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25 April 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT : State Department Paper for NSC
Discussion on Europe

1. State's paper is intended as the basis for an NSC discussion which would focus on major policy problems in Europe over the mid-term--defined as the next 18 months or so--on the assumption that troublesome issues now in the foreground will be resolved in the next few months.

2. The paper breaks down into two main sections: a survey of the state of US-European relations and a listing of specific problems. The survey says that Western Europe will become even more assertive of its own interests and attitudes, and attributes this to the unification movement, which is seeking a European "voice." In East-West relations there will be intensified bridge-building, but since basic Soviet positions are unchanged, no breakthrough to a general European settlement will result.

3. In its treatment of specific problems the paper lists the following for Western Europe: UK entry into EEC; UK financial problem; how to develop a vital and unifying political role for NATO; improved US-European cooperation and burden-sharing in Third World aid. Specific problems with the East are: strategic weapons talks with the USSR; mutual troop withdrawals; possible change in Warsaw Pact structure which would affect attitudes in NATO; US bridge-building and the East-West Trade Act.

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4. For intelligence readers, the State document has the generally "positive" and therefore over-optimistic tone which tends to characterize policy papers, but there are no major judgments which need to be challenged on intelligence grounds. The attached comments, which could be passed, are keyed to certain passages (numbered in red on State text) which reflect features of the underlying approach which seem dubious to us.

/s/ R. J. Smith

R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

Attachment

ODDI:RJS:fk

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director [redacted]

Attached is the State Department paper which is to be the subject of the NSC meeting Thursday, 27 April, at 1300. Covering it is a memo I have prepared which (a) summarizes the State Department paper, and (b) comments on it from an intelligence point of view. We had thought at the outset that you might wish to make the comments available to other participants, but seeing it after completion, I do not recommend this. [redacted]

[redacted] prepared the paper and are available for consultation.

RJS

25 April 67
(DATE)

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