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IAC-M-189
18 March 1955

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INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Director's
Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1600, 18 March 1955

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Fisher R. Howe, acting for Special Assistant for Intelligence, Department of State
Major General Arthur G. Trudeau, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Carl F. Espe, Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy
Major General John A. Samford, Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, United States Air Force
Rear Admiral Edwin T. Layton, Deputy Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission Representative to the IAC
Mr. Meffert W. Kuhrtz, acting for Assistant to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Huntington D. Sheldon, Central Intelligence Agency
[redacted] Central Intelligence Agency
Central Intelligence Agency
25X1 Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Boris Klosson, Department of State
Colonel Robert Totten, USAF, The Joint Staff
Colonel W. H. Smith, USAF, The Joint Staff
Captain Ray Malpass, USN, The Joint Staff

MORI/CDF

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Formosa Straits Problem

The Chairman stated that the meeting had been called to consider what action the IAC should take in response to the President's urgent requirement for intelligence coverage of the Formosa Straits problem through one intelligence medium for the duration of the critical situation.

The Chairman circulated for the Committee's consideration a draft proposal for the establishment of an ad hoc IAC Current Intelligence Group for the Formosa Straits Problem.

Considerable discussion followed during which the advantages and disadvantages of various means of complying with the President's directive were examined. The relation of the Group to the IAC, to the Watch Committee of the IAC, to the Indications Center, and to the operating offices of the several member agencies was examined.

The Committee then: (a) agreed to establish an ad hoc IAC Current Intelligence Group; (b) directed that representatives of the members hold an organization meeting the next morning (Saturday, 19 March); and (c) directed that the first situation report be delivered to the White House on Monday, 21 March. (Mr. Sheldon was requested to so notify Colonel Goodpaster.)

Specifically, the Committee agreed that:

a. An ad hoc IAC Current Intelligence Group on the Formosa Straits problem be established immediately;

b. it be located in the Indications Center, which shall have administrative and logistical support for its operation;

c. it be an IAC task group composed of the best intelligence officers on the area to be furnished by the IAC members;

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d. it be a recipient of the joint collection and evaluation effort now being readied under CINCPAC in the field, and the items that would normally be furnished the Indications Center under NSC 5438;

e. it receive the fullest measure of support from the IAC agencies at headquarters in the form of all information and intelligence bearing on the problem and problems related thereto;

f. it prepare a situation report each day (or more often if required) for the President which shall bear the IAC imprimatur and which shall be available to the IAC members; and

g. CIA will provide the Chairman of this Group.

Adjournment: 1815

Secretary

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Secretary's Note

1. The Board of National Estimates has recommended that the following estimates not be released to any foreign government:

[redacted] 25X1

c. NIE 100-4-55: Communist Capabilities and Intentions with Respect to the Offshore Islands and Taiwan through 1955, and Communist and Non-Communist Reactions with Respect to the Defense of Taiwan

This matter will not be referred to the IAC for formal action except at the request of a member. (ONE Memorandum dated 23 March 1955)

2. The Secretary proposes to release NIE 100-4-55 (title as above) to USIA unless objection is raised by a member at the next regular meeting of the IAC.

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