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Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

INT 879/1

DATE: 22 December 1949

TO : Mr. Fisher Howe  
FROM : OIR Allan Evans AE  
SUBJECT: Staff Study: National Intelligence

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I am enclosing a revision of the subject paper, adapting many of the suggestions made in your memo of 19 December.

The form of the revision is, I believe, the one you suggest with one minor variation which I think an improvement - to describe the "Focus of the Problem" as the "Issue" and present the case as Problem, Facts, Issues, Discussion, Conclusions and Recommendations.

The principal variations from your suggestions occur in respect to procedure and substance; the reasons merit discussion between us. Briefly, I feel that the Webb letter to the NSC and the resulting NSC

memorandum of 14 December, preclude us from recommending any action at this time beyond an expression of Departmental approval of the position we take. The new recommendations and the attached draft letter to U reflect that belief. For that reason also, I have concluded that it is unnecessary to make further reference in the study to the DCI progress report.

To move 2(a) to the lead position would, it seems to me, tend to weaken the logical force of presentation.

Your excellent suggestion regarding the production issue we have tried to follow.

The other questions you raise are all valid but I would like to talk them over with you, for I have a feeling that to include them in the present discussion might tend to complicate a fairly clear case and, to that extent, weaken it. Several of the points, however, might (in fact, perhaps, should) be treated in separate papers, e.g., miscellaneous research and reporting.

cc: Mr. Armstrong  
Mr. Killea  
Mr. Trusheart

OIR/Allan Evans/tah  
December 22, 1949.

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INR 58 D 776 "National Intelligence Staff Study"

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