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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive
Chief, COAPS
Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination

SUBJECT: Comments of AD/OCD on Management Survey of the Biographic Register

1. Present confusion as to the operations of the Biographic Register will exist until its mission is clarified. It would not appear that a service organization can define its mission and "select targets of opportunity" apart from those it serves or without consideration of "current financial limitations". Management feels that the survey recommendation for COAPS clarification of the Biographic Register mission should be acted on. Since the AD/OCD issues the suggested statement of Agency responsibilities developed by Management a "pool paper", it is possible that it can serve as a basis for IAC discussion. However, one point requires clarification, namely, that "evaluated" action proposed as a CIA service will be performed by production offices. Thus, COAPS will need the participation of OMB and OBI in formulating a biographic intelligence program.

2. Until the above problem is resolved further discussion is academic. However, it is suggested that COAPS look into the following actions of the Biographic Register:

a. The functioning of and representation on the "special biographic committees now appointed which consist of top level administrative officers in federal scientific institutions." (See p. 5 of BI dossier.)

b. BI proposal to disseminate who's who cards overseas with the requirement to collectors to supply the missing information. The question of whether our production offices have indicated that they need this information should be answered.

3. Administrative and security problems inherent in the volume of files maintained by BI were recognized not only by Management, but also by Inspection and Security Staff. (See memorandum to the OGI through the Chief, IAS Staff, from the Chief, Inspection Branch, subjects: Inspection to Evaluate CIA Procurement Program and Examine the Utilization and Disposition of Property - initial, (October 1949).) If the Management recommendations for decreasing the size of files maintained by the Biographic Register are not feasible, it is suggested that the action to find and install better methods for reducing these files be directed.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

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Management Officer

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