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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR OF TRAINING, CIA

DATE: 12 July 1951

FROM : [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Report on Assistant Directors' Opinions Regarding Proposed CIA Journal

REFERENCE: My Memorandum of 27 June concerning an Employee Journal

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1. I talked with the Assistant Directors of O/CD, O/R&R, O/CI, O/O, and O/IC; and with Mr. Borel representing the AD/ONE [REDACTED] for O/PC, [REDACTED] for O/SO, and [REDACTED] for O/SI, all of the latter speaking with the full authority of their chiefs. Attitudes ranged from lukewarm to hot. O/CD and O/R&R seemed to show the least interest; O/NE and O/SI possibly the most, but I should say that the Journal---after certain objections had been ironed out---would have the backing of all concerned. The National Estimates Board discussed the project and voted unanimous approval of it.

2. The principal suggestings arising directly out of the referenced memorandum were:

a. Such a publication ought to be an important factor in improving morale and furthering training. If the mission could be carried out successfully, the project would be definitely worth while.

b. There was some question as to where the material would come from and whether or not there would be enough to fill a respectable publication. Discussion, however, seemed to me to indicate that material ought to be plentiful.

c. There was some objection on security grounds to the inclusion of anything to do with intelligence methods or techniques. On the other hand, as pointed out by Mr. [REDACTED], most of them are ancient, standard, and known the world over. By sticking to these and emphasizing the past rather than the present, you ought to be able to run a series of articles of great interest to those working in intelligence which ought, nevertheless, to be innocuous to security.

d. Oddly enough, there was no comment on the matter of including articles on the work of CIA outside the US. Perhaps wrongly, I took silence for consent. **NO.**

e. The only comment on a news column came from Mr. [REDACTED] of O/NE who thought it a good idea. We thought such a column could be obtained from O/CI; then possibly sanitized for security.

f. Points of view on a personnel and administration page ranged from insistence that it would be ruinous to the paper and should be omitted, to

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insistence that it would make the paper and must be included.

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g. There was general agreement that twice a month would be too ambitious, at least at the beginning. Mr. [REDACTED] suggested not starting with stipulated dates of publication but rather getting out an issue, seeing how it was received, and following it with another when another was ready.

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h. There seemed to be general approval of the idea of circulating the paper to the field. Mr. [REDACTED] said this could easily be done for O/SO, and [REDACTED] seemd to think it possible to reach at least some of his people.

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i. Two of those interviewed thought CONFIDENTIAL would be a better classification than SECRET. It was frequently noted that, if it is considered secure to circulate the contents of the ASA REVIEW under a CONFIDENTIAL label, CIA can do practically anything. I think I should still favor a cover classification of SECRET but with varying classifications inside the covers. Otherwise, you might be robbed of an excellent article that had, for some reason, to be classified SECRET.

j. There were some who believed that such a small staff could not handle a journal of the type proposed.

3. Other objections and suggestions were:

a. Security would be a formidable obstacle, might take an excessive amount of time, and could result in the production of a disappointing sheet.

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b. [REDACTED] said that, a few years ago, some government bureau had forbidden any more "house organs" in the government. He thought this ruling might still be in effect.

c. [REDACTED] also said that it would be difficult, though not impossible, to write the Journal in such a way as to make O/PC employees feel that it applied to them.

d. One AD was worried for fear that the Journal might result in more work for his office.

e. It was suggested on one occasion that the Journal, rather than making employees happier in their work, might so glorify the green in somebody else's pasture as to foster discontent where it had not previously existed.

f. Suggestions were made regarding some sort of inter-office

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committee to handle matters of security and of individual office contributions. After conversation with [REDACTED] however, I was convinced that it would be better merely to have a contact man designated in each office through whom the editor could work.

g. Two additional columns were suggested: book reviews of publications relating to intelligence, and a selection of newspaper clippings bearing on CIA and intelligence work.



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