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13 August 1946

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

COORDINATION OF INTELLIGENCE
ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FOREIGN ATOMIC ENERGY
DEVELOPMENTS AND POTENTIALITIES

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence
With the Unanimous Concurrence of the Intelligence Advisory Board

Foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities constitute a paramount field of intelligence related to the national security. As such, the National Intelligence Authority is responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating Federal foreign intelligence activities in this field.

To date, the Foreign Intelligence Branch of the office of Major General Leslie R. Groves, the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District, has been the agency performing functions of collecting and evaluating intelligence related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities. This Branch has operated under the personal direction of General Groves, who is in turn responsible, by Presidential directive, to the Secretary of War.

The newly created Atomic Energy Commission will be concerned with the entire field of atomic energy in the United States, including commercial as well as military aspects. The Commission will, upon Presidential directive, take over the responsibilities of the Manhattan Engineer District. It is considered appropriate at this time that the National Intelligence Authority should authorize and direct the Director of Central Intelligence to coordinate the collection by agencies subject to N.I.A. coordination of all intelligence information related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities affecting the national security, and to accomplish the

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correlation, evaluation and appropriate dissemination within the Government of the resulting intelligence. To accomplish this function, the personnel and working files of the Foreign Intelligence Branch operated by General Groves should be transferred to the Central Intelligence Group.

The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive is designed to carry out the conclusions contained in the above paragraph. This Directive has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which in this case included the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District.

It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in the Enclosure.

HOYT S. VANDENBERG
Lieutenant General, USA
Director of Central Intelligence

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E N C L O S U R E

D R A F T

PROPOSED N.I.A. DIRECTIVE

COORDINATION OF INTELLIGENCE
ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FOREIGN ATOMIC ENERGY
DEVELOPMENTS AND POTENTIALITIES

Pursuant to the President's letter of 22 January 1946, designating this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating all Federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to Federal intelligence activities in the field of foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities affecting the national security are announced:

1. The Director of Central Intelligence, subject to the direction and control of this Authority, is hereby authorized and directed to coordinate the collection by agencies subject to N.I.A. coordination of all intelligence information related to foreign atomic energy developments and potentialities affecting the national security, and to accomplish the correlation, evaluation, and appropriate dissemination within the Government of the resulting intelligence. The Director of Central Intelligence is further authorized to arrange with other intelligence agencies of the Government to utilize their collection facilities in this field.

2. To accomplish the function assigned in paragraph 1, the Secretary of War and the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District have authorized the transfer to the Central Intelligence Group of the personnel and working files of the Foreign Intelligence Branch operated by the Commanding General of the Manhattan Engineer District, effective at the earliest practicable date.

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