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8 March 1946

CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF

PLANNING DIRECTIVE NO. 6

SUBJECT: Intelligence Terminology

1. Problem:

a. Differences in Departmental usage of basic intelligence terms should be examined and, where the differences may interfere with intelligence coordination, common definitions acceptable to the three Departments represented in NIA should be formulated.

2. Planning Requirements:

a. The Support Branch, upon activation, will study this matter and submit a report and recommendations, furnishing a copy to the Policy and Review Branch for review. The report and recommendations will include the following: (1) an initial minimum list of terms to be defined, (2) a brief summary of efforts already made by the Departments or joint agencies to coordinate intelligence terminology, and (3) a draft of recommended C.I.C. action for causing necessary definitions to be prepared and published.

b. In the draft of the action to cause definitions to be prepared, the following guiding principle will be incorporated: "Terms will be defined so as not to violate established departmental usage except where change is imperative. Generally, definitions should conform broadly to accepted Dictionary definitions, and at the same time be as consistent as possible with established usage in the three Departments. Highly technical meanings should be listed as subsidiary definitions. Changes of departmental usage should not be recommended without the most careful consideration, since each such change may require revision of Field Manuals, Bureau Manuals, instruction literature in service schools, etc."

3. Coordination:

During the study, the Support Branch will coordinate informally with:

a. The Information, Intelligence and Security Branches

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b. The Chief, Research and Analysis Section of ANSCOL (Room 2279 New War, Extension 79000) regarding the intelligence terms in a proposed Dictionary of Army-Navy terms which ANSCOL is drafting.

c. The Joint Intelligence Staff regarding joint definitions already published (such as in JIC Memorandum for Information No. 144, dated 3 April 1945, subject: Clarification of Terms Relating to Release of Military Information.)

4. Deadline:

An informal progress report will be made to the Deputy Chief on 18 March.

FOR THE CHIEF, CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF:

Acting Deputy Chief, Central Planning Staff

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Distribution:

Original to Support Branch  
Policy and Review  
Information Branch  
Intelligence Branch  
Security Branch  
File - Planning Directives  
File - Intelligence Terminology ✓  
Secretary, NIA  
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