SECRET

22 June 1955                    24

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject:         Implementation of NSCID No. 17.

1. Pursuant to USCIB decision, USCIBEC has undertaken consideration
of the subject problem and submits the following initial report:

a. USCIBEC held a special meeting on 16 June 1955, to consider
the proposed ELINT directive prepared and submitted by the CIA member,
and the comments of the Executive Secretary, USCIB thereon (USCIB 9.4/5).

b. Preliminary discussion indicated rather general disagreement
with both of the proposals referred to in a., above, whereupon the meeting
was thrown open to general discussion of the problem in an effort to deter-
mine an area of common agreement. After thorough consideration of the
problem all members except the CIA representative agreed to the following:

(1) The provisions of NSCID No. 17 do not require a reorgani-
zation of the existing structure of USCIB and its complex of committees.

(2) It is premature to recommend a precise mechanism to
handle ELINT pending the issuance of implementing directives.

(3) USCIBEC should continue its study of the problem with a
view to forwarding further recommendations to USCIB at the earliest
practicable date.

c. The CIA member's objection to the majority view was based on
the following views:

(1) ELINT and COMINT, although different, are of comparable
importance to the intelligence effort and neither should be subordinated
to the other.

(2) Any committee in the ELINT field should be at such a
high echelon as to attract the top ELINT specialists.

(3) Channelling the work of such ELINT specialists through
the present Executive Committee, which is made up of COMINT specialists,
would not serve any constructive purpose and would merely inject delay.

2. In view of the foregoing this matter is being placed on the USCIB
agenda for consideration at the 117th meeting, to be held on 8 July 1955.

H. D. JONES
Acting Executive Secretary, USCIB

SECRET