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8 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record

SUBJECT : Extended TDY

1. At the 17 August 1970 meeting of the TPC, the Committee decided to obtain the views of the Directorates, represented by the members, before deciding on any policy changes concerning reduced per diem for extended periods of temporary duty of 60 days or more. Specifically, there was some feeling among the Committee members that the basic problem in extended TDY is the need for better monitoring of prolonged periods by administrative officers rather than attempting to control extended TDY through reductions in the amount allowable to employees who are directed to perform such official duties.

2. I checked with the SSA-DDS for his general reaction and experience in administering cases of extended TDY. He had received relatively few cases during the last year requesting exceptions to the elimination of per diem after 180 days TDY, and these had been well documented. He also indicated that in many cases full per diem is not needed after a period of 60 days service and the full amount should be scaled down to a more appropriate level, except in individual situations when the evidence supports an exception. Thus, from his own experience he felt that the present policy was appropriate, but recommended I also check with the Office of Security and the Office of Communications--the principle offices having occasion to require extended TDY within the Support Services.

3. The DC/CC administration responded in a similar way to the views expressed by the SSA-DDS. The Office of Communications normally does not send employees in excess of 30 to 60 days TDY. It is Commo's view that in most instances employees should be able to find semi-permanent quarters and receive a reduced per diem when a longer period of temporary duty is required. In cases when extended duties of 60 days or more is expected, the Office of Communications advises the employee concerned to seek a monthly rate, which is sometimes possible and sometimes not. OC is lenient when exceptions are necessary; as a consequence, the present policy presents no real problem and employees are not being hurt by it.

CONFIDENTIAL

4. I also contacted the Chief of Support of the Office of Security. He informed me they only have a few cases in which the employees of that Office need to go out on extended duty; and, if necessary, an exception can be gained to the regulatory requirements.

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Chief, Plans Staff