MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF

SUBJECT: Comments upon C.I.O.-40.

In accordance with verbal instructions under date of 21 June, 1946, the following comments upon C.I.O.-40 are submitted:

1. The papers concerned are essential instruments to establish the Director of Central Intelligence and the Central Intelligence Group in their rightful place—in conformity with the President's letter of 22 January 1946—as the keystone of the arch supporting the national security, and are considered to be generally excellent for the purpose.

2. However, a questionable item is noted in paragraph 2 of the Proposed N.I.A. Directive (page 5). The following changes in the wording of that paragraph are suggested:

a. Present wording:

"2. In performing the functions specified in paragraph 3.a., of the President's letter, the Director of Central Intelligence is hereby authorized to undertake such basic research and analysis of intelligence and counter-intelligence information as may in his opinion be required to produce the necessary strategic and national policy intelligence. This will include the centralization of research and analysis activities of common intelligence interest to more than one agency when, in the opinion of the Director of Central Intelligence, such activities can be more efficiently performed centrally—

b. Suggested new wording:

"2. In performing the functions specified in paragraph 3.a., of the President's letter, the Director of Central Intelligence is hereby authorized to undertake such basic research and analysis of intelligence and counter-intelligence information as the Intelligence Advisory Board, acting for the National Intelligence Authority, may determine to be required to produce the necessary strategic and national policy intelligence. This will include the centralization of research and analysis activities of common intelligence interest to more than one agency when the Director of Central Intelligence, with the concurrence of the Intelligence Advisory Board, determines that such activities can be more efficiently performed centrally—"
Without a change substantially as suggested in 2.b. above, it is practically certain that State Department, and entirely possible that other Departments, will raise objections to the transfer of portions of their agencies on the basis only of the Director's opinion. Opinion is a personal matter and varies with individuals. Action based upon any individual's opinion, however sound, cannot set the permanent pattern which is sought in the papers under discussion.

3. In the "Discussion" of paragraph 2 (page 7) it is suggested that the last sentence is not a complete argument in its present form and changes therein are suggested as follows:

a. Present wording:
"In many of those fields the national security requires that basic research and analysis activities be centralised so as to serve the intelligence agencies subject to N.I.A. coordination."

b. Suggested new wording:
"In many of those fields economy and efficiency demand that basic research and analysis activities be centralised so as to eliminate the current duplications of effort and expense."

c. The considerations which support the desired centralisation are economy and efficiency—not the national security.

d. In the "Discussion" of paragraph 3 (pages 7 and 8) the following changes in the last two sentences are suggested:

a. Present wording:
"Such coordination and supervision is considered a necessary step in the effective execution of the national intelligence program. It is therefore recommended that the Director of Central Intelligence be specifically charged with this responsibility."

b. Suggested new wording:
"Such coordination and supervision is essential to the effective execution of the national intelligence program and can be accomplished most efficiently only when the coordinating and supervisory responsibility is centered in one appropriate person. The Director of Central Intelligence, under the authority implicit in the President's letter, is the obviously appropriate person to be charged with this responsibility."

5. In the "Discussion" of paragraph 4.a. (D-Page 8) it is suggested that the last sentence be changed as follows:

a. Present wording:
"This does not, of course, preclude the use of specialized departmental personnel under rigid central control."
b. Suggested new wording:

"This does not, of course, preclude the use of specialized departmental personnel in the performance of specific departmental missions under rigid central control."

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