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AHIP-D-9/2
25 March 1958

I N T E L L I G E N C E A D V I S O R Y C O M M I T T E E

AD-HOC SUB-COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION PROCESSING

A PROPOSAL FOR A CENTRAL INFORMATION AND ADVISORY SERVICE ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN INFORMATION PROCESSING

Attached for information is a copy of the memorandum sent to the Head, Office of Scientific Information, National Science Foundation, revised pursuant to AHIP discussion on 24 March.

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Paul A. Borel
Chairman

Attachment

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25 March 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Burton W. Adkinson
Head, Office of Scientific Information
National Science Foundation

SUBJECT : Proposal for Central Information and Advisory Service on Federal Government Research and Development Activities in Information Processing

1. The IAC ad hoc Subcommittee on Information Processing reviewed subject proposal at its meeting on 20 March.

2. You will recall that membership on the IAC includes the heads of the intelligence organizations of the CIA, State, Army, Navy, Air Force, The Joint Staff, AEC, and the FBI. In addition to representatives from the above, our Subcommittee has representation from NSA and USIA.

3. Since our Subcommittee restricts its activities to dealing with problems within the intelligence community, it would not accept any commitment to report on developments outside the intelligence community. For example, programs under way in the Research and Development areas of defense agencies would not be within its competence.

4. The Subcommittee's own experience over the past three years suggests that there exists a need for machinery to facilitate the exchange of information through some clearinghouse at the federal level as set forth in your proposal. Indeed the proposal, as drafted, is acceptable as a point of departure for a more precise outline of the machinery and procedures envisaged to carry out these objectives.

5. Whatever machinery is set up, we believe that the Subcommittee should act on behalf of the intelligence community rather than have each intelligence organization act independently. This view is based primarily on the fact that the terms of reference of our committee include the objectives which you have set out for the overall government group. This approach should, incidently, make your job easier.

6. A practical way to tie in our effort with your own would be to have a cleared member of the technical advisory unit be assigned

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as technical advisor to our committee, and to have an authorized representative of our committee sit in as a member of whatever group you may organize at the federal level.

7. We can foresee problems which may arise from security considerations, but these can in all probability be dealt with without jeopardizing the achievement of your objectives.

Paul A. Borel
Chairman
Subcommittee on Information Processing
Intelligence Advisory Committee

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