

MEMORANDUM RECONVENING THE WAR DEPARTMENT
INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

The McCormack revisions to his plan did not suit the Secretaries of War and Navy. The former thereupon reconvened the earlier committee in the hope, as the memorandum points out, of "perhaps arriving at a compromise decision."

The next succeeding paper, which is a draft of the committee's report, indicates that compromise was not looked upon with favor. Actually the committee felt, in spite of the guarded language, that the McCormack plan was a complete mistake, and they hoped that the Secretaries of War and Navy would discard it completely.

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Adm. Bell
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17 December 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL R. A. GALT, OPD
MAJOR GENERAL R. B. ORSHAN, AF
MAJOR GENERAL R. O. TYNAL, AF
BRIGADIER GENERAL G. T. CLARK, S-4
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN HANCOCK, S-4
COLONEL L. M. POWERS, AF

Subject: Proposals for Central Intelligence Agency.

1. The Secretary of War has directed that the special committee appointed by him by directive dated 22 October 1945 to consider intelligence matters be reconvened under the chairmanship of the senior officer, with the addition of representatives of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Air, to advise him further on certain matters in connection with the establishment of a Central Intelligence Agency.

2. The recommendations of the above Committee on the subject of a Central Intelligence Agency, after receiving the approval of the Secretary of War, were submitted to the State Department and Navy Department. These recommendations were in general concurred in by the Navy Department. The State Department proposed a counter-plan, copies of which are attached as Tab A.

3. Both programs were discussed at a meeting of the Secretaries of State, War and Navy. No final decision was reached, and it was decided that the matter should be further considered with a view to perhaps arriving at a compromise decision. The State Department has now prepared certain amendments to their original plan, attached as Tab B.

4. The Secretary of War requests that the above Committee meet to consider the entire subject, including the revised State Department plan, as soon as possible. The Secretary states that he does not wish to delay matters for a further written report from the Committee, but that he would like to meet with them after they have

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had an opportunity to consider the revised plan. Notice of a meeting of the Committee is to be held on Tuesday or Wednesday will be sent out by the Recorder.

By direction of the Secretary of War:

Henry R. Brewster
OF COLT A. BREWSTER
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Inspector General, Office of
The Assistant Secretary of War for Air

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Tabs A and B

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