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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Intelligence
Coordination

FROM : Assistant Director for Research and Reports

SUBJECT: Revision NSC 135/2, Annex 7

DATE: 12 January 1953

REFERENCE: Your IAC-D-55/1, 6 January 1953

This Office suggests the following revisions in IAC-D-55:

IV. Economic Intelligence Research

(ORR refrains from comment on IV, 3, b. Target Research; what follows should replace all of IV except 3, b.)

Discontinue with ORR

1. Foreign economic intelligence on the free world presents few serious problems, mainly those that arise from the wealth of material and multiplicity of sources. But for the Soviet Bloc such intelligence is far from satisfactory. Apart from aggregate statistics of dubious reliability published by the Soviet governments, the intelligence community is confined to exploiting a diminishing flow of low-grade data much of which is becoming increasingly out-of-date. Only by taking advantage of every possible item of information in the course of a comprehensive, thoroughly planned, and coordinated study can national-security needs for knowledge of the Bloc's economic capabilities and vulnerabilities be met. This means in turn willingness to subordinate ephemeral requirements to the long-range program and a resolute and imaginative attack on problems of centralized indexing and exploitation of all pertinent materials, whether overt or classified. Within the limits set by accessibility of material, the next twelve months should see the production of individual industry studies of far greater substance than any recently available, and these should form the foundation for undertaking inter-industry studies and other over-all analyses with hope of considerably more definite results than heretofore.

2. In the field of economic warfare and support for collective controls, machinery has been established to speed up the processing and evaluation of spot data into intelligence on which action can be taken by the Economic Defense Advisory Committee and the covert services. It is expected that the newly established coordinating committee will assist in bringing available intelligence more quickly and fully to bear on questions arising under this program.

VII. Basic Intelligence

(Except for the sentence added at the end of Paragraph 1, only figures are changed.)

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