MEMORANDUM

TO: Plans and Requirements Staff

SUBJECT: Interdepartmental Liaison and Coordination

1. STATE DEPARTMENT

The Intelligence Coordination Division of the Department of State has established liaison channels enabling the Geographical Branches of ORE to request and obtain brief research papers and oral information on a priority basis and with a minimum of red tape. The procedure is for the Branch Chief in ORE or his deputy to (1) notify Mr. Hallaby, Acting Chief of the Intelligence Coordinating Division, that the request is being made, and (2) to make the request directly to the Division Chief. Requests for very brief papers (suitable for use as the basis for an item in the front part of the CIO Weekly Summary) can be filled within two days. Requests for longer papers (suitable for use as the basis for a special article in the Weekly Summary) can be filled within nine days. Oral consultation of the State Department regional research experts may be arranged on an informal basis.

The above channels were developed as the result of several weeks' informal cooperation between the Central Reports Staff and regional research Divisions of the State Department. These channels, now formally established, are believed to be entirely satisfactory from the ORE point of view.

It is suggested that an ORE officer for liaison with the State Department Intelligence Coordinating Division be appointed. The above channels are only with the State Department research divisions. It is recommended that similarly close liaison with the State Department operating desks be developed.

2. WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENTS

(a) Present arrangements: Liaison between this branch and the War and Navy Departments at the present time is limited to unofficial personal contacts. The disadvantages of such an arrangement arise from the lack of a secure and speedy means of communication, the absence of any official basis for assigning priorities to requests, and the lack of personal contact with some of the branches with which liaison is necessary. These difficulties are increased by the fact that in the majority of cases where liaison with the War and Navy Departments is desired, it is for the purpose of obtaining information urgently needed in order to meet the deadline for the daily summary. Often the information is needed within the hour.
Memorandum to

(b) Suggestions: It is felt that an ideal solution to the foregoing problem might be patterned after the existing liaison arrangement with the State Department.

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