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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

The basic differences between the War Department and the McCormack plans are:

1st Mission. The War Department believes that a top-level intelligence unit should:

a. Accomplish the evaluation and synthesis of intelligence on a national scale.

b. Perform the direct procurement of intelligence.

Comment: The McCormack plans contemplate neither of these functions initially.

2nd Organization. The War Department envisaged a separate agency with co-equal partnership of State, War and Navy. It further provided a series of checks and balances by incorporating a board of intelligence agency heads within the super agency. The McCormack plan affords less executive direction and more committee work than was contemplated in the War Department plan. Finally the McCormack plan incorporates the agency within the Department of State.

Comment: If the mission of the agency is clearly defined by the National Intelligence Authority, there can be no valid objection to McCormack's plan to have it headed by a State Department official provided that both War and Navy furnish full-time deputy directors to the agency.

3rd General. The War Department plan is more precise in scope, nature and organization than is the McCormack plan. The McCormack plan is less specific and less circumscribed. Under the McCormack plan, the National Intelligence Authority would necessarily have to issue a clear-cut directive which, in the War Department plan, has been reserved for the President.

*Forster files*

L. J. FORTNER  
~~Brigadier General, USA~~

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