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MINUTES OF THE FIFTIETH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

27 May 1955

Present

Members: John Lacey, State
Lt. Richard W. Hanson, Navy
Capt. Thomas H. Rivenbark, Air Force (for Maj. Neumann)

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Consultants:

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1. The 50th meeting convened at 1400 hours, and the minutes of the 49th meeting were approved with the following amendments:

a. State: Section 2, second paragraph, amend first sentence to read, "Mr. Egbert stated that in his review of State's units all branches except Africa had just conferred with FDD."

b. Amend second sentence as follows: "He added that FDD reports on Africa were useful to State."

c. Amend third sentence by deleting "the" before "Reunion."

d. NSA: Page 2, last paragraph, after the words "high degree of duplication" add "in the fields of interest to NSA."

2. Near East, South Asia, and Africa

The Chairman, in summing up the discussions of the members in the 49th meeting, stated that it appeared that the needs could be met as follows and asked the members to review these points for comment at the 50th meeting.

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- a. A military report on Arab States [REDACTED]
- b. Process official gazettes for certain countries and produce an Afghanistan report.
- c. Report on the four areas of Africa of interest to State.
- d. Discontinue India/Pakistan and the Greece, Turkey, Iran reports and accept specific requests on those countries.

Comments on these points were as follows:

State: Mr. Lacey stated that the Chairman's sum-up is satisfactory to State.

Navy: Lt. Hanson concurred.

Air: Capt. Rivenbark concurred.

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CIA: [REDACTED] stated that while in general interest was not great, a few were very interested and objected to the dropping of the India/Pakistan report. Greece, Turkey, and Iran is of considerable interest to the Geographic, Transportation and Petroleum people and they would hate to see this report dropped. [REDACTED] presented a detailed list of additional requirements of CIA, on the whole Near East, South Asia and Africa areas, which is made a part of the record.

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The Chairman stated that FDD will provide [REDACTED] with a list of the English language press of India and Pakistan.

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NSA: [REDACTED] concurred in the four points of discussion.

The Chairman stated that there is general concurrence in the previous sum-up but CIA has additional needs. FDD will therefore have to confer with them to see how we can satisfy CIA's needs.

3. Western Europe

State: Mr. Lacey stated that State concurs with the FDD proposals on the program. He added that the program to date has not been particularly useful but the proposed amendments were drawn after liaison between State and FDD and he felt it would result in improvement.

Navy: Lt. Hanson stated that Navy concurs in general with the proposals but would like to see the press effort diverted to periodical literature as representative of a better utilization of manpower.

Air: Capt. Rivenbark stated that Air has but little interest in the area but would like to see some coverage of escape and evasion material.

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CIA: [redacted] referred to the proposed program and stated that CIA would like to see the following additions: lb, add a new item of "Opinion Moulders" as detailed in memorandum attached to the record; ld, add "Italy;" lh, add a new item covering "Position of Public Leaders and Private Groups on European Integration Movement;" add a new category as li, "Geographic," same as old program; and add to 2 "Local Elections in Italy."

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NSA: [redacted] stated that NSA had no requirements for the area.

The Chairman reviewed the discussions and stated that there is general concurrence in the proposals as made with additional needs by CIA and a recommendation to shift manpower where possible from press to periodicals. He continued that FDD would do its best to comply with a minimum of manpower. The Chairman added, "I am somewhat disappointed in the status of this review. We want to make the personnel in FDD as flexible as possible and want to use all possible power on the USSR, China, and the East European Satellites. I had hoped we could cut work on non-bloc areas to a minimum and shift the manpower released to more important areas. We draft these programs on the basis of the expressed needs of the analysts and what we think we can best do to meet them. All analysts have needs for information on their areas, but can this Committee consider these individual needs as indicative of the priorities of the agencies. FDD will redraft the Western Europe program in accord with the Committee findings but I will appreciate the members re-examining the matter in their respective agencies with a view toward a realistic assessment in relation to overall priorities."

Mr. Lacey stated that, as he had previously said, he was still hoping that this Committee can address itself to the important matter of overall priorities and was in accord with the Chairman's statement.

Lt. Hanson agreed with the statement and felt that we must make sacrifices with limited manpower in order to afford more effort to more important priorities.

Capt. Rivenbark and Miss Green concurred.

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[redacted] doubted whether cuts could be made.

4. The agenda for the next meeting will be:

- a. Conclusion of Western Europe
- b. [redacted] Korea
- c. Latin America

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5. The meeting adjourned at 1530 hours. The next meeting will be held on Friday, 10 June 1955, in Room 2125 M Building, at 1400 hours.

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