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MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AREA STAFF MEETING, 29 SEPTEMBER 1959

PRESENT: ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED]1. New Worka. D/GG

None reported. ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] expressed thanks to D/GG on behalf of D/GG for the fine support on the Laos GM.

b. D/GL

None reported.

c. D/GC

^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] reported on plans for careful study of the continent of Africa to determine the best breakdown into areas for regional base maps.

2. Travel Plansa. ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED]

Will be leaving for Zurich on 9 October to attend the International Cartography Course; he will return at the end of January.

3. Significant Conversations and Contacts

a. ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] reported that ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] is to meet with Col. Diercks of AMS on Thursday about ^{25X1X4} [REDACTED] ^{25X1A5a1} [REDACTED]

b. ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] reported he had spoken with ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] who seemed quite interested in taking over production of city plans on a commercial basis; the main problem in such an arrangement would be source materials.

c. ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] reported that ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] will be ^{25X1A5a1} [REDACTED] in Washington within the next 30 days.

d. ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] reported on a meeting with representatives of ^{25X1A9a} [REDACTED] shop and ACIC to discuss reproduction of maps for TAB studies. It has been decided that ACIC will help in the reproduction of these maps.

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e. 25X1A9a [redacted] reported on a conference with OBI to discuss problems related to D/GC contributions to the NIS.

f. 25X1A9a [redacted] reported that Col. Colacicco (representing Mr. Collins) will soon contact us and set up a meeting to discuss the SAC request.

4. Problems

25X1A9a [redacted] asked that the role of St/PB and AD/RR in the final issuance of a GM be clarified.

5. USSR Atlas

25X1A9a The group discussed the format of the USSR Atlas for outside distribution, i.e., whether it should be sent in its present form of 2 volumes or brought together into 1 volume. [redacted] suggested that a list be drawn up of the 50 recipients we feel would have the greatest need, and send the atlas to them in the 2-volume form. [redacted] suggested that, if possible, about 25 copies should be made available to Commerce for sale purposes. 25X1A9a [redacted] is to coordinate the matter by ascertaining the number of copies available and working with OO/C on distribution.

6. Debriefing of 25X1A9a [redacted] 25X1A9a

25X1X4

[redacted] announced that [redacted] was to be debriefed on 1 October at 10:00 in connection with his recent TDY to [redacted]

25X1X4B

25X1A9a

indicated that D/GG had already made arrangements to be present at the debriefing; [redacted] expressed interest and was provided with the background papers on the matter. 25X1A9a

7. Exchange Proposals

a. ACSM Meeting

25X1A9a

25X1A9a [redacted] has received a copy of a letter proposing that Soviet representatives attend next Spring's ACSM meeting and visit several mapping agencies. This was referred to GRA by [redacted] who has asked that we give him a reading of the net intelligence advantage to the U.S. of the proposal. [redacted] indicated he would ask [redacted] to prepare a counter-proposal on this, after which an inter-agency group would be convened to consider the matter. 25X1A9a

b. City Planning Exchange

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[REDACTED] to prepare an opinion as to the over-all net intelligence advantage to the U.S. of a Soviet proposal to have several Soviet city planners visit specific U.S. cities. The proposed timing of this visit should coincide with a conference being held on city planning in Puerto Rico in early June 1960.

8. Oceanographic Research

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In view of the Bill on Oceanographic Research which has been drawn up for the approval of Congress, [REDACTED] brought up for discussion the question of whether or not we should be doing anything in the field of oceanographic intelligence. [REDACTED] will talk with OSI people to ascertain what is being done in the field at present.

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25X1A9a Materials on Tibet

[REDACTED] asked the group what interest there would be in certain private materials, manuscript maps, notes and photographs collected by Professor Joseph L. Rock on his trip to Tibet in the 1920's. [REDACTED] will meet with GG/F personnel and [REDACTED] to discuss the probable value of these materials, and arrange to have someone go and look them over if this seems warranted.

25X1A9a

10. Status of ORR Personnel

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[REDACTED] read the on-board figures for GRA divisions from the Monthly Status of Personnel Report, as well as the attrition rate for GRA divisions over the past year.

11. ERA Recruiters

25X1A9a

[REDACTED] inquired whether we would have any interest in having ERA recruiters, who will be going out shortly, do some recruiting for us. It was decided that we should handle this ourselves.

25X1X4

13. Studies being Undertaken by

25X1A9a

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[REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] is currently undertaking the following studies: (a) Proposal from AGS to make available geographic literature translated from the Russian, and (b) AGS [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] literature.