

Services Division

Committee on China

Committee Minutes - 177th Meeting - 19 August 1958 25X1A9a

D/S Representatives: [REDACTED]

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Guests: [REDACTED]

1. At the request of the FDD analysts present, the Committee discussed ways in which FDD could best support the ERA analysis of the current "leap forward" program in Communist China. FDD was particularly concerned about the ambiguous and often confusing statistical data presently being reported by the Chinese. As an aid to the discussion, Mr. [REDACTED] A/F, summarized a recent periodical article which explains the so-called "two-account" system employed in Communist China's economic planning. The article will appear shortly in an FDD Summary, Weekly Information Report on Communist China (218). 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 2. [REDACTED] FDD, raised the question whether it would be advisable for FDD to concentrate more heavily on the collection of available statistical data and place less emphasis on translation of descriptive-type articles. At present, FDD is experimenting with this approach in reporting on agriculture in Communist China. ERA analysts present generally expressed approval of this type of approach although it was recognized that descriptive material would still be necessary in order to explain and clarify the statistical data collected. In addition it was recommended that FDD place continued emphasis on the collection of all types of investment data, including non-budgeted investment. FDD requested that consideration be given to the preparation of requirements to guide FDD analysts in making a balanced selection of statistical data and descriptive material in their reporting on the various sectors of the Chinese Communist economy.

Agenda: The next meeting will be on 2 September, at 1400, Room 1125 M.
Current items will be discussed.

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ORR/S/CST: [REDACTED] /pmb/4928 (20Aug58)

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