

19 June 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Deputy Director (Intelligence)

**SUBJECT:** NIS Committee

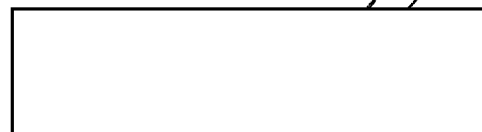
**REFERENCE:** My memorandum, same subject,  
dated 21 February 1962

1. Attachment to USIB-D-27. 1/18 of 28 May 1962 recommends (paragraph 8. f. ) that the National Intelligence Survey (NIS) Committee be disestablished and its functions reassigned to CIA.

2. The views expressed in referenced memorandum (copy attached) are still pertinent to the question of whether the NIS Committee is to remain an official USIB committee or to become an unofficial instrument of the DCI.

3. It is particularly important that the NIS Committee should continue its well-established role at a time of major changes in the NIS Program and new relationships in connection with DIA's assumption of NIS production responsibilities from the Services. Present Service representatives on the Committee would provide needed continuity during the extended transitional period we are just entering.

4. In my judgment it would be reasonable and prudent to continue the NIS Committee under its present terms of reference until these major changes have been accomplished and the new interagency relationships firmly established.



Assistant Director  
Basic Intelligence

Enclosure:  
Ref. memo

STAT

21 February 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Deputy Director (Intelligence)

**SUBJECT:** NIS Committee

**REFERENCE:** Draft Report from Assistant for Coordination  
to Chairman, USIB, dated 13 February 1962

I submit the following comments on the reference memorandum for your consideration.

1. The NIS Program was begun in 1948 pursuant to NSCID No. 3. Authority for establishment of the NIS Committee derives from the NSC - approved Standard Instructions which were developed to implement the directive. Although the NIS Program is indeed well-established, its scope and magnitude require the constant direction which the NIS Committee provides.

2. The hallmark of the NIS Program has been the high degree of interagency collaboration toward a mutually beneficial end -- the production of basic national intelligence which, by definition, transcends the exclusive competence of a single department and is the responsibility of the USIB. Moreover, the NIS Committee clearly meets the criteria set forth in paragraph 7. c. of the reference.

"USIB needs, on a permanent basis, only those committees that are clearly required to support functions specified for USIB in NSCID 1 or to coordinate certain important functional programs (other than services of common concern) which are carried out by several agencies to meet their own and community needs. "

3. Similarly, the reference memorandum states that "two major fields of intelligence production for which responsibility is necessarily assigned to a number of agencies and therefore require community coordination are scientific and economic." The NIS also falls into this category and is considerably broader in concept than the examples cited. The reason given for retaining the EIC -- "because

its work involves the coordination of important functional programs necessarily conducted by most USIB agencies as well as by some 9 non-USIB agencies" -- is valid and a compelling reason for retaining the NIS Committee.

4. Because the NIS involves the active production of many agencies, both USIB and non-USIB, some mechanism to coordinate the efforts of the contributors is mandatory. The NIS Committee has been functioning effectively for over 14 years and I see no valid reason for changing its terms of reference. As an instrument of the USIB, it does strengthen the "concept of coordinated support for the Director of Central Intelligence and for the USIB that is workable, efficient, and compatible with the new top structure."

[Redacted Signature]

Assistant Director  
Basic Intelligence

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