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27 June 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

Lee Cooper, of the Hoover Commission, had lunch with me today at the Army and Navy Club.

The Hoover Commission report on CIA is being mimeographed today. It will be released for Wednesday morning (29 June) newspapers. The Water Resources study will be released at the same time for the Thursday morning (30 June) newspapers.

The recommendations will include:

1. For the reorganization of CIA so as to provide for a Chief of Staff.
2. More retired, qualified military personnel being used by CIA, as well as more retired qualified civilian personnel.
3. That a career system be instituted within CIA.
4. That there be two "watch dog" committees established; one a joint congressional committee, the other a committee of distinguished civilians (non-congressional).
5. That legislation be enacted to provide higher salaries for the Director and the key personnel.
6. That a headquarters building be erected.

The report is highly critical of CIA, I am told, and it is sure that the Press will highlight the criticisms. It is said that the Agency has not kept a "follow up" security check on employees, and needs new methods of collecting and evaluating foreign scientific intelligence that is now done, not by CIA, which should do it, but by the State Department. There is criticism that we do not have sufficient intelligence on the USSR. There is criticism that "diplomacy"--the State Department--interferes with and lessens CIA overseas collection. There is high praise of the Director. There is a statement that there is a lack of foreign language facility on the part of some intelligence employees.

During the commission discussion on the need for more retired military personnel, Congressman Holifield initially opposed the idea but voted for it.

Reference to the recommendation that there be two "watch dog" committees, Congressman Brown objected to the recommendation of the Clark "task force" that there be a joint congressional and civilian committee and his recommendation was approved.

On the need for a Chief of Staff, the discussion, I am told, was to the effect that the Director personally does too much of the current work himself and carries all of the knowledge regarding agency activities in his head. No other individual in CIA is entirely conversant with all the ramifications of the Agency's various activities. The loss of the Director would greatly cripple the CIA, and it was believed that there should be a Chief of Staff who would be as conversant as is the Director with the work of all the departments in the Agency.

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The purpose of a "watch dog" committee of distinguished non-congressional civilians would be to explain to the public that things were going well within CIA when such was the case, and perhaps where there is criticism of CIA it informs the public that the criticism is or is not justified. There was very brief discussion by the commission on this matter.

General Clark is in Washington today to receive a degree from a British Government, I am told. He is said to be staying with his mother, Mrs. Charles Clark, and he has asked that a copy of the public report be sent to him, as soon as it is available. Whether he plans to make an additional comment is speculative. In asking for the advanced copy, he said he wanted to study it carefully because he believes there may be some further congressional investigation as a result of the report and that he may be called upon to testify.

There were some differences of opinion between General Christensen and General Clark on the proposed press releases in which Colonel Duplede joined with General Christensen in opposing General Clark's ideas.

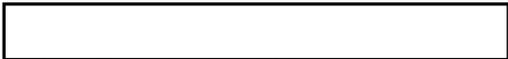
The Clark group, I am told, has been released except Miss Davis, his private secretary, who is still on the job.

I believe I will receive a copy of the proposed release at the same time that a copy is furnished to General Clark and I will immediately send it to you.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you accept Bill Lawrence's invitation for a private dinner with a group of press representatives provided he can get them together for Tuesday evening (28 June). This will give CIA an opportunity to have its view points considered with the Wednesday a.m. stories without attribution to the Agency or any of its personnel.

The alternative to this would be for the Director to have a selected press group for a conference tomorrow afternoon or evening, (Tuesday, 28 June).


STANLEY J. GROOMAN

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