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IAC-M-264
5 November 1956

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in
IAC Conference Room, Administration Building,
Central Intelligence Agency, at 2130, 5 November 1956

Director of Central Intelligence
Allen W. Dulles
Presiding*

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Lieutenant General Charles P. Cabell
Presiding*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Jr., Special Assistant for Intelligence, Department of State
Major General Robert A. Schow, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy
Major General Millard Lewis, Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, United States Air Force
Brigadier General Richard Collins, Deputy Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative to the IAC
Mr. Meffert W. Kuhrtz, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation representative to the IAC

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* Part of meeting

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SNIE 11-9-56
Sino-Soviet Intentions
in the Suez Crisis

a. In opening the meeting, General Cabell stated that the Watch Committee had met during the afternoon (5 November), but that information regarding delivery of the Bulganin notes to various governments had arrived too late to be considered in connection with the conclusions reached at that meeting. The Watch Committee therefore had been asked to reconvene later in the day; however, as the matter developed, it appeared to be one which might more properly be considered by the IAC, which could make definitive estimative judgments. The scheduled Watch Committee meeting thus was canceled and a special meeting of the IAC was called.

b. General Cabell also noted that the President considered the implications of these notes sufficiently serious to warrant special watchfulness on the part of all government agencies, though there had been no declaration of a formal alert. On the basis of his instructions from the White House, which paralleled those given to the military services, General Cabell considered it his particular responsibility to alert the intelligence community. Under these circumstances, and in consonance with the provision of NSCID No. 1 (para. 6) with respect to convening the IAC when there appears to be an impending crisis situation, General Cabell had called this special IAC meeting. Meanwhile, the Board of National Estimates had been asked to evaluate the Bulganin notes, and prepare a draft special national intelligence estimate for consideration by the IAC.

c. The members then exchanged views on the Bulganin notes, and on various types of evidence from numerous sources which appeared to have a bearing on the implications of the Soviet messages. In the course of the discussion, the members also reviewed a draft report of the special Watch Committee meeting held during the afternoon, particularly the supporting or "back-up" material.

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d. Following distribution of a draft SNIE 11-9-56, the members discussed this paper and approved it, as amended.*

Adjournment: 0100 (6 November)

[redacted] 25X1

Acting Secretary

* At its meeting on 6 November, and prior to formal dissemination of this paper, the IAC reconsidered SNIE 11-9-56 and approved a revised version of this estimate.

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IAC Meeting, 5 November 1956

ALSO PRESENT

Central Intelligence Agency

Mr. Robert Amory
Mr. Sherman Kent

25X1

Mr. Norman Paul
Mr. Huntington Sheldon
Mr. Herbert Scoville, Jr.

25X1

Department of State

Mr. Emery Swank
Mr. Boris Klosson

Department of the Army

Brigadier General William Frederick, Jr.
Colonel John Snodgrass
Lieutenant Colonel Charles Pratt

Department of the Navy

Captain Bruce Wiggin
Captain W. S. Howell
Captain J. B. Carroll

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Department of the Air Force

Colonel R. A. Breitweiser
Colonel C. J. Stattler, Jr.
Colonel L. R. Long
Colone. P. D. Wynne
Lieutenant Colonel V. A. Woods, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel G. McCrory

The Joint Staff

Colonel E. G. Van Orman
Colonel Charles H. Dayhuff, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel Harold Gould

Atomic Energy Commission

Mr. Charles Reichardt

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