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Executive Summary
7-2171

12 December 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

VIA: Deputy Director (Plans)

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SUBJECT: Hoover-Clark Task Force Report on Intelligence Activities.

1. This Task Force made a general report to Congress which has been released. They produced separate classified reports for the Department of Defense, the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, MSA, CIA and other agencies of government. The classified reports were furnished to the agency or service reported upon and to the President.

2. The report pertaining to the Department of Defense has several references to CIA and contains some critical statements on subjects of primary interest to this Agency. The letter of transmittal, for example, implied in general that the Task Force was considerably hampered in its investigation of the intelligence community by the fact that the security restrictions around CIA were such that they could not adequately collate the report between agencies. They recommended that any future Task Force be left unhampered by such security requirements. It was noted that the report is not confined to intelligence activities.

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3. This report covers among other matters, the subject of defectors, agreed activities, intelligence collection by clandestine means, cover for CIA, war planning, including evasion and escape facilities and requirements for the support of guerrilla warfare and other CIA responsibilities pertaining to operations and intelligence. The following is a quote from one of the conclusions and recommendations in the Department of Defense report:

"Conclusion: Either CIA has been unable to develop and maintain adequate assets in the evasion and escape and guerrilla warfare areas or is furnishing inadequate information to the Services concerning its assets. Such a condition can only result in duplication of assets, inadequate planning and failure in operations."

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"Recommendation: That the National Security Council review present assets and direct the necessary action to assure adequate preparation for evasion and escape and support of guerrilla warfare".

4. The Department of Defense has started the action which will lead to the implementation of the numerous recommendations in the report and they informed the White House of this action on 10 November 1955. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have requested reports from their overseas commanders regarding the above quoted conclusion and recommendation for use as a basis for the Department of Defense report to the National Security Council. We in CIA recently became aware of the request made by the JCS when our own 25X1A [redacted] requested guidance regarding the JCS directive which had been referred to them for comment.

5. An erroneous but logical assumption held by certain officials in the Department of Defense came to light during a discussion of this subject on 9 December 1955. Namely: That wherever a conclusion or recommendation appears in the Defense report in which CIA is directly involved that the same conclusion and recommendation must have been included in the CIA section of the report inasmuch as all sections of the complete report were indorsed by the same member of the Hoover-Clark Task Force. Consequently CIA must also be preparing their action in response thereto and if CIA is not doing so, the White House should request comments from CIA.

6. I am sure that the items in the Defense report, which reflect on CIA and its responsibilities, are not reflected in the CIA report in the same terms, if indeed the subject is even included in our report. Some items do not pertain to intelligence activities. The CIA report does include a discussion of paramilitary assets for use in support of military action and the conclusion is in contradiction to the conclusion in the Defense report which I have quoted above.

7. The PPC Staff has started action to coordinate a report from the point of view of CIA on questions raised by the above quoted conclusion and recommendation taken from the Department of Defense section of the Hoover-Clark Task Force Report.

8. Recommendation:

a. That the Director of Central Intelligence obtain, officially, a copy of the full report prepared by the Hoover-Clark Task Force on Intelligence Activities as being within his overall responsibilities as Director.

b. If the entire report cannot be obtained by the Director of Central Intelligence then he should, in his capacity as Commander of the Agency, demand those portions of the report which mention the Central Intelligence Agency or which reflect upon the responsibilities of this Agency.



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Chief, Planning and Program
Coordination Staff

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:			TELEPHONE NO.		DATE	
DDIP-1-12					7-7171	
TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	TELEPHONE	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D			
1. DDIP		DEC 13 55	14 DEC			25X1
2. DDI 161		12/15	12/16			25X1 - Concur in two
3. DDIC ①		12/17	14 Dec			25X1 Recommendation
4. DDI						25X1 Concur
5. I.G						25X1 Recommend that we ask The White House for them.
6. DDIP						25X1 ③ to ⑤+⑥: Please give me your recommendations as to whether or not CIA is willing to provide the military with extracts from CIA report which refer to them.
7.						25X1 ILLEGIB
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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	<input type="checkbox"/> (ER)		
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ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
<p>Remarks:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">You have a file on Hoover - Clark Task Force Report... in your "external reports". This should go in the file on actions or comments or whatever it is called. (K I believe I may have indexed some of those papers -- if so, these shd be included in index, at appropriate date -- if any question, pls call me).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></p>			
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