

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE ACQUISITION
OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Minutes of Meeting of 6 April 1945.

PRESENT :

Department of Agriculture	Miss Benton
Library of Congress	Mr. Clapp
War Department	Lt. Col. Oron J. Hale, AUS
State Department	Mr. Humphrey
Office of War Information	Dr. Harry J. Krould
Office of Inter-American Affairs	Mr. Nathan
Foreign Economic Admin.	Mr. Riley
Treasury Department	Mr. Southworth
Interdepartmental Committee	2nd Lt. D. H. Clift, AUS
	Mr. J. H. Ottemiller
Executive Secretary	Lt. (j.g.) Frederick G. Kilgour, USNR

Lt. Kilgour presided

The Minutes of the Meeting of 16 March 1945 were approved as corrected.

Mr. Humphrey inquired about the location of the supplementary Bermuda book lists.

The chair reported that a copy of Mr. Clapp's first motion of the last Meeting had been forwarded to the Chief of the OSS Research and Analysis Branch who had sent it on to the OSS Deputy Director-Services. No formal reply had been received, but the chair had been informed that the Deputy Director had stated it was his opinion that OSS controlled the funds and personnel of IDC. The OSS Personnel Board had reviewed the Committee's request for positions and had granted the original request for 91 until 30 June 1945 adding that if the war were still going on in Europe and Asia at that time that a request for positions above 70 would be reviewed again. The Board also requested a specific plan showing just how IDC proposed to reduce to 70 positions. After the Committee had discussed the chair's report at length, Mr. Riley moved that a Sub-Committee on the IDC Budget be appointed that would be made up of the Representatives of the State Department, the Office of War Information, and the Library of Congress. Col. Hale seconded the motion. The question was put to vote and unanimously approved.

To guide his report to the Personnel Board on how IDC would reduce to 70 positions, the chair requested the Committee to review its policy on the analysis of the European press. There followed a discussion

during which the various Members presented the present and anticipated needs of their Agencies for intelligence from the European press. At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Clapp moved that the analysis of the press from all European areas be discontinued by 30 June 1945 except for the analysis of the German and Russian press and that the need for the analysis of the German and Russian press be reviewed shortly after VE-Day. Dr. Krould seconded the motion. The question was put to vote and unanimously approved.

The chair reported that \$3,500 had been paid to the State Department as the IDC contribution to the support of the Moscow Press Reading Bureau Service. Lt. Clift stated that he had been informed that expenses of the Reading Bureau had not been as great as had been anticipated and that there would be a refund from the payment.

The chair said that it would probably soon be necessary for the Committee to establish some program for the discontinuance of IDC's acquisition of publications in Europe and asked that the Committee Members consider such a program. It was agreed that there are not sufficient facts available at this time to establish a definite policy.

The Committee then entered into a general discussion of what should become of IDC's operations after the war. Many opinions were expressed, and it was the sense of the discussion that there was no point in pressing any specific proposals until it would be certain that a Central or National Intelligence Agency would or would not be established.

The chair reported that IDC had been able to obtain a large number of publications in Cologne.