Board (USIB), under the Chairmanship of the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI), is presently composed of six Department of Defense representatives and single representatives from the Department of State, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Atomic Energy Commission. The Chairman is authorized by National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 1 to invite the chief of any other department or agency to meet with USIB when matters within the purview of his respective department or agency are to be discussed.

As part of my preliminary review of the management of national intelligence activities, I have studied carefully the functions, procedures, and composition of USIB. Based on this review, I have become convinced that only through a major reduction in its membership with an attendant change in its operating procedures can USIB be

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redirected to provide the type of responsive staff assistance required by you, the National Security Council, and myself as DCI.

The questions of whom should be represented on USIB and of the proper role of USIB in the national intelligence community are not new. They have been discussed and analyzed many times. Most recently, the Joint Study Group on Foreign Intelligence Activities of the United States Government recommended in its report of last year that USIB membership be reduced to four principals, consisting of the Director of Central Intelligence (Chairman), a representative of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, with ad hoc representation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Atomic Energy Commission.

I wholeheartedly support the concept of this recommendation which calls for a major reduction in USIB membership in order to make it the principal mechanism for assisting the DCI in coordinating and managing all United States foreign intelligence activities.

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However, in the opinion of the Secretary of Defense it is neither necessary nor desirable to have two principal Department of Defense (DoD) representatives on USIB, one purporting to represent the Secretary of Defense and the other the Joint Chiefs of Staff. With the establishment of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), the Director, DIA, can represent both the Secretary and the Joint Chiefs of Staff as principal DoD representative. On the other hand, both the Secretary of Defense and I believe that the Director, National Security Agency (NSA), should continue to retain membership on USIB in light of his unique responsibilities in the critical signals intelligence area.

In this role, the Director, NSA, would continue to participate in USIB meetings when matters concerning communications security, communications intelligence and electronics intelligence are discussed.

When the Joint Study Group recommendations were approved, it was stipulated that the reduction in USIB membership should be made in phase with implementation of other Joint Study Group recommendations applicable to DoD. The Secretary of Defense has ordered a number of actions to implement approved Joint Study Group

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recommendations affecting his department. Principal among these has been the establishment of DIA to which will be transferred the majority of DoD intelligence production resources. Therefore both Secretary McNamara and I believe that the USIB representation of the military departments and the Joint Staff can be terminated in the very near future.

In addition, the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have agreed that their participation in USIB activities is required only when matters falling within their cognizance are discussed.

It is therefore proposed that effective January 2, 1962, the USIB membership of the following be terminated:

- (1) The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff.
- (2) The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of the Army.
- (3) The Assistant Chief of Naval Operations for Intelligence, Department of the Navy.

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- (4) The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force.
- (5) A representative of the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- (6) A representative of the Atomic Energy Commission.

With this change, USIB would be composed of the following, each of whom is now serving on the Board:

- (1) The Director of Central Intelligence, Chairman.
- (2) The Director of Intelligence and Research, Department of State.
- (3) The Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency.
- (4) The Director of the National Security Agency.

When USIB considers matters of concern to other executive departments, agencies, and administrations, including the FBI and AEC, I will invite their representatives to meet with the Board.

Your approval is requested.

John A. McCone  
Director of Central Intelligence

APPROVED:

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Executive Registry

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These papers concerned the reorganization of USIB. Please file where they can be recovered when (and if) the subject again becomes an issue.

O/Exec Director - 30 Aug

These have not been logged, I suppose because they came in at a time when things were going directly to Mr. McCone.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE USIB)