

DIRECTORATE OF FORWARD PLANS (D.F.P.)

1. The duties with which this Directorate is primarily concerned fall under the following heads:

- a. Counter Subversion
- b. Psychological Operations
- c. Community Relations
- d. Deception.

~~and I~~ ^{ed are} Attach resumes of these subjects at Appendices "A", "B", "C" and "D".

2. The Counter Subversion ~~effort~~ is controlled by the Cabinet Office ~~to~~ Counter Subversion Committee, on which ~~Captain Webb, R.N. SPC/SCDS & Deputy Director Forward Plans (D.F.P.)~~ ^{also} ~~and I~~ are the permanent Ministry of Defence representatives and sit as required on the regional working groups ~~also~~.

3. D.F.P. is responsible ^{to the Chief of Staff} for policy and co-ordination within Whitehall of all matters pertaining to ^(in Support of the Armed Forces) psychological operations.

Psy. Ops. Grade 1 Staff Officers are established at Headquarters Middle and Far East Commands, and full or part time staff officers (Grades II and III) ^{are appointed to} perform the psy. ops function in the subordinate formations. The Grade I staff officers ~~have a~~ ^{can}

^{communicate} directly ~~liaison link~~ with D.F.P. on policy & technical matters.

4. D.F.P. ^{is responsible for} handles the policy at Whitehall level ^{for} Community Relations. ^{Community Relations is regarded as an integral part of} ~~This subject impinges both on counter subversion and community relations.~~ psychological operations.

5. The Joint Action Committee (of which the Director Forward Plans is a member) and the Chief of Staffs Committees initiate Deception action, the military aspects of which are followed through by D.F.P. who is the Ministry of Defence link with the other agencies.

6. We ~~do~~ also consider ourselves as a "ginger group", and where we see opportunities which we consider could be exploited to advantage (other than by purely military means) we call attention to ~~it~~ ^{them} as appropriate.

COUNTER SUBVERSION COMMITTEETerms of Reference

1. "To keep under review threats and potential threats by subversion, to British interests overseas; and, where necessary, to recommend and co-ordinate action to combat such threats".

Modus Operandi

2. The main committee meets (approximately) quarterly; the detailed work of examining hostile threats and proposing counter measures is delegated to Regional Working Groups.

The main committee is of Cabinet status, and is chaired by the Foreign Office and is composed of representatives of the Foreign, Colonial and Commonwealth Relations Offices, Ministry of Defence, The Friends, The Security Service and the Ministry of Overseas Development. The secretariat is drawn from the Cabinet and Foreign Offices. The overseas departments representatives also sit (as required) on the Chiefs of Staff Committee, and a member of the secretariat attends the Joint Intelligence Committee meetings. The main committee may, where necessary, report to, and carry out tasks given to it by, the Defence and Overseas Policy (Official) Committee.

Information.

3. The major instruments of counter measures, forming the recommendations by Working Groups, include economic aid and technical assistance, military and security advice, information and cultural activities including sponsored visits, administrative and educational training as well as activities of an ^{un-}attributable and covert nature. Chiefs of Staff Committee paper COS 48/65 dated 23rd February 1965 defines the military requirement for counter subversion based on current strategy.

4. The main committee also advises the Interdepartmental Review Committee annually on the scale which unattributable and covert propaganda is needed in the following financial year.

5. The basic function of this counter-subversion machinery is to make recommendations to the responsible Political Departments and to assist in the co-ordination of action between Departments. The responsibility for policy and also for executive action rests with the Political Departments concerned.

6. The present financial stringency has made it impossible to pursue a number of proposals which Working Groups have put forward or would wish to see pursued. At the meeting of the main committee in February 1965, the Chairman expressed the view that the system of working groups was proving itself, and was meeting with ever-increasing understanding and co-operation from the political departments, and provided a useful means of contact between the political and secret departments. It was considered their work would still be more useful if the Government's objectives could be stated more clearly.

Conclusion

7. From the above it would appear that the machinery evolved for the British counter-subversion effort provides adequately for co-operation and co-ordination of effort between the Whitehall Departments, but its activities are restricted ^(not only) by financial stringency ^{but the seemingly insuperable problem of accountability} and lack of Governmental policy directives. ~~and~~

~~the opinion of the Dept representatives, through the lack of executive power~~
but ^{by} ~~through~~ a lack of executive authority to ensure that action recommended is implemented by the department concerned responsible

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