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PROGRESS REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR
AT THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF
THE PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD
January 15, 1953

This report, submitted under Item 9 of the Agenda, accounts for all major items of work not otherwise listed on the Agenda.

APPROVED PLANS AND STAFF STUDIES:

- a. Psychological Operations Plan for Soviet Orbit Escapees--Phase A (PSB D-18a).

Covered in the report to the NSC.

- b. Program of Psychological Preparation for Stalin's Passing From Power (PSB D-24).

Covered in the report to the NSC.

- c. Staff Study--Preliminary Analysis of the Communist BW Propaganda Campaign, with Recommendations (PSB D-25b).

Covered in the report to the NSC.

- d. Psychological Operations Plan for Reduction of Communist Power in Italy (PSB D-15b).

Covered in the report to the NSC.

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Separate paper for the Board.

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Since submission to the Board of the PSB quarterly report to the NSC, dated January 5, 1953, we have learned that at a recent meeting, the HICOG coordinating committee for PSB D-21 adopted this paper as its "Magna Carta" for operational planning in the coming year. Further, the committee has been authorized the expenditure of some 8 million D-marks for "special activities" under the plan. A State Department representative just returned from HICOG has reported that the Germans, both official and unofficial opinion-elites, are today urging the U. S. to exert more pressure in favor of EDC. It is felt that implementation of PSB D-21, when logistically feasible, will contribute to the accomplishment of such a program in the direct interests of the United States.

- g. Psychological Operations Plan Incident to Korean Cease-Fire Negotiations (PSB D-7c); and
Break-Off of Korean Armistice Negotiations (J-19d).

Separate paper for the Board.

- h. National Overt Propaganda Policy Guidance for General War (PSB D-11b).

Covered in the report to the NSC.

NSC review(s) completed.

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i. Plan for Coordinating Psychological Operations During General Hostilities (PSB D-8b).

Covered in the report to the NSC.

PLANS AUTHORIZED AND STILL IN PROCESS:

a. Doctrinal (Ideological) Warfare Against the USSR (PSB D-33).

Separate paper for the Board.

b. Psychological Strategy for Economic Security Vis-a-Vis the Soviet Orbit (PSB D-28)

Separate paper for the Board.

STUDIES IN PREPARATION FOR FUTURE PLANNING:

a. Staff Study on Soviet Armed Forces.

Staff conversations indicate wide agreement that the Soviet Armed Forces offer an important and relatively accessible target for PSB planning. A draft outline for such a project has been written, and several papers bearing on the vulnerabilities of the target are being developed by leading experts in this field. The results are to be consolidated in a staff study which should form the basis for planning how best to take advantage of the Soviet weak spots thus revealed. This work is conceived as part of a wider program aimed at developing and exploiting dissidence in the Soviet sphere, to which several PSB plans have already contributed.

b. Preliminary Survey for Plan on China.

Separate paper for the Board.

c. Staff Study on European Satellites of the USSR.

Separate paper for the Board.

d. Staff Study on India.

Study has begun and informal conversations have been held with the representatives of CIA and the Department of State (both the political desk and OIR) as to the advisability and feasibility of preparing a PSB plan for India. Preliminary reaction has been favorable, but it has been agreed by all that the Indian problem is so complicated and many faceted that considerable exploration and study is necessary before primary psychological objectives can be developed. Consequently, conversations and study will continue with a view to developing a Staff Study along the lines of the one prepared for Western Europe.

e. Staff Study of the Problems Incident to Africa South of the Sahara (excluding Union of South Africa).

Informal staff conversations with State, MSA and other government and private officers have revealed considerable and specific interest in this area. They have further revealed the complexity of the issues involved and as well the need for an inventory of the diverse agency

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policies (State, MSA, TCA) extant. The problems of timing in the overall plans for Psychological Strategy also become apparent here as we move outward from the communist orbit. Consequently, conversations, analysis and study will continue, keeping in mind the desirability of a complete Staff Study along the lines proposed for Western Europe.

f. Staff Study on Spanish and French North Africa.

Preliminary study is underway in the PSB Staff.

g. Staff Study on Latin America.

Preliminary study is underway in the PSB Staff.

h. Staff Study on Role of Religious and Moral Forces in the Struggle Against Communism.

Covered in the report to the NSC.

i. Staff Study on Participation of U. S. Non-Governmental Bodies in the Struggle Against Communism.

Covered in the report to the NSC.

Alan G. Kirk
Director

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