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9 February 1953

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STAFF CONFERENCE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Director's  
Conference Room, Administration Building  
Monday, 9 February 1953, at 1100 Hours

Mr. Dulles Presiding

General C. P. Cabell

General Lucian K. Truscott, [Redacted]

Frank G. Wisner, Deputy Director for Plans

Loftus E. Becker, Deputy Director for Intelligence

Walter R. Wolf, Deputy Director for Administration

Col. Lawrence K. White, Assistant Deputy Director for Administration

Robert Amory, Jr., Assistant Director for Research and Reports

James M. Andrews, Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination

[Redacted] Acting Assistant Director for National Estimates

George G. Carey, Assistant Director for Operations

H. Marshall Chadwell, Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence

James Q. Reber, Assistant Director for Intelligence Coordination

Huntington D. Sheldon, Assistant Director for Current Intelligence

[Redacted] Special Assistant (Administration), DD/I

Colonel Matthew Baird, Director of Training

Colonel Sheffield Edwards, Assistant Deputy, Inspection & Security

[Redacted] Assistant Director for Communications

Lt. General William H. H. Morris, Jr., Assistant Director for Personnel

Edward R. Saunders, Comptroller

[Redacted] Chief for Plans and Program Coordination

[Redacted] Chief of Technical Support

Richard Helms, Chief of Operations, Office of DD/P

[Redacted] Chief of Administration, Office of DD/P

[Redacted] Chief of Foreign Intelligence

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Executive Assistant to the Director

[Redacted] Assistant to the Director

[Redacted], Assistant to the Director

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1. Discussion of Letter from Director, Bureau of the Budget

Mr. Dulles, in opening the meeting, stated that he wished to discuss the letter from Mr. Dodge, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, regarding economies to be effected in personnel, construction, and programs. He then asked Mr. Wolf to present the background to this letter. Mr. Wolf outlined the contents of the letter which calls for a review of personnel utilization and vacancies, going and proposed construction projects, and for the elimination of unnecessary programs and restriction of others to minimum levels. He stated that CIA had "jumped the gun" on this and was in quite good shape, pointing out that we had voluntarily reduced our original personnel requirements by approximately 25 per cent and, further, that General Smith had established a ceiling which was approximately 25 per cent below even this revised figure. While we had maintained this lower ceiling figure, it allowed no margin for expansion to enable us to carry out properly our increased missions nor would it provide for personnel in an "on-duty" training status to meet normal attrition losses. Mr. Wolf, therefore, recommended that for budget purposes the required number of personnel be held at the first reduced figure, which was 25 per cent below the original requirement. However, fund allocation should be based on the man-year principle and be at a level roughly halfway between the present low ceiling figure and the reduced budget total. Mr. Dulles agreed.

Mr. Wolf recommended that each Deputy review the situation in his area and submit to the Comptroller, by 20 February, his revised estimates for the remainder of Fiscal Year 1953 and for Fiscal Year 1954. Concurrent with the submission of these estimates to the Comptroller, each of the Deputies, the Director of Training, and the Assistant Director for Communications should also confirm to the Director in writing that he had personally reviewed his programs and his personnel, fund, and construction requirements and determined that these levels were essential to the performance of his mission. The Office of the Deputy Director (Administration) would consolidate the figures forwarded to the Comptroller and discuss the revised Agency budget levels with the Bureau of the Budget. Regarding the amount of internal review necessary, it was pointed out that the Agency had just recently completed such a review. Therefore, on the suggestion of Mr. Becker, it was decided to leave this up to the Deputies who would certify to the correctness of the resulting estimates. Mr. Wolf also stated

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that the Agency construction program (with a very few exceptions--notably a new CIA building) was already under way and probably should not be stopped as a result of Mr. Dodge's letter. Mr. Dulles said, however, that we should press for the construction of the new building.

2. Unvouchered Funds

Mr. Dulles stated that the President recently had warned him about the use of unvouchered funds, emphasizing that these must be very carefully controlled. Mr. Dulles indicated that although unvouchered funds were already subject to close scrutiny and accounting, Agency policy on the use of these funds would be made more stringent.

3. Mr. Dulles now Acting Director

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Dulles announced that General Smith had been sworn in as Under Secretary of State and that he, Mr. Dulles, was now Acting Director.

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