INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held in Director's Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, on 1 November 1951

Director of Central Intelligence
General Walter Bedell Smith
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Jr., Special Assistant, Intelligence, Department of State
Brigadier General John Weckerling, acting for Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Rear Admiral Felix L. Johnson, Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy
Brigadier General John B. Ackerman, acting for Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, United States Air Force
Dr. Walter F. Colby, Director of Intelligence, Atomic Energy Commission
Colonel S. M. Lansing, acting for Deputy Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff
Mr. Victor P. Keay, acting for Assistant to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Sherman Kent, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. H. M. Chadwell, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Max Millikan, Central Intelligence Agency
Vice Admiral Bernhard H. Bieri, USN (Ret.), Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. R. J. Sontag, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. H. B. Ingersoll, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Paul Borel, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. K. W. McNab, Central Intelligence Agency
Brigadier General Washington Platt, USAR-Hon., Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Allen Dines, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. William C. Trueheart, Department of State
Mr. Mose L. Harvey, Department of State
Mr. Albert Irving, Department of State
Colonel O. B. Sykes, Department of the Army
Colonel M. B. De Pass, Department of the Army
Captain Ray Malpass, USN, Department of the Navy
Captain Kenneth C. Hurd, USN, Department of the Navy
Colonel Edward H. Porter, Department of the Air Force
Colonel J. C. Marchant, Department of the Air Force
Colonel James F. Pinkney, Department of the Air Force
Captain Charles M. Haberton, USN, The Joint Staff

*For part of meeting

James Q. Reber
Secretary
Intelligence Advisory Committee

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
26-Aug-2008
Approval of Minutes

1. Action: The minutes of the meeting of 18 October 1951 (IAC-M-49) were approved.

Probable British Policies under a Conservative Government. (SE-18)

2. Action: The IAC representatives were requested to try to reach more significant conclusions or else to omit them entirely. They were also requested to sharpen the discussion with respect to a possible proposal by Mr. Churchill for a Big-Three meeting and for more U. S. financial support. It was hoped that telephone conferences on the revised estimate would be possible.

The Strategic Importance of the Far East to the USSR. (NIE-43)

3. Action: The revised conclusions, dated 1 November, were approved with certain additional changes, and the IAC representatives were directed to modify the discussion section accordingly.

IAC List of Indicators of Soviet Intention to Initiate General War. (IAC-D-33/1)

4. Action: The list of indicators was tentatively approved and each agency was requested to study it, experiment with it and, if desirable, to determine how far along the Soviets are on each indicator with which that agency is concerned. Consideration should be given to the utility of negative and longer range indicators. In a month's time the results of these studies should be presented to the IAC with appropriate recommendations.

Release of Watch Committee Report to JIC Canada.

5. Action: No objection was raised to the release of this report to the Canadians on a basis similar to that on which it is presently made available to the British. It was suggested, however, that the Canadians should make a formal request through channels.

Proposed Report on Economic Capabilities for War of the USSR and Its Satellites. (IAC-D-37)

6. Action: It was agreed to initiate the requested studies and that they should be done through the Economic Intelligence
Committee. It was understood that the studies would be made de novo and that previous figures would be re-examined. It was also agreed that there should be close cooperation at all stages between the Economic Intelligence Committee and the Joint Staff with respect to military consumption requirements. If at a later stage an NIE is called for it can be done through the regular machinery.

Soviet Control of the European Satellites and Their Contribution to Soviet Power. (NIE-33)

7. Action: This estimate was approved with a few statistical and other minor changes.

Progress Report (IAC-PR-19)

8. Action: It was decided to extend to mid-1952 the period to be covered by NIE-29/3, "Probability of an Attack on Yugoslavia in 1951." It was agreed that the representatives would decide whether or not it would be desirable to combine this estimate with NIE-51 ("Possibility of a Change of Regime in Yugoslavia and Its Consequent Effects."

9. With respect to the series of estimates on the "Potential Insecurity of Foreign Areas of Strategic Importance to the U. S." it was decided that the Middle East should be raised to No. 2 priority following the Far East. While other commitments made it impossible to list these two estimates as "Urgent," it was the consensus of the meeting that they should be completed as speedily as practicable.

Requirement for a Coordinated Estimate of Soviet Air Defense Capabilities.

10. Action: It was decided to undertake such an estimate in a manner similar to other NIE's. Draft terms of reference will be circulated which deal with the problem from a strictly intelligence point of view rather than on a "war-gaming" basis. G-2 agreed to ask the FECOM Watch Committee for any information they might have which would be useful to the IAC in writing this estimate, and to transmit the draft terms of reference to them from the IAC requesting their comments in answer to the questions posed. It was also understood that this estimate would be coordinated with the British as it is prepared.
Proposed Revision of NIE-35: "Probable Developments in Indochina During the Remainder of 1951."

11. Action: It was agreed that the IAC representatives would discuss the need for a re-examination of this estimate.

Modification of NIE-32: "Effects of Operations in Korea on Communist China."

12. Admiral Johnson reported that contrary to earlier indications the volume of Western shipping to Communist China is not decreasing. The Navy will recommend the necessary revisions in NIE-32.