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DIRECTOR OF
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

19 December 1950

SUBJECT : Functions of the Office of Research and Reports

Participating - William H. Jackson; Dr. Babbitt; Mr. James Q. Reber;
Mr. Park Armstrong; Mr. Allen Evans, L.B. Kirkpatrick.

1. Mr. Armstrong stated that he believed that O/RR should undertake commodity studies. These commodity studies were to be basic descriptive work in considerable detail in the commodity and general service field, including fuel, mineral, agricultural, transportation, telecommunications, etc. It would be understood that such studies would deal up to finished products but would not include manufacturing. Mr. Armstrong stated that such studies were needed by all agencies and that the Department of State was unable to prepare them. Mr. Jackson said that he considers this a matter for informal discussion with the IAC as to whether CIA should assume the function and whether there were any other agencies doing it at the present time.

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✓ 2. Mr. Armstrong stated he would like to see an intensification of the work of the [redacted] The Department of State is particularly anxious to see more analysis of frequency of broadcasts, direction, intensity, etc. Continued analysis, he believed, was up to the individual agencies. It was agreed that CIA would investigate the possibility of increasing this work by [redacted]

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3. Mr. Armstrong indicated that his department would like to see an organization [redacted] Mr. Jackson indicated that a survey would be made by the Office of Intelligence Coordination on this subject.

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4. Mr. Armstrong said that his department would like a detailed analysis of Soviet requirements. Such an analysis would be based on orders which the USSR was placing for equipment in the West, a study of East-West trade, etc. Mr. Jackson said that he believed this fitted into the O/RR mission.

5. Mr. Armstrong stated that he would like to see economic interpretation of photographic material such as was done by the Air Force during the war. Mr. Jackson suggested that the Office of Intelligence Coordination should study this.

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6. Mr. Armstrong said that State Department for a long time had felt that there was a serious gap in coverage of foreign national groups within the United States, their press and their radio. [redacted]

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7. Discussion of the personnel and fiscal needs of the Department of State is contained in the attached* memorandum.

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Attachment to Mr. Jackson and [redacted] only

LYMAN B. KIRKPATRICK

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