

The Files

9 April 1959

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Conference Report - Analytic Services, Inc., (ANSER)

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1. At 0930 on Wednesday morning 8 April 1959, a "demonstration" was attended in the [redacted] conference room. Two representatives of Analytic Services, Inc., [redacted] (former CIA employee 1952 to 1956) and Dr. Stanley J. Lawwill, president of ANSER, outlined the company's organization and proposed service to the Agency.

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2. Analytic Services, Inc., is an independent non-profit research organization with home offices in Santa Monica, California, and working facilities in Alexandria, Virginia. The company president, Dr. Lawwill, was formerly Technical Director of the Air Force Scientific Analysis Office at Melpar, Inc., and has essentially expanded that office into an independent consulting group which still works mainly on Air Force projects. ANSER currently employs 36 specialists (with TOP SECRET clearance) who boast 435 years paid experience in the following fields: physics-110 years equivalent experience, engineering - 86, mathematics - 75, electronics - 53, aeronautics - 47, chemistry - 43, and economics - 21.

3. This group proposes to offer to the Agency the use of its facilities and personnel to provide "an operations research capability specifically designed to apply scientific methods of analysis and evaluation to intelligence problems." Having gotten its start from the Air Force, many studies currently conducted by ANSER are under direct contract with the Air Force Directorate of Development Planning (AFDAP) and deal with such problems as air warfare planning, air defense systems studies, strategic and tactical air techniques, reconnaissance intelligence activities, establishment of escape maneuvers for planes carrying atomic weapons, design of missile and space platforms, etc.

4. Specifically, ANSER proposes to establish a Research and Evaluation Group to be called Intelligence-Evaluation and Research (INIER). "The major role of INIER would be the performance of analyses to serve as guidance to the Agency. To provide this guidance, INIER would conduct operation's research and analytical studies to evaluate current and proposed programs in the mission areas of the agency. Investigations would also be undertaken to determine feasibility of future programs."

5. INTER would be established as a small independent consulting and services group operating at the level of the D/CI. As an alternate plan, it might be expanded into a larger group operating at the deputy director level and divided into three branches paralleling the mission areas of DD/P, DD/I and DD/S. Its main function would be to provide a flexible organization capable of instant response to the day-to-day needs of the Agency. As an example of its services, [redacted] suggested that INTER might evaluate proposed DD/P projects in terms of their economic, socio-political and management implications and thereby determine the feasibility of covert mission accomplishment. An attempt would be made to present results in quantitative terms to facilitate the making of subsequent executive decisions by Agency personnel.

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6. In closing, [redacted] outlined several specific areas in which it was felt the Agency might be particularly interested. Included among these were (1) a proposed study of techniques for coding, storing and recalling intelligence through the use of machine data processing systems using memory devices, (2) a study of USSR intent and capability in directed fields of interest, (3) a comparative study of the British, American and USSR intelligence systems from a management point of view, (4) preparation of technical analyses for such groups as OSI and ORR, and (5) preparation of miscellaneous presentations and reports which the Agency might require from time to time.

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7. During the discussion period at the close of the conference, several persons advanced the argument that the proposed establishment of INTER carried with it the implication that the Agency was not now effectively carrying out its main function of collecting and disseminating intelligence affecting the security of the country. To this charge, both [redacted] and Dr. Lawwill replied that the proposed plan was intended not to undermine the Agency's capabilities and accomplishments but to augment them by providing the Agency with recourse to an outside consulting service which might bring a "fresh" viewpoint to bear on a given problem.

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8. It is to be noted that ANSER would operate strictly on a consultative basis and neither desires nor would agree to becoming involved in the production of hardware to support their recommendations. For additional information, the reader is referred to the attached copy of ANSER's proposal to the Agency.

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