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THE INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Intelligence Research and Development Council (IR&DC) was established in December 1973 as a permanent subcommittee of the Intelligence Resources Advisory Committee (IRAC). It is chaired by the Director, Defense Research and Engineering. Council membership consists of: the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Intelligence; Deputy Director for R&D, National Security Agency; the Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, the Director, Advanced Research Projects Agency; the Under Secretaries of the Navy and Air Force; the Assistant Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force for R&D; the Associate Deputy Director for Science and Technology, Central Intelligence Agency; and the Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Establishment of the IR&D Council was driven by several factors. First of all, there was a perceived need to insure that intelligence research and development resources were properly attuned to meet the challenges of the 1980s in the face of severe fiscal constraints, the era of detente, and the emerging role of third world nations. Secondly, it was observed that compartmentation prevented exchange of technology among intelligence community organizations and restricted the use of technology already available in the research and development arena external to the intelligence community. Thirdly, there was no effective mechanism within the intelligence community to assess when duplicative or parallel technology efforts were not warranted. Finally, there was no single focal point within the intelligence community to serve R&D planners in development of objectives.

The Council meets monthly in the Pentagon for a four-hour session. During the past year, the Council has reviewed all R&D programs of member organizations. In July 1974 the Council issued a report citing the perceived top five R&D objectives, described main problem areas, and listed those technology areas where it recommended that increased emphasis could lead to high pay-off in satisfaction of intelligence objectives.

An inventory of intelligence R&D across all Governmental organizations (less the FBI and Treasury) was conducted. The results of this

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inventory are reported in "Intelligence Research and Development -- 1974-1980". Published in three volumes, it contains departmental R&D organizations, R&D funding profiles, R&D project/program descriptions, and arrays this information at all classification levels by intelligence functional categories such as collection, production, analysis, ELINT, laser, etc., to cite a few. It is updated twice yearly and is made available to the members and their R&D planning staffs.

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Future plans call for the Council to continue to address key problems as they surface and formulate recommendations, perform trends analyses and technological forecasting studies from the inventory base now established,

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and guide the several subcommittees presently in being. It is planned to elevate the present Council Secretariat to Executive Director, IR&D Council, to insure full integration of Council activities and implementation of Council recommendations into intelligence community planning.

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