

~~TOP SECRET - U. S. EYES ONLY~~FINAL  
~~TENTATIVE~~SUBJECT NUMBERUSCIB: 9.3/35      Item 2 of the Agenda for the Twenty-sixth Meeting  
of USCIBEC, held on 25 February 1955.

Subject:            USCIB Master Requirements List.

The CHAIRMAN (Captain Taylor) introduced this item by referring to the Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Master Requirements List circulated as an enclosure with USCIB 9.3/26 of 18 February 1955. He said that, in his opinion, the report presents an excellent comprehensive basis for solution of a complex problem. He recommended that the report be considered in two major parts: The memorandum for the Chairman, USCIB, and Tab A as part 1 and Tabs B and C as part 2. On the subject of Tab B, he suggested that the Committee, when addressing itself to it, keep in mind that the mechanism described therein is one which is open to further adjustment. The CHAIRMAN concluded by stressing the importance of agreeing on a method of attack and urged approval of the viewpoint contained in part 1.

[redacted] said he would like to make it very clear that Tab C is only the first preliminary draft and is not presented with any idea of acceptance as is.

After acknowledgment [redacted] the CHAIRMAN expressed the members' gratitude to the Ad Hoc Committee for their work on the report under discussion and invited its senior member to comment.

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CAPTAIN HOLTWICK explained the philosophy of the report and concluded with three suggestions: two, he said, are of an editorial nature and one is a proposed revision of Tab B. He passed copies of the proposed revision to the members and invited comment.

The CHAIRMAN, turning to the general philosophy of solution as expressed in part 1, suggested that the members be canvassed to ascertain their general feelings with regard to this portion of the report before discussing part 2.

MR. PATTON said that he was not in a position to accept completely any specific part of the proposed solution until he could see the finished product. He added that he would like the paper going to USCIB to indicate that USCIBEC had agreed on a method of solution rather than on any particular part of the report.

All of the other members, except the Department of State Member, indicated general concurrence with the philosophy contained in part 1.

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MR. POLYZOIDES said that the report includes a great many good points and that the Department of State has carefully considered it the way the Chairman has asked that it be considered. It consists, he noted, of three parts or phases: (1) preparation of a COMINT requirements list; (2) preparation of an implementation plan and periodic reports on its application; and (3) procedures for levying supplemental COMINT requirements and making adjustments thereto. He stated that the steps proposed for phase 1 appeared to be time consuming and wasteful. They would take months to complete and do not appear to add much to the present picture. He saw little difference between the proposed list and the current Master Requirements List except that the proposed list would be more complicated and even less relevant to actual allocation of COMINT resources, e.g.: it would probably contain some 143 generalized statements of national intelligence requirements grouped under 38 objectives as compared with 67 requirements under 11 objectives in the MRL. Referring to the second phase, he said that he is in agreement. He also expressed general concurrence with the supplemental guidance portion of the report. He concluded by explaining that the Department of State has given this matter thorough consideration and feels strongly that any solution to the problem must lead as directly as possible to development of NSA's implementation plan and actual allocation of resources.

The CHAIRMAN, commenting on part 1 of the Ad Hoc Committee Report, expressed his opinion that it is a new and rather good approach. He said that it proposes a list of National Intelligence Requirements further segregated on the basis of requirements which are suitable for NSA to attempt to attack. It appears to be a much broader approach, he commented, than the old one or the one just recommended. He then asked the Department of State Member if the approach contained in the Ad Hoc Committee Report is totally unacceptable from his viewpoint.

MR. POLYZOIDES replied that he could not endorse or participate in those proposals of the report which dealt with preparation of the GRL, but that he did not desire to block a majority of the Committee from proceeding with this preparation. He continued by saying that he would abstain from voting on those proposals, but would be prepared to submit an example of how the Department feels that basic guidance for diplomatic communications can be presented more usefully. This would enable, he concluded, continuation of work on the proposal at hand and provide also for consideration of the separate views of the Department of State.

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The CHAIRMAN said that the suggestion is fair and constructive and could well assist in coming up with the final answer.

