

TERMS OF REFERENCE
OF
THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE
WORKING GROUP

1. Establishment of a National Security Council Intelligence Committee (NSCIC) was directed by the President in his memorandum of 5 November 1971, "Organization and Management of the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Community," which was reflected in the revised National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 1, "Basic Duties and Responsibilities," effective 17 February 1972. NSCID No. 1 provides (paragraph 2) that the NSCIC is to "give direction and guidance on national substantive intelligence needs and provide for a continuing evaluation of intelligence products from the viewpoint of the intelligence consumer."

2. Authority

The NSCIC Working Group, chaired by a representative of the Director of Central Intelligence, has been formed pursuant to discussion at the initial NSCIC meeting of 3 December 1971.

3. Membership

a. Representation on the Working Group, in addition to the Chairman, will include at least one and a maximum of two representatives to be designated by each of the six principals on the NSCIC, who are:

Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Attorney General
Under Secretary of State
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Director of Central Intelligence

b. Each NSCIC principal may alter his representation as appropriate for the program and agenda of the Working Group.

c. Other intelligence users, intelligence program managers and representatives of particular intelligence production organizations may be invited to participate in Working Group meetings when matters within their particular interest or expertise are on the agenda.

4. Mission

The mission of the Working Group is to support the NSCIC and to facilitate NSCIC actions to give direction and guidance on national substantive needs and provide for a continuing evaluation of intelligence products from the viewpoint of the intelligence consumer.

5. Functions

The NSCIC Working Group will:

a. Present action recommendations to the NSCIC in furtherance of the mission assigned to the NSCIC in paragraph 2 of NSCID No. 1.

b. Conduct such studies, reviews and inquiries as may be directed by the NSCIC in execution of its mission.

c. Initiate such inter-agency studies, surveys, reviews and inquiries as the Working Group considers are pertinent as possible basis for the formulation of recommendations to the NSCIC. Such studies, reviews and inquiries normally will relate to:

(1) Improving the expression of consumer needs for intelligence; or

(2) Evaluating the responsiveness and quality of intelligence products; or

(3) Improving intelligence production procedures and methodologies.

d. Forward to the NSCIC Chairman (the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs) or to the NSCIC Deputy Chairman (the Director of Central Intelligence), as appropriate, with recommendations for appropriate action, completed studies and reviews accomplished under Working Group auspices which contain conclusions and proposals considered by the Working Group as calling for follow-on actions but not requiring consideration by the full NSCIC or the issuance of guidance by the NSCIC.

6. Methods of Operation

a. Meetings of the Working Group will be held on the call of the Chairman. The frequency of meetings will be dependent primarily upon such workload as may result from NSCIC deliberations and upon the need for review of studies or reports prepared under Working Group auspices. Any member desiring that a meeting be convened should submit his request to the Chairman.

b. Action projects for Working Group sponsorship can be proposed by any member of the Group.

c. Working Group decisions will be reached by consensus, but the Chairman, in forwarding the results of Working Group action to the NSCIC, will advise the NSCIC of the dissent of any Working Group member who requests it.

d. Responsibility for the conduct of studies and preparation of reports undertaken under Working Group sponsorship will be assigned by the Chairman, as agreed among the members.

e. In the preparation of studies and reports, the Working Group may establish interagency task groups or assign drafting responsibility to a single organization as determined on the basis of individual problems.

f. All studies and reports prepared under auspices of the Working Group will be submitted to the Working Group for its consideration prior to being given any dissemination by the task group or other persons charged with the preparation of the documents.

7. Staff Support

The Working Group Chairman's staff will provide the Executive Secretary and other support as required by the Working Group.