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4 April 1988

NOTE FOR: DDR&E Task Force

FROM:

C/IPC Staff

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SUBJECT: IPC Staff Requirement Process Plans

1. The attached plan is provided at the request of the DDR&E for your information and use as appropriate. The plan consist of the following:

- Present Requirements and Priorities System.
- Current Flaws
- Remedial Steps Underway
- Recommendations
- Advantages

2. The IPC Staff plan is no panacea. We will be building requirements systems until the end of time. What it does do, however, is build upon the existing structure and takes advantage of refinements and adjustments we have been making to the present process over the years, and especially during the past year.

3. I strongly endorse the DDR&E strategic plan and agree that changes to the requirement process have to be implemented in order to eliminate misperception within the policymaking and intelligence communities. What is at odds is the extent of change.

4. I continue to believe that an evolutionary process in developing a community requirements system is the more viable way to go. Moreover, as you well know, elections are not far away and the community will be dealing with a new transition team and administration. Therefore, we should consider the wisdom of launching a new requirements process that we will not understand and can not explain to the new administration. Furthermore, I sincerely doubt that we can develop and implement this system in the months prior to election.

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5. I recommend that we continue building and improving upon what we already have, and document for the DDCI those action that have been completed and are underway as evidence that we are moving toward an orderly restructuring of the Intelligence Community requirements process.



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cc: John McLaughlin

Attachment:

Distribution: ALL WITH ATTACHMENT

- Original - [redacted] DDR&E
- 1 - [redacted] C/REO
- 2 - [redacted] C/COMIREX
- 3 - [redacted] C/SIGNIT
- 4 - [redacted] C/HUMINT
- 5 - John McLaughlin, [redacted]
- 6 - [redacted] C/MASINT
- 7 - IPCS Subject File
- 8 - IPCS Chrono File

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4-4-88

IPC PROPOSAL FOR A NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS SYSTEM (NFIRS)

I. Present Status of National Requirements Elements

**The Intelligence Community has three systems:

- National Intelligence Topics of Current Interest (NITs)
- Foreign Intelligence Requirements, Categories and Priorities (FIRCAP)
- Compendium of Future Intelligence Requirements (COFIR)

**Each of the the three national systems has grown up separately and serves a different but related purpose.

- NITs (managed by the Intelligence Producers Council--IPC) represent an authoritative statement of policymakers' needs for current fiscal year. No priorities are assigned.

Serve as guidance for Intelligence Community production planning and as basis for measuring production output.

Annual gaps survey of analysts based on NITs.

Influence requirements and priorities contained in FIRCAP and COFIR.

SIG(I) approves NITs each year.

- FIRCAP (managed by the Foreign Intelligence Priorities Committee) is a dynamic statement of intelligence needs and priorities out to five years into the future.

Modified and updated to keep in sync with NITs and NIT gaps.

Provides prioritization for NIT subtopics and serves as a basis for organizing and arranging COFIR.

Can reflect emerging policy concerns on an ad hoc basis.

- COFIR (managed by IPC) focuses on future requirements--10 to 15 years ahead; designed to assist in collection strategies, systems planning, and resource allocations.

Draws upon FIRCAP, NITs and NIT gaps as appropriate.

Identifies the contribution each "-INT" can play in filling future requirements.

COFIR's National Security Questions are approved by NFIB.

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied