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DM-547

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Friday, 1 March 1957

PRESENT: Mr. Dulles, Gen. Cabell, Col. White, Messrs. [redacted].
Sheldon, Kirkpatrick, [redacted]

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Mr. Dulles:

a) Reported on the OCB meeting of 20 February 1957 and noted that a task force had been set up to meet contingencies that might arise in [redacted]. The Director commented [redacted] [redacted] in all probability should be the CIA representative, however, he would leave this to [redacted] judgment.

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[redacted]

c) Referred to a news report quoting a statement by [redacted] that Bangkok is the lewd picture capital of the world and Thailand is heavily engaged in narcotics traffic and asked [redacted] to determine whether we have any new information on the latter subject to add to our [redacted] of 11 April 1956, a copy of which was furnished to the Commissioner of Narcotics on 5 May 1956.

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[redacted]

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ACTION: IG

e) Noted a cable [redacted] (IN 49605) asking for details on the alleged Rockefeller letter to the President and asked [redacted] to airmail any unclassified information we might have on this subject [redacted] [redacted] noted that the Committee appointed to determine the source of this letter had met and we should have some results in the very near future.

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General Cabell:

[redacted]

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Mr. Helms:

Asked the Director if any decisions had been reached at the 5412 meeting on 26 February. The Director said no final decision had been taken and that he and General Cutler had been asked to draft a paper setting forth procedures to be followed in processing papers requiring action by the 5412 Committee. He commented that in his opinion a number of these papers did not require the approval and/or concurrence of Defense and therefore any procedures developed in processing papers for consideration of the Committee should take this into account. He said that Defense was fully in accord with this and only wanted to pass on those papers which would require support on its part. Mr. Kirkpatrick commented that [redacted] is preparing a paper on this for the Director's approval.

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Colonel White:

Referred to the monthly report we are now required to make to the Bureau of the Budget regarding actions taken to reduce our budget in line with the administration's policy and said it would be most helpful to him if he were able to give a prognosis of reductions. He said what he had in mind was the elimination or cutting down on the expenditures of certain projects. ACTION: DD/P and DD/I.

[redacted] remarked that he had been giving some thought as to how we could reduce personnel and said when he was Acting Administrator of [redacted] he had made a study of personnel utilization and found that the amount of time spent in numerous committee

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meetings was enormous. He also said he believed that we could save money and cut down on personnel by farming out to qualified civilian organizations a number of our research and other programs. The Director said he was inclined to share views and asked for any other thoughts he might have on this problem, noting that while Congress could not order us to cut personnel they could most assuredly reduce the Budget, which he believed was in the cards, and we should begin now to prepare for this contingency.

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