

TOP SECRET

D R A F T

PRIME MINISTER

Meeting of Ministerial Committee on Communism
21st December, 1950

This meeting has been arranged (to follow immediately on the Defence Committee) to consider the proposals for certain activities behind the iron curtain which have been submitted by the Official Committee on Communism (Overseas), under the Chairmanship of Sir Pierson Dixon.

2. The proposals, which are on a modest scale, are set out in paragraphs 13-18 of the memorandum. They have been put forward by the "Dixon" Committee, after a general survey of Communist activities throughout the world, as the most likely activities to produce a reasonable return for the money and effort expended on them. They are limited in scope and in the nature of an experiment. If they are successful, the Committee will produce further proposals based on the results. They will be carried out in full co-operation with the Americans.

3. The proposals were taken account of by the small informal Committee of officials which has recently been considering the financial implications of C's proposals for preparations for war, in order to ensure that there was no overlapping between the two sets of proposals. The Treasury were represented on that Committee and are not likely to raise any objections. The proposals are, of course, primarily the concern of the Foreign Secretary, but I think you will find that they have the full support of the Chiefs of Staff.

4. You will notice in paragraphs 19 and 20 the allusion to the B.B.C's broadcasts to Eastern Europe and the need for ensuring against jamming of these. The financial

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implications of this form part of the whole question of expenditure on Overseas Information Services which are at present under discussion between the three overseas Departments and the Treasury. They are therefore not yet ready for discussion at this meeting.

20th December, 1950.