

~~SECRET~~

USCIB: 9.4/8

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22 June 1955

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~~SECRET~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Implementation of NSCID No. 17.

1. Pursuant to USCIB decision, USCIBEC has undertaken consideration of the subject problem and submits the following initial report:

a. USCIBEC held a special meeting on 16 June 1955, to consider the proposed ELINT directive prepared and submitted by the CIA member, and the comments of the Executive Secretary, USCIB thereon (USCIB 9.4/5).

b. Preliminary discussion indicated rather general disagreement with both of the proposals referred to in a., above, whereupon the meeting was thrown open to general discussion of the problem in an effort to determine an area of common agreement. After thorough consideration of the problem all members except the CIA representative agreed to the following:

(1) The provisions of NSCID No. 17 do not require a reorganization of the existing structure of USCIB and its complex of committees.

(2) It is premature to recommend a precise mechanism to handle ELINT pending the issuance of implementing directives.

(3) USCIBEC should continue its study of the problem with a view to forwarding further recommendations to USCIB at the earliest practicable date.

c. The CIA member's objection to the majority view was based on the following views:

(1) ELINT and COMINT, although different, are of comparable importance to the intelligence effort and neither should be subordinated to the other.

(2) Any committee in the ELINT field should be at such a high echelon as to attract the top ELINT specialists.

(3) Channelling the work of such ELINT specialists through the present Executive Committee, which is made up of COMINT specialists, would not serve any constructive purpose and would merely inject delay.

2. In view of the foregoing this matter is being placed on the USCIB agenda for consideration at the 117th meeting, to be held on 8 July 1955.

*H. D. Jones*  
H. D. JONES

Acting Executive Secretary, USCIB

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