

27 March 1969

Directorate Histories -- A Prospectus

1. The concept of the history of the Directorates, like the concept of the Directorates themselves, is functional. The history of each Directorate will record for the use of present and future Deputy Directors, and other senior Agency officers, the circumstances which led to the establishment of the Directorate and the objectives which the Directorate was intended to achieve. The subsequent development of the Directorate will be recounted in appropriate periods, corresponding to the incumbencies of the respective Deputy Directors, or by other logical historical subdivisions. These histories will emphasize the adaptation of the structure and functions of the Directorate to changing requirements, the guidance provided by the Deputy Director to the internal components of the Directorate, and the relation of the Directorate to other parts of the Agency and the Government.

2. In scope, the Directorate histories will record comprehensively the major objectives, activities, and accomplishments of the Directorates. By intent and by necessity the Directorate histories will thus be selective rather than encyclopedic. For convenience of treatment, the histories of particular Directorates may be divided into manageable periods, which may coincide with the tenure of the respective Deputy Directors, but which may equally well be organized according to other, more appropriate principles; such as by major problems or programs. Within whatever subdivisions are selected as organizing principles, the ultimate discussion will be according to significant topics rather than by the routine chronological sequence of events. These topics will identify the mission of the Directorate, the manner in which it has deployed its resources to accomplish this mission, the character of its product, and the assessment of its success or failure in accomplishing its mission. While individual chapters may highlight the overall situation or major aspects of the situation confronting the Directorate at significant moments in its history, the history as a whole will emphasize the development of the mission, capabilities, and product of the Directorate.

3. In point of view, the Directorate histories will move from such external considerations as the requirements levied on the Directorate by the Agency and the community, to the internal arrangements devised within the Directorate to accomplish

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification



its mission. The Directorate history will draw for examples upon the history of its components but will not in itself constitute a systematic and detailed history of these components. As outlined in the attached prospectus, the focus will then shift outward again to accent the relations of the Directorate with other Directorates, the DCI, and outside of the Agency, the rest of the intelligence community, and as appropriate, the policymaking consumers of intelligence.

Directorate Histories -- A Prospectus

1. Concept of the Directorate
 - a. When established?
 - b. Why established? Mission
 - c. From what established? Antecedent organizations
 - d. How established? Procedures: Committee report? Staff study?
 - e. Initial structure of the Directorate
2. Operations under the first Deputy Director
 - a. Launching the Directorate
 - b. Identifying goals and establishing priorities
 - c. Guiding subordinate components -- including future planning
 - d. Coordinating internal Directorate activities
 - e. Character of operations, support, and intelligence production, as appropriate
 - f. Relations with outside components -- other Directorates, the DCI, outside Agencies, the White House, Congress, and foreign governments
 - g. Assessment
3. Development under subsequent Deputy Directors, by incumbency (or by other periods)
 - a. Policy guidance -- internal and external
 - b. Changes in priorities
 - c. Adjustments of internal organization and management
 - d. Major trends in operations, support, and intelligence production, as appropriate
 - e. Relations with outside components
 - f. Future planning
 - g. Assessment
4. Changing role of the Directorate
 - a. Mission
 - b. Organization -- structure and personnel
 - c. Management
 - d. Production, operations, etc.
 - e. Relations with outside components
5. Overall view -- in summary
 - a. What the Directorate was
 - b. What it has accomplished
 - c. Where it stands today

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 18 September 1969
TO: Director of Medical Services Attn: Historical Officer		
ROOM NO. 1D4067	BUILDING Hqs.	
REMARKS: This material was prepared by the Agency Historical Staff and may prove interesting and of assistance to you.  25 SEP 1969 EXO <i>[Signature]</i>		
FROM: Chairman, Support Services Historical Board 		

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1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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