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12 November 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Policy Coordination.

1. Reference is made to the unsigned Memorandum (herewith) submitted by you under date of 15 October 1948 and pertaining to a proposed method for handling significant political refugees.

2. The following factors in connection with aliens of interest to this Agency are pertinent to the subject problem:

(a) The aliens of interest to the Office of Operations are those who are of interest from the standpoint of potential foreign intelligence obtainable through interrogation. In this respect, the Office of Operations performs a service to all interested government departments and agencies. Upon completion of the necessary interrogation, the interests of the Office of Operations are completed, although another agency or another office of CIA may have a continuing interest.

(b) The aliens of interest to the Office of Special Operations, subsequent to their arrival in the United States, are individuals involved in the completion of a real or implied contract in connection with services completed or who are being considered for further activity in a foreign area. In the first instance, there may be a requirement for further interrogation by the Office of Operations. During such further interrogation, the individual must be placed under the control of the Office of Operations. However, upon completion of the interrogation process, the individual must again become the responsibility of the Office of Special Operations. The case may occasionally arise where the individual in question, subsequent to interrogation, may be of continuing interest to another agency or another office of CIA. When such is the case, there should be complete release of the individual by the Office of Special Operations and their responsibility ceases.

(c) The direct interest of the Office of Policy Coordination toward an alien, once that interest has been established, has only an indirect bearing on the interests of either the Office of Operations or the Office of Special Operations. Experience has proven that alien individuals or groups will habitually advertise their intelligence potential for the exploitation of their political and personal ends. They then establish a security hazard which inevitably requires a division of their interests (political warfare vs intelligence collection) unless these interests are completely controlled by the same head.

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3. In view of the factors indicated in paragraph 2, above, it appears necessary that responsibility for the handling of significant aliens in this country be placed entirely in the hands of the office having the current interest in the alien. The over-all interests of this Agency must be protected by close cooperation and coordination between the various offices concerned.



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