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DD/S 70-4480

16 NOV 1970

3795-70


MEMORANDUM FOR: Carl E. Duckett
R&D Coordinator

SUBJECT : R&D Program Planning Guidance

REFERENCE : DD/S&T 3654-70 dtd 30 October 1970

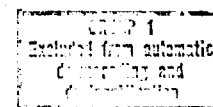
1. The attachment to the reference discusses weather modification as an area of potential intelligence interest. The Support Directorate has no direct concern with weather modification as an intelligence problem.

2. We appreciate the opportunity to be kept informed on the progress of various technical studies being undertaken in the Agency. I believe that the R&D Board should first review such studies in detail, and then develop a plan for the implementation of a program if appropriate. Such plans might then be briefly reported to the appropriate Deputies for comment and/or approval. It seems to me that we would have more effective staffing and a better, quicker result if greater use were made of the R&D Board in studies like the one on weather.


(John W. Coffey)
Acting Deputy Director
for Support

(b)(6)

cc: DD/I
DD/P
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DDI-2718-70

19 November 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Economic Research

FROM : Chief, USSR Branch

SUBJECT : OER Interest in a Weather Modification
Detection Program

REFERENCE : DD/S&T 3654-70, 30 October 1970

1. The relevant question for OER on this subject would appear to be: What economic intelligence value would there be in a weather modification detection program? At the present state of development of weather modification, the answer must be that our interest is slight.

2. The economic activity potentially most affected by weather modification is agriculture. In the USSR, for example, agricultural production is greatly affected by the vagaries of weather. In OER's function of assessing the crop producing capability of foreign countries, any development which can significantly affect this capability would, of course, be of concern to the Office. Precipitation augmentation would appear to be the only area of weather modification which could conceivably have a significant impact on the level of crop production. Judging from the apparent lack of Soviet effort in this area, OER's interest at this time can be served by continuing to monitor unclassified sources.

DOUGLAS B. DIAMOND
Chief, USSR Branch

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20 NOV 1970

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DDI-2781-70


20 November 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Executive Staff, O/DDI SUBJECT: Comments on Intelligence Concerns
Arising from Weather ModificationREFERENCE: Memo from R&D Coordinator to Deputy
Directors, dated 30 October 1970, Subject:
R&D Program Planning Guidance

1. So far as the Office of Basic and Geographic Intelligence is concerned, weather modification is already of some intelligence interest. Successful Soviet development in the field could importantly benefit the Soviet economy, -- ditto Communist China and its economy. Weather modification efforts are difficult to localize, and activity by any nation carries with it significant risks of scientific controversy and political conflict.

2. At present, we would not feel that a preparatory R&D effort is in order. Our essential information data needs are adequately met by available collection and analysis. We would view the matter differently, however, should advances in the state of the weather modification art indicate an imminence of practical military application. In such event, intelligence needs would undoubtedly necessitate a preparatory R&D effort.

3.  study is useful in its own right, and certainly facilitates an evaluation of R&D interest.

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Deputy Director
Basic and Geographic Intelligence(b)(3)
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