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20 May 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Subject: State Department Intelligence Research Reports

1. ICAPS invites your attention to the attached memorandum from the Chief, Distribution Division, Dissemination Branch, OCD, notifying the several Assistant Directors of the availability of State Department intelligence research reports.
2. The OCD invitation to obtain these reports for the Assistant Directors high-lights the danger of operating offices of CIG, other than ORE, acting upon or being influenced by departmental reports, whether from State, War or Navy, which may be at variance with the evaluations of ORE.
3. Obviously the best way to obviate this pitfall would be to require ORE evaluation on all departmental reports being disseminated to other offices of CIG. However, since it is believed that the great bulk of such reports reaching these offices are of only indirect interest and in view of present ORE personnel limitations, it is not deemed practicable now to go to this length. It is the opinion of ICAPS, nevertheless, that one of the most important functions of ORE is to supply the other CIG offices with the intelligence background against which they should operate.
4. Therefore, it is recommended that a directive be issued calling attention to the danger of confusion and misdirection which may result if CIG offices operate on the basis of agency reports without ORE evaluation and requiring:
 - a. OCD to forward to ORE evaluation requests on all departmental reports which will be disseminated to operating offices other than ORE in all cases where the subject matters of the reports bear directly on the functions and operations of those offices.

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b. Forward such reports to the offices only upon receipt of the evaluations which will be attached to the reports, except where urgency requires earlier dissemination, in which case a form card will be attached informing the offices concerned that the evaluations will be forwarded when completed.

c. All operating offices receiving departmental reports without ORE evaluations but for reasons not evident to OGD require them, to initiate an evaluation request on ORE. In such cases the offices will defer action on the reports until receipt of the evaluations.

d. ORE to adopt a suitable evaluation procedure which need not be complete and thorough, but should express (1) complete concurrence, (2) concurrence subject to minor remarks, or (3) dissent, in which case an explanation will be added giving reasons or stating that an ORE evaluation on subject will be made.

DONALD EDGAR
Chief, ICAPS

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