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ADM-12.5

DD/S&T 3983/68

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence Programs Evaluation

SUBJECT : The Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center

REFERENCE : Memorandum to DD/S&T from D/DCI/NIPE,
Subject: Agency and Community Organizational Survey, Dated 12 September 1968 (DD/S&T 3535/68, ER 68-3943/4)

BACKGROUND

The Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center was established in late 1963 by John A. McCone to remedy a number of deficiencies which then existed in the technical intelligence field relating to foreign missile and space activities and systems. In the two year period that Mr. McCone had been DCI, it became quite clear to him that the finished intelligence production on foreign missile and space systems within CIA was not being sufficiently emphasized, and was almost totally dependent in the technical sense on external research contracts. He was also concerned about the direction and management of technical collection systems by the community, and in particular, the uncoordinated efforts in this area of the three military services. In the latter case, he stated this concern directly to the Deputy Secretary of Defense who in turn instituted a management review of the technical collection activity within the DOD. This review resulted in a somewhat greater measure of control over technical collection systems targeted against foreign missile and space activity by the Director of Defense Research and Engineering and the Director of DIA. Another result of this review was the formation of the Defense Special Missile and Astronautics Center (DEF/SMAC) at NSA, which is responsible for the direction and tasking of all Department of Defense assets devoted to collection during missile and space operations.

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In so far as analytical deficiencies were concerned, Mr. McCone and Dr. Wheelon, the DD/S&T, took more direct action by establishing a new office, FMSAC, to do technical analysis of foreign missile and space activity. It was understood at the onset that considerable scientific and engineering talent would have to be recruited from the outside to make this endeavor successful.

For the first two years of its existence and while the main external recruiting effort was underway, FMSAC concentrated its attention on the analysis of individual missile and space events. In the fall of 1965, however, an internal reorganization was effected within the DD/S&T wherein the Ballistic Missile and Space Division of the Office of Scientific Intelligence was integrated into FMSAC. Along with the influx of some [] people also came the additional responsibility for the analysis of strategic weapon and space systems, thereby placing essentially the complete effort into one office with a strength of [] people. In spite of a low level of manpower compared with other entities in the intelligence community, FMSAC has achieved a strong, and very often leading position. This is because FMSAC has recruited outstanding analysts and has focused its energies on the truly important problems in the missile and space field. The Office has not attempted to duplicate extensive routine analysis efforts performed by agencies with large work forces such as NSA and FTD, but rather has done enough independent analysis to identify those areas needing special attention or where results reported by others are questionable.

In the missile field, for instance, FMSAC has taken a preeminent position in the definition of the strategic threat posed by the new family of Soviet solid fueled strategic missiles, the FOBS, and most recently in the analysis of Soviet MRV tests. In the space area, FMSAC has the exclusive lead over all elements of the intelligence community and on an almost daily basis provides direct intelligence support, including many personal briefings, to the senior officials of NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Council and the Presidential Science Advisory Council. The likelihood that the U.S. will conduct a manned circum-lunar flight with the Apollo-8 vehicle in December is a result of the direct intelligence support that FMSAC has provided to NASA on present and future Soviet plans in space.

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RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER INTELLIGENCE COMPONENTS

FMSAC has established excellent working relationships with components of the DDI. In particular FMSAC works very closely to support those elements of the DDI responsible for current intelligence reporting. All items used in the current intelligence media, including the FDB, are coordinated with FMSAC and in fact many articles are jointly prepared. In addition, there is a very close relationship with OSR in support of its responsibility for strategic weapon deployment. The intelligence production schedules of the two offices are reviewed and compared to minimize redundant analytical work. Within the DD/S&T there is a close working relationship between OSI and FMSAC, a sharing of certain common use services, and a healthy effort to keep the lines of communication open as to keep overlapping effort to a minimum. Nevertheless, any individual charged with looking at the total agency organization should naturally concern himself with the problem of whether a single organization combining the responsibilities for strategic weapons development (FMSAC), defensive missile development (OSI), and operational weapon systems (OSR) would not be more efficient.

With elements of the intelligence community outside CIA, FMSAC's relations are also excellent. In particular FMSAC has established a fine rapport with DEF/SMAC. This has been the result of several actions. First, FMSAC has had a senior officer assigned to DEF/SMAC for over four years. This man is not a liaison officer but is a full time representative integrated into the organization as a special assistant to the Director. Moreover, both organizations have determined that their activities and responsibilities are truly complementary. DEF/SMAC's heavy responsibility in the direction and tasking of the various DOD collection assets leaves them little time for detailed analysis. On the other hand, FMSAC has no direct tasking responsibilities which leaves them free to concentrate on the analytical problem. Finally, the senior officials that NSA and DIA have assigned to manage DEF/SMAC have made every effort to maintain a good working relationship with FMSAC, and vice versa.

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FMSAC provides the CIA member of the Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee of the United States Intelligence Board and through this is able to keep in close touch with developments throughout the entire missile and space intelligence community.

PRODUCTION

FMSAC's intelligence production is designed to support the Agency and the Community in both the current and estimative fields. In the current intelligence area FMSAC produces a Daily Missile and Space Summary which reports on all significant foreign missile and space activity each working day. [REDACTED]

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In addition, FMSAC produces reports assessing each significant missile and space event after receipt of all information bearing on that event. A large number of different scientific and technical reports are also produced by FMSAC. These cover the entire spectrum of foreign missile and space activity ranging from the analysis of a strategic weapon system to what interplanetary missions the USSR might be expected to do in the 1970s. FMSAC is also a very heavy contributor to the national estimative process. Their contributions are made directly to ONE and when appropriate through the Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee of USIB.

FUTURE RESPONSIBILITIES

It should be noted that FMSAC will play an extremely important role in the analysis and dissemination of intelligence obtained through the [REDACTED] system. This Office is directly involved in this program and is already committed to the assignment of [REDACTED] engineer/analysts to the ground station. FMSAC will be responsible for first phase analysis and dissemination of information in Headquarters and will participate with OEL in manning the Headquarters Control Center. In recognition of these added responsibilities FMSAC has been authorized an increase in personnel of [REDACTED] for FY-70.

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With the deployment of [] and other advanced collection systems in the next several years, together with the increase of foreign missile and space operations there is no doubt that this Office will play an increasingly important role in the intelligence production process.

CARL E. DUCKETT
Deputy Director
for
Science and Technology

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