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Deputies' Meeting

Wednesday, 21 January 1953

PRESENT: General Smith, Messrs. Dulles, Wisner, Wolf, Becker, Earman

General Smith:

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a. Referred to a cable from the Senior Representative, [redacted] concerning a meeting among Overesch, [redacted] noted that [redacted] views as contained in this cable "made a lot of sense". Mr. Dulles stated that [redacted] had expressed similar views to him during his recent visit [redacted]. Mr. Wisner said he planned to discuss the matter referred to in the above-cited cable with Admiral Overesch during his forthcoming visit to Headquarters.

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[redacted]

c. Stated that he had offered a briefing on CIA to the members and the Executive Officer of the Special Committee on Government Organizations. The Director went on to say that, in his opinion, such a briefing was essential in order that the committee would not cross any wires or leave us out in making recommendations to the President. General Smith stated that this briefing should be about an hour's duration and should cover (1) the scope and magnitude of our activities; (2) our "far-flung" and "complex" political and psychological operations; (3) our opinion of the functions of PSB. After some discussion, the Director (1) called the Executive Officer of this committee and suggested that this briefing be held in the Conference Room in the Administration Building (the date and time to be determined later); (2) asked DD/P to have the appropriate people in his office prepared to give this briefing; (3) stated it would not be necessary to cover secret operations, however, he himself would touch on this subject.

Mr. Dulles:

a. Referred to a cable from General Lovett [redacted] regarding the disappearance of Colonel Arnold and Lovett's recommendation that consideration be given to a policy which would prohibit commanders and others who have broad knowledge of plans from making flights over enemy territory. Mr. Wisner noted that such a policy had already been worked out in Headquarters.

b. Referred to a cable from the Senior Representative, [redacted] concerning the Soviet request for an interview with [redacted] and stated we should

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Mr. Dulles (Cont'd.)

not change our position that this interview should be held [redacted]

d. Referred to a memorandum from Kim Roosevelt concerning the U.S. aid program for [redacted] and, after some discussion, the DCI brought the contents of this memorandum to the attention of Mr. John Foster Dulles and recommended that he consider the problem of aid [redacted] as a matter of priority.

e. Noted he would undertake to determine from Mr. Winthrop Aldrich when he desired a briefing and stated while this briefing should largely be done by Mr. Becker and his people it was his intention also to have Win Scott present.

Mr. Wisner:

a. Gave the Director a memorandum prepared by [redacted] containing his comments on the position of [redacted]

b. Asked who should "kick off" the briefing for [redacted] which was scheduled for 9:15 on the 29th. The Director stated either he or Mr. Dulles would do this.

Mr. Becker:

a. Noted there would be no IAC meeting on 22 January.

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Mr. Becker (Cont'd.)

b. Reported that [redacted] had been cleared and was now receiving selected CIA and other highly classified publications.

c. Reported that (1) the Burmese had reshuffled their troops and it appeared that they were about to attack Li Mi; (2) the Department of State was still sitting on this problem. After some discussion, the Director called this matter to the attention of Acting Secretary of State Matthews.

d. Recommended that [redacted] be considered as a replacement for [redacted] and stated that a tentative approach by Kingman Douglass to [redacted] indicated that he [redacted] would accept this position. After some discussion, the Director stated we should hold this matter in abeyance and Mr. Dulles undertook to discuss it further with Mr. Becker.

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