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18 December 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, IRAG

SUBJECT : OSR Review of the CIRL

1. The Office of Strategic Research agrees in general with the program to improve the CIRL which was proposed in your 25 November 1968 memorandum. The guidelines are necessary steps toward better management of collection guidance. We have no specific comments to offer on the draft guidelines except to suggest that the thoughts in paragraph 10 be moved closer to the beginning of the memorandum to avoid ending the instruction on a negative note.

2. As discussed at the last IRAG meeting, OSR can identify very little reporting specifically associated with the CIRL and derives only marginal benefit from it as such. For human source reporting on military matters, the Defense Attache System and other DoD assets are most responsive to our needs. DCS and [REDACTED] are the other regular sources and they could probably handle our requirements more efficiently if we sharpened them to the particular assets involved. We are now in the process of reviewing this question and expect to work more closely with both [REDACTED] and DCS in the future.

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3. As you know, OSR devotes a considerable amount of analytical effort to collection and exploitation guidance, especially as it involves technical sensors and DoD resources. Time spent in reviewing and updating the CIRL, while not an onerous burden, does not offer comparable returns. On the basis of this review OSR plans, therefore, to discontinue its contribution to the CIRL.

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[REDACTED]

Deputy Director
Strategic Research

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