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By MMK NLDDE Date 12/24/13

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Briefing Note on Hull Board Recommendations

SUBJECT: Fifth Report to the President by the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities, dated December 11, 1959

1. At the direction of the President the subject report (attached) has been referred through General Goodpaster for further appropriate action by Mr. Gray.

2. This report of the Hull Board contains five Recommendations. Three of them are for referral for comment by the agency heads primarily involved, prior to action thereon by the President. One has already been carried out and therefore no Presidential action is required. The fifth recommendation is of such a nature that it can be referred for implementation at the direction of the President, without the necessity for obtaining advance comments by the affected agencies.

3. The background and text of the first three recommendations of the Board, which appear to be for referral for comment by the affected agencies prior to Presidential action on the recommendations, are as follows:

First Recommendation: The Board feels that a pending study of our strategic warning mechanism has been delayed too long and should be expedited and completed under the "vigorous personal direction" of the DCI -- so that our intelligence collection methods, sources and transmission channels can provide our policy makers with the earliest possible information constituting advance warning of enemy attack. Accordingly, the Board makes the following recommendation:

"It is recommended that you direct the Director of Central Intelligence to have the Intelligence Community complete the aforementioned survey at the earliest possible date; that, based on the survey, it prepare expeditiously specific indicator lists to supersede the general indicator list which is now in use; and that you issue whatever directives are necessary to insure that the facilities of the Intelligence Community's Watch Committee and its National Indications Center are organized, supported and operated in such manner as to (a) maximize the Intelligence Community's efforts to effect timely receipt, processing and evaluation of available information pertaining to strategic early warning, and (b) insure the timely transmission to higher authority of significant information bearing upon the early warning problem."

Second Recommendation: The Board notes that improvement has been made in intelligence collection on Soviet missile programs, with noteworthy success in developing data on such matters as the time and place of test launchings. However, the Board notes a lack of success in developing data on Soviet

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operational missiles and their deployment, an area considered to be of overriding importance to the national security -- and the Board attributes this to (1) the tendency of certain agencies in the Intelligence Community to place undue emphasis upon departmental, rather than national, intelligence requirements, and (2) the approach presently being taken in the establishment and implementation of national intelligence priorities. Accordingly, the Board recommends as follows:

"It is recommended that a realistic appraisal of our priority national intelligence objectives be undertaken on an urgent basis; and that the Intelligence Community's emphasis on collection objectives be re-directed to insure that primary emphasis and support are given by the entire Community to the fulfillment of our most critical national intelligence collection programs, as distinguished from fulfillment of departmental intelligence requirements of lesser importance to the national security."

Third Recommendation: The Board notes with approval the substantial progress made, pursuant to NSCID No. 6, in the fusion of COMINT and ELINT processing under the operational control of the Director of NSA. However, the Board feels that special care must be taken to insure that the many requirements which are levied on NSA are within its ability under established budgetary levels. Accordingly, the Board recommends:

"It is recommended that the Office of Special Operations, in reviewing for the Secretary of Defense the development and execution of NSA's plans and programs, make periodic assessments of, and issue appropriate guidance with respect to, the many requirements which are levied on the NSA by the several agencies concerned with COMINT-ELINT activities."



(NOTE: Attached hereto are three proposed memoranda from the Executive Secretary, NSC, requesting the submission of comments on each of the three recommendations, above, for consideration by the President prior to taking action on them. The DCI is an addressee of each of the requests for comments, not only because of his primary interest and responsibilities as DCI and Chairman of USIB, but also in recognition of the objective that the DCI exercise a more positive coordinating responsibility in directing the integration of the national intelligence effort.)

4. The Fourth Recommendation of the Board requires no action. It called for early action on the issuance of much-needed implementing directives essential to the conduct of U. S. espionage and counterintelligence activities abroad, pursuant to NSCID No. 5. The required DCID's have been issued subsequent to the submission of the recommendation.

5. The Fifth Recommendation of the Board is of such a nature that it does not require the obtaining of comments by the responsible agency head prior to its referral for action at the direction of the President. The Board feels that while many of its previous recommendations which the President has approved are being adequately carried out, some of them have not received the degree of

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timely attention which is warranted by reason of their content and by the Presidential directions for their implementation. Accordingly, the Board proposes as follows:

"It is recommended that you direct submission to you and to this Board of a report reflecting (a) the status of implementation of each recommendation, as approved by you, and (b) the status of actions which have been initiated with respect to any such recommendations which may not have been fully implemented thus far."

It is suggested that the President approve this recommendation and request that the proposed status report on the previous recommendations of the Board be submitted by the Director of Central Intelligence.

(NOTE: Attached hereto is a proposed memorandum^(*) from the Executive Secretary, NSC, to the DCI, referring for action the President's direction that the proposed status report be submitted with respect to the 23 previously-approved recommendations of the Board which are listed in the enclosure to the proposed memorandum to the DCI. Observation: While it is recognized that agency heads other than the DCI have primary responsibility for implementing the 23 previously-approved recommendations, it will be advantageous and appropriate to receive a single status report on all of the recommendations from the DCI because (1) the availability of a single, self-contained report covering all of the recommendations will facilitate consideration by the President and by the Board, and (2) the assignment of this reporting responsibility to the DCI is consistent with the objective, previously referred to, of the DCI achieving a positive coordinating role in the integration of the national intelligence effort.)

(*) copies would go, without enclosure, to Sec State, Sec Def, Chairman of JCS, Director of USIA, Director of ODCM, Director of NSA

Enclosures:

four proposed memoranda to the DCI.



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