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Initials: JMS

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

[Redacted]

SUBJECT: Status of ORE Activities Through 31 December 1946 TR 10412

1. The intelligence effort of this Office is represented by the following types of activity: (a) the preparation of written reports and estimates constituting strategic and national policy intelligence; (b) the visual and oral presentation of salient features of the world situation based on (a) above; (c) the representation of CIG interests in proposals for the establishment of interdepartmental programs involving intelligence research and evaluation; (d) the recommendation of the establishment of intelligence programs which, in the interests of the national security should be conducted on an interdepartmental basis; (e) the implementation of, and participation in approved interdepartmental programs involving intelligence research and evaluation; and (f) the determination of requirements for, and evaluation of the adequacy of intelligence information, to be collected, or available, in support of the national intelligence mission.

2. Detailed statements of specific ORE projects, completed, in process or projected, are included in the order named above under the Tabs attached hereto.

3. Organizational planning activities of this Office have resulted in: (a) completion of an interim table of organization which, when approved, will form the basis for planned recruitment and placement of personnel required to bring ORE to temporarily adequate producing strength; (b) activation of the Economic Group, Functional Branch, which has accelerated the planning for intelligence coverage in this field; and (c) activation of the Projects Division, Intelligence Staff, which has permitted attention to be focused upon the systematic programming of ORE strategic intelligence estimates.

4. In support of its intelligence effort, this Office has negotiated and implemented mutually satisfactory liaison agreements with the intelligence producing, and certain policy making agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments. In certain instances liaison arrangements have been entered into with agencies of other governmental departments. A survey of such arrangements was recently compiled and submitted to the Chief, Interdepartmental Coordinating and Planning Staff.

5. As of this date, this Office is operating at 20 per cent of its projected strength based upon the table of organization referred to in paragraph 3 above. The following units of this Office have not as yet been activated:

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Efforts to establish these units are in progress.

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[Redacted]
 J. KLAHR HUDDLE
 Assistant Director
 Reports and Estimates

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ORE progress reports through April 1948
directly hereunder.

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TAB "A"

PREPARATION OF WRITTEN REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

1. In this context "intelligence" is taken to mean "evaluated and interpreted information". The constant effort of ORE to produce intelligence in increasing volume, coverage, and quality has been handicapped by a dearth of personnel qualified by perception and experience for penetrating analysis and sound interpretation of information of high political import. Nevertheless ORE has, I believe, produced intelligence of respectable quality in greater volume than is generally appreciated.

2. The output of ORE is published in four series, as follows:

- a. The Daily Summary, initiated 15 February 1946.
- b. The Weekly Summary, initiated 7 June 1946.
- c. The Special Evaluation Series, initiated 1 August 1946.
- d. The ORE Series, initiated 23 July 1946.

3. The content of the Daily Summary has hitherto been limited to a factual briefing of significant cables. Evaluation enters into the selection of cables from the mass available and into the choice of points to stress in briefing them, but evaluative and interpretive comment have been excluded. Such comment was made for the first time in the Daily for 16 December (item 7). The introduction of factual background material, and of evaluative or interpretive comment in appropriate cases, has long been recognized as desirable. However, quite apart from the restriction in NIA Directive No. 2, paragraph 4a, severe limitations of time and space will prevent the Daily from developing far beyond the "flash" presentation of selected items.

4. From the first it has been recognized that, on this account, a Weekly would be necessary as a more suitable medium for presenting items of current intelligence in perspective and for interpretation in terms of emergent trends. The Weekly was launched by direction before a suitable staff had been assembled, but, by dint of extraordinary effort it has been kept to a standard of analysis and interpretation which compares favorably with any other intelligence publication. The constant tendency in such periodicals is to slip from analysis and interpretation into a narrative review of current events. On this account there is a common tendency to regard them as falling short of the accepted definition of intelligence, and this habit of thought may have been carried over in application to our Weekly simply because it is a periodical. In view, however, of the standards of analysis and interpretation which we have, in general, succeeded in maintaining, the content of our Weekly should be recognized as intelligence. Consideration of the analytical index contained in Inclosure No. 1 will show that it constitutes a respectable volume of intelligence production.

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5. The Special Evaluation Series was established to provide a means for evaluative and interpretive comment on current reports such as could not be given in the Daily and should not be held for the forthcoming Weekly. Items in it are essentially extra editions of the Weekly devoted to a single report or several reports bearing on a single subject. Their content should manifestly be regarded as intelligence, although of a current "flash" character. Eight numbers have been issued thus far, as listed in Inclosure No. 2. The rate at which they are issued should tend to increase but, since it also depends on events requiring such special treatment, it cannot be projected.

6. The ORE Series consists of deliberate and coordinated estimates which obviously should be classified as intelligence. As set forth in detail in Inclosure No. 3, five such estimates have been published to date, six are in various stages of preparation, and five more are planned for the immediate future.

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