The Committee proceeded to review paragraph by paragraph the memorandum for the Chairman, USCIB, and Tab A (enclosures with USCIB 9.3/26) together with the proposed changes presented by the NSA Member. During this review, USCIBEC considered: (1) Whether or not the list of USCIB National Intelligence Objectives and National Intelligence Requirements should be submitted to the IAC for their approval. (2) Whether to accept part of the report and forward it to USCIB or forward the complete package. (3) Contents and modifications of Tab C. (4) A proposal that the National Intelligence Objectives as set forth in DCID 4/4 of 14 December 1954 be substituted for Tab C and forwarded to NSA as basic guidance upon which to base an implementing plan. (5) Whether to decide now on the manner of supplemental guidance to be furnished NSA or await results of application of the basic guidance given NSA.

The members ultimately agreed to the following amendments to part 1 of the Ad Hoc Committee Report:

a. Memorandum for the Chairman, USCIB:

- (1) Delete all of subparagraph (3) of paragraph 6.
- (2) Substitute the following for the 2nd and 3rd sentences of paragraph 7: "It would likewise be improper to require, except under emergency conditions, that the Director, NSA, divert any of the resources which he is employing to maintain technical continuity. This Committee has therefore provided, in Tab A, for such changes in USCIB's basic guidance. TAB B describes two alternatives for a mechanism to provide the Supplemental Guidance mentioned in paragraph 3 above. USCIBEC is still considering the several proposals in TAB B and includes it in this report only to illustrate the nature of the problem and the solutions of it that are under consideration."
- (3) Change the last sentence of paragraph 8 to read: "After study of this report, USCIB should advise the National Executive Agent as to the extent of the estimated additional resources it considers should be made available for COMINT production in the coming year."

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b. TAB A --

- (1) Change the last sentence of paragraph 3b to read:  
"The CIA Member of USCIBEC is preparing a document from which it is hoped such a translation can be made."
- (2) Change "Recommendation" under paragraph 3b to read:  
"USCIB note that USCIBEC is preparing a draft of a National Intelligence Requirements List to be attached as TAB C to this report. This draft, when completed, will be forwarded to USCIB for approval as a base from which a COMINT Requirements List will be derived. Concurrently, it would be anticipated that USCIB would seek IAC approval of the USCIB approved draft National Intelligence Requirements List, when completed, but not of the COMINT Requirements List based thereon."
- (3) Change "Recommendation" under paragraph 3e to read:  
"USCIB designate USCIBEC to carry out this operation."
- (4) Change "Recommendation" under paragraph 3f to read:  
"USCIB review, and approve the completed COMINT Requirements List."

DECISION: (25 February 1955) USCIBEC (the Department of State Member abstaining as regards those proposals which dealt with the preparation of a COMINT Requirements List) agreed to approve, as modified during this discussion and edited by the Chairman, the memorandum for the Chairman, USCIB, and Tab A (enclosures with USCIB 9.3/26 of 18 February 1955)."

USCIBEC further agreed that the CIA Member would continue work on Tab C (enclosure with USCIB 9.3/26) and circulate it for comment within two weeks with the understanding that the list, after review by USCIBEC, will be sent to USCIB for approval together with the recommendation that, as approved by USCIB, the list be forwarded to the IAC for approval as representing Priority National Intelligence Requirements. It was further recognized that approval of the list by the IAC may be a time consuming process. USCIBEC accordingly agreed to recommend that USCIB use the list (as approved by itself) as a basis for indicating which requirements USCIB believes should be assigned as COMINT tasks, thus avoiding a long wait in implementing the plan set forth in Tab A.

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USCIBEC did not reach unanimous agreement as to the contents of Tab B (enclosure with USCIB 9.3/26). The majority of the Committee agreed with the following changes to Tab B proposed by the NSA Member:

"Paragraph 1: No change.

"Paragraph 2: Delete all after subparagraph d.

"Paragraph 3: Delete entire paragraph and substitute the following:

"3. The Committee is of the opinion that it would be impracticable to set forth details of the mechanics or the mechanisms by which supplemental guidance is provided until after the procedures for providing suitable basic guidance have been implemented and been found to be satisfactory. It therefore recommends that the Director, NSA, submit the recommendations in this respect, as soon as possible, but not later than sixty days after he receives the initial basic guidance as provided in TAB A."

The Navy and Air Force Members did not accept the above quoted NSA proposal. They felt that the mechanism for providing supplemental guidance must be stipulated as part of the complete plan. The Department of Defense Member did not share either of the above two views on Tab B and will submit a third proposal.

Subsequent to the meeting the Chairman obtained approval from all of the members to forward to USCIB the report set forth in USCIB 9.3/30 of 4 March 1955 which includes the major elements of the above discussion and decision.

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