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16 June 1976
NIO #939-76

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/DCI/NI

SUBJECT : Defense Intelligence Officers

25X1 REFERENCE : [] Memorandum of 10 June 1976,
Same Subject

25X1 1. Reference memorandum expressed your interest
25X1 in the Defense Intelligence Officer as seen from here.
25X1 I can only address the questions posed in relationship
25X1 to the Defense Intelligence Officer for Conventional
Forces and MBFR, [] (BG, USA,
Retired). In this discussion it should be borne in
mind that I had the advantage of having gone to the
War College with [] which immediately made
a close rapport possible.

25X1 a. [] has provided excellent support
to me on all matters of national interest. We have
maintained close and frequent contact and sharing of
views both by telephone and in my office. Whenever I
chair (or referee) any ad hoc group to discuss items of
concern to conventional forces, I expect him to be at my
side (as I do the senior OSR man) and he is.

b. I have no information on the support he or his
colleagues provide to the Director of DIA.

c. The ability of the DIO to "ensure effective
and coordinated Defense inputs to national intelligence"
appears effective from here based on the indirect evidence
of witnessing fewer differences of opinion among segments
of DIA, than were evident to me prior to the creation of
the DIOs. I also have the feeling in this regard, although

SECRET

SECRET

-2-

I cannot support it by evidence, that the DIOs do not have as much effective clout as do the NIOs. I believe this stems from a more limited ability to bang heads together within segments of the DIA bureaucracy. I may be wrong on this, but it is certainly a feeling I have absorbed through osmosis.

25X1 d. [redacted] has been very useful in "identifying and evaluating the needs of intelligence users for Defense intelligence production." He has been able to maintain more frequent contact with some segments of OSD consumers than have I. He freely apprises me of this set of consumer's reactions.

2. One thing pertinent, although not queried, and on which I know very little, is whether the DIOs have authority to bring the Services as well as segments of DIA together to reach agreements. I do know that the Military Intelligence Board (chaired by Director DIA and including the Services) has been invigorated and utilized at least on substantive matters over the past several years. As such, it has reduced much of the extraneous quibbling that I had previously seen at the old USIB table. I do not know what utility the DIO provides in this respect.

[redacted]

Rear Admiral, USN
NIO/CF

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