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Activities of the Medical Information and Intelligence Agency For the Month Ending 31 October 1956

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Walter Reed Army Medical Center

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Title:

Activities of the Medical Information and Intelligence Agency \
For the Month Ending 31 October 1956

Depositor:

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University of Missouri

Summary:

This is the first monthly report of the Medical Information and Intelligence Agency (MIIA), a small US Army intelligence agency. The report refers to General Orders 62, Headquarters, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, dated 24 September 1956, which set up MIIA as an organization subordinate to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The agency was created from "personnel formerly assigned to the Intelligence Branch and Library of the Medical Information and Intelligence Division, OTSG, as well as personnel from the OTSG Reference Library." As the sentence above states, MIIA was created using personnel formerly working in the Office of The Surgeon General, the chief of the Army Medical Service. Army medical intelligence originated as a small section in the Office of the Surgeon General in the early 1940s.

The report also states that Lieutenant Colonel James W. Dean, Medical Service Corps, assumed command of MIIA on 28 September 1956.

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Walter Reed Army Medical Center
Washington 12, D.C.

14 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Activities of the Medical Information and Intelligence Agency, WRAMC, for the Month Ended 31 October 1956

A. OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER.

1. GENERAL

In accordance with the provisions of General Orders No. 62, Headquarters, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, dated 24 September 1956, the Medical Information and Intelligence Agency (9901.10 TU) was activated as a separate Class II Army Medical Service activity at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Command of the Agency was assumed by James W. Dean, Lieutenant Colonel, MSC, on 28 September 1956. Lieutenant Colonel Dean was relieved from assignment to the Office of The Surgeon General and assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center by Special Orders No. 191, Department of the Army, dated 25 September 1956. The Agency consists of personnel formerly assigned to the Intelligence Branch and Library of the Medical Information and Intelligence Division, OTSG, as well as personnel from the OTSG Reference Library.

2. PERSONNEL.

a. Raymond J. Creamer, Major, MSC, was assigned to the Agency effective 24 October 1956.

b. Effective 26 October 1956, Mrs. Muriel W. Overbeck, clerk-typist, GS-3, assigned to the Office of the Commanding Officer, transferred to the Department of Commerce.

c. The following personnel were on duty during the month of October:

- (1) Mr. Meyer E. Colbert.
- (2) Major Raymond J. Creamer.
- (3) Lieutenant Colonel James W. Dean.
- (4) Miss Betty J. Hughes.
- (5) Mrs. Dorothy Melendez

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(6) Mrs. Muriel W. Overbeck.

B, INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.

1. COLLECTION.

a. Briefings.

(1) Personnel of the Branch participated in a total of 18 briefings of personnel from the Central Intelligence Agency; Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army; Pan American Sanitary Bureau; Army Map Service; Department of Commerce; Department of Agriculture; National Library of Medicine; and the National Academy of Science.

(2) Orientation was provided 15 Army Attaches designate to Peru, Haiti, the USSR, Bolivia, Burma, Venezuela, Thailand, Iran, Austria, Poland, France, Greece, Laos, Israel, Brazil, and one Liaison Officer to the East Zone of Germany.

b. Debriefings.

(1) Six sets of debriefing requirements were prepared.

(2) Six personnel returning from the USSR, New Zealand, and Korea, were debriefed.

c. Evaluations.

(1) Prepared 18 written evaluations of ACSI documents concerning the following areas: Afghanistan (2), Argentina (1), Brazil (1), Bulgaria (1), Burma (1), Hong Kong (1), Hungary (1), India (2), Indonesia (1), Mexico (1), Pakistan (5), and Yugoslavia (1).

(2) Prepared three written evaluations of CIA documents on Bulgaria (2) and USSR (1).

d. Visits.

(1) Twenty-six procurement liaison visits were made to the following agencies in the Washington area: Library of Congress; National Library of Medicine; International Cooperation Administration; Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence; Department of State; National Red Cross; and National Geographic Library.

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(2) Daily visits were made to the ACSI Reading and Cable Panels, and weekly visits to the ACSI and CIA Photographic Panels.

e. Miscellaneous.

(1) Three SRI's were submitted during the month (France, Guatemala, and the USSR).

(2) Contributions were submitted to two ICM's pertaining to "Soviet Research and Development Activities in Blood Preservation," and "The Military Medical Service in the Israeli Armed Forces."

(3) A contribution was prepared for inclusion in Summary of Current Intelligence Needs - Revised 1-56, on Area IV, Western Hemisphere, Volume 3.

(4) Lists of Foreign technical documents and publications from Africa and Guatemala were reviewed in the Foreign Reports Section, OACSI, to determine their value for medical intelligence purposes.

(5) A meeting was held with Mr. Bauer, OACSI, concerning the procurement of publications.

(6) Collected medical intelligence data on Iran and the Arctic through the following media:

(a) Letter to Dr. Robert Anderson, Chief, Communicable Disease Center, PHS, Atlanta, Georgia, requesting copy of report entitled "Report of the Imperial Iranian Government on the Control of Malaria."

(b) Letters to six military experts in the field of Arctic medicine.

2. PRODUCTION.

a. Work in Progress.

(1) Projects Continued. The following projects were continued during the month of October:

(1) Preparation of an NIS Section 45 study on one area (South Africa).

