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12 April 1960

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Present: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Mr. Bissell, Colonel White,  
Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Helms, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Kent,  
[redacted]

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MR. DULLES:

a. Asked Sherman Kent to prepare a short history of the production of National Estimates covering the period November 1950 (the date of the first National Estimate) to the present. It was noted that it might be useful to bring in some of the early Estimates drawn up by ORE. The Director said what he had in mind was a history which would show how the stature of Estimates has gained in importance over the years -- how they are used in the community and in presentations to the various committees of the Congress by the Defense Department, CIA, and, to a lesser degree, the Department of State.

b. The Director asked if any plans are being considered for CIA participation in the Summit conferences. Mr. Sheldon noted that Mr. Amory wanted to talk to the Director about this.

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c. Noted he had read with a great deal of interest the reports submitted by [redacted] on his conversations with Zorin and other members of the Soviet delegation to the Conference on Disarmament now being held in Geneva. He said from reading these reports it was apparent that the Soviets believe that CIA does nothing else but spy and run agents and he had been considering writing a letter to [redacted] authorizing him in future conversations to play up our overt activities -- that one of our prime responsibilities is the collection and analysis of economic and political information.

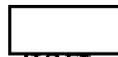
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d. Asked Mr. Sheldon to provide him with comments on an article by Gomulka appearing in the current issue of Foreign Affairs. The Director said he would leave it up to Mr. Sheldon as to whether these comments would come from OCI, SRS, or a combination of the two. Mr. Dulles noted that the article should never have been published in the first instance and that he is strongly considering resigning from the membership of the Advisory Board of Foreign Affairs.

e. Commented he had been considering amalgamation of RFE and Radio Liberation into "The Voice of Freedom." He said he realized there might be some pitfalls in such a consolidation and, in particular, Voice of America can be expected to make some objections. The Director said nevertheless he thought within the next two to three years this could be done and it was his idea that the new Voice of Freedom would furnish the facts to any area of the world where the truth is being suppressed -- Cuba is a case in point. He also noted that should we now have such an activity as the Voice of Freedom, it would be useful in South Africa and Ghana. The Director went on to say that in his opinion, if properly worked out, he believed this new organization would receive much more support and contributions from the public.

f. Noted his concern over the conditions in Black Africa, and said he had been considering the organization of an ad hoc governmental committee to study U. S. assets in this area and where we go from here. He commented that possibly this group should be a high-level subcommittee of the OCB, and asked Mr. Kirkpatrick for his views in coordination with DD/P. Mr. Kent, in response to a query from the Director, stated there is not an Estimate on Black Africa as such and it would be difficult to produce one since the situations in the various countries of this area differ. Mr. Kent said, however, that based on the study of assets and proposed policy, ONE could produce Estimates with covert annexes as required.

g. Asked whether there had ever been a study on the best time of day and the season of the year which the Soviets might select as most propitious to launch a nuclear attack against the Free World. General Cabell noted he thought this had been considered but with the event of the ballistic missile, any conclusion reached would be materially changed. Mr. Kent undertook to "think about this" and report to the Director on the feasibility of such an Estimate.

  
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