Approved For Release 2003/01/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001100060008-8

3 MAR 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Secretary, National Security Council

SUBJECT : Fifth Report to the President by the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities, dated 11 December 1959. (Recommendation Regarding "Strategic Warning Mechanism")

1. Your memorandum of 26 January requested my views and comments on a specific recommendation contained in the subject report.

2. The first two parts of that recommendation directed the Director of Central Intelligence to have the Intelligence Community complete the aforementioned survey at the earliest possible date, and further directed that, based on the survey, it prepare expeditiously specific indicator lists to supersede the general indicator list which is now in use.

3. Work is now well along on the Warning Systems Survey, and a draft report is expected to be presented to the USIB on about 29 March. This report will include a proposed revision of the earlier General Indicator List. This draft revision is in effect a collection of specific functional indicator lists. It has been used largely as a basis for conducting an evaluation of collection capabilities. This evaluation of collection capabilities will show which indicators are realistic.

4. The concluding section of the Board's action recommended that the President "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) to insure the timely transmission

Approved For Release 2003/01/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001100060008-8

6

Approved For Release 2003/01/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001100060008-8

to higher authority of significant information bearing upon the early warning problem. I do not believe that any further special directives are necessary at this time. The [redacted] eporting system for speeding the delivery of critical information to Washington is showing improvement; the status of this system was reviewed in a memorandum to you, dated 5 December 1959, signed by the Secretary of Defense and myself, with the subject, [redacted] 25X1

25X1

5. In commenting on this recommendation of the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities I would stress that the Intelligence Community is constantly striving to improve our early warning capabilities. We are especially aware of the new and challenging problems in the early warning field created by new weapons developments of recent years.

SIGNED

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

25X1

Draft/OCI/[redacted] LBK
Retyped: IG/drm (26 February 1960)
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Secretary, National Security Council

SUBJECT : Fifth Report to the President by the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities, dated 11 December 1959. (Recommendation Regarding "Strategic Warning Mechanism")

1. Your memorandum of 26 January, ~~subject same as above~~, requested my views and comments on a specific recommendation contained in the subject report.

2. ~~With regard~~ To the first two parts of that recommendation ~~(that the President~~ "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~~, I am able to state that~~ Work is now well along on the Warning Systems Survey, and a draft report is expected to be presented to the USIB on about 29 March. This report will include a proposed revision of the earlier General Indicator List. ~~I am informed that~~ This draft revision, ~~which is~~ in effect a collection of specific functional indicator lists, has been used largely as ~~the~~ a basis for conducting ~~the~~ an evaluation of collection capabilities. ~~upon which the survey's conclusions will be based.~~

3. The ~~remainder of the subject recommendation is~~ concluding section of the Board's recommendation that the President "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) to insure the timely transmission to higher authority of significant information bearing upon the early warning problem." I do not ~~think~~ believe that any special directives are necessary

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25X1

at this time. The [redacted] reporting system for speeding the delivery of critical information to Washington is showing improvement; the status of this system was reviewed in a memorandum to you, dated 5 December 1959, signed by the Secretary of Defense and myself, with the subject,

25X1

[redacted]

4. The new weapons developments of recent years, particularly in the missile field, have raised new and challenging problems for the Intelligence Community in its early warning effort. As the Watch Committee and the National Indications Center--and in fact the Intelligence Community as a whole--~~adjust and~~ take steps to meet these challenges, their assumption is, and must be, that even further technological advances, with additional complications for the strategic warning effort, are inevitable. This general problem, then, that of constantly striving to improve our early warning capabilities, is a ~~continuous~~ one, and one which is under ~~continuous~~ study within the Intelligence Community.

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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Approved For Release 2003/01/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001100060008-8

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Cabell

The boss wanted you to see this before it was dispatched.

2 March 1960
(DATE)

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