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(2) Preparation of an NIS Section 80 study on one area (Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somaliland).

(3) Preparation of an NIS Section 81 study on one area (USSR).

(2) Projects Completed. The following projects were completed during the month of October:

(a) Preparation of an NIS Section 25 study on one area (Guatemala).

(b) Preparation of an NIS Section 45 study on one area (Belgium).

(c) Preparation of an NIS Section 76 study on one area (United Kingdom).

(d) Preparation of an NIS Section 81 study on one area (Nationalist China).

b. Contributions. The following contributions were made during the month of October:

(1) To OACSI - Section 45, NIS 5; Section 76, NIS 1; and Section 81, NIS 39B.

(2) To Army Map Service - Material for inclusion in NIS 71.

(3) Briefings were given, as follows:

(a) Captain Duffey, MC, on Iran.

(b) Medical Intelligence team commanded by Captain Alfons C. Groth which will go to Germany.

(c) Medical Intelligence team commanded by Captain S. L. Scharf which will go to Germany.

(d) Captain Blumer, MC, on Eritrea.

(e) Captain Turk, MC, on Near East.

(f) Medical Intelligence team commanded by Lieutenant Max Rigney which will go to Korea.

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(4) Information concerning the present status of typhoid and paratyphoid in Formosa was given to Mr. Arthur Abrams, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

(5) Information was furnished Colonel James P. Pappas, Lt. Colonel Herschel E. Griffin, and Major Arnold M. Reeve, Preventive Medicine Division, OTSG, concerning results of trials of chloroquine in table salt in Brazil.

(6) A report entitled "Plague in Ecuador," issued by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, was furnished Lt. Col. H. E. Griffin and Major A. M. Reeve, Preventive Medicine Division, OTSG.

(7) Information concerning dry smallpox vaccine was furnished to Major A. M. Reeve, Preventive Medicine Division, OTSG.

c. Reports. The following reports were submitted during the month of October to the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence:

(1) Preparation Progress Report - NIS.

(2) Report entitled "No Significant Material" concerning NIS Section 64 for two areas (West Germany & North Korea), NIS Section 71 for one area (United Kingdom), NIS Section 72 for one area (United Kingdom), and NIS Section 17 for one area (Bulgaria).

d. Reviews.

(1) The following drafts were reviewed at the request of the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, and returned with appropriate comments: Section 76, NIS 10, Section 45, NIS 32, Section 45, NIS 76, and Section 45, NIS 48.

(2) A list of CTRP publications was reviewed to insure that they meet medical intelligence requirements.

3. PERSONNEL.

a. William Rees, Captain, MD, USAR, was on active duty during the period 29 September - 13 October 1956.

b. The following personnel were on duty during the month of October:

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- (1) Dr. Ilka D. Dickman.
- (2) Dr. Myron K. Gordon.
- (3) Miss Mary E. McDonald.
- (4) Mrs. Regina K. Plavsky.
- (5) Miss Stella Randolph.
- (6) Dr. John L. Spanier.
- (7) Dr. Robert N. Walker.
- (8) Miss Virginia Watson.
- (9) Mr. Nicholas Yanowsky.

C. INFORMATION BRANCH.

1. Translations.

a. A Russian letter and abstracts of articles on hematology were translated for Lt Col William Crosby, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

b. Three German letters were translated for the Foreign Liaison Branch, Medical Information and Intelligence Division, OTSG.

c. A German letter was translated for Lt Col William Crosby, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

d. One Italian diploma and one Spanish diploma was translated and interpreted (as to correct U. S. equivalents) for the Personnel Division, OTSG.

e. A Russian newspaper clipping concerning "poison pills for use of U. S. Army personnel" was translated for the Commanding Officer.

2. Miscellaneous.

a. Information concerning medical terminology was supplied to Captain Milos N. Vukasin, Eurasian Branch, OACCI.

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b. On 10 October 1956, the Chief of the Branch participated in a conference concerning publication procurement and exploitation.

c. At the request of Miss Sheila Parker, National Library of Medicine, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, information was supplied concerning appropriate channels within the Department of the Army for the routing of translation requests. In this connection, a study which had been prepared by Miss Parker on this subject (available translation facilities) and reviewed, and appropriate comments made.

D. MI&IA LIBRARY.

1. ACQUISITIONS. During October, the Library received 2,470 acquisitions, as follows:

- a. Open mail - 933 items.
- b. ACSI Reading Panel - 983 items.
- c. ACSI Library - 225 items.
- d. National Library of Medicine - 50 items.
- e. Department of State - 227 items.
- f. Photographs - 65 items.

2. PROCESSING.

- a. 960 documents were classified.
- b. 955 publications were checked.
- c. 4,931 cards and 1,705 documents were filed.
- d. 1,523 cards were prepared for the catalogue file, and 442 cards were prepared for the bibliography file.
- e. 657 items were selected from 241 publications.

3. SPECIAL SERVICES.

a. Circulation. At the request of the individuals concerned, documents were loaned as follows:

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- (1) Offices within the OTSG - 9 items.
- (2) Offices outside the OTSG - 22 items.

b. Information. The Library furnished, on request, information on a variety of subjects to the following:

- (1) Central Intelligence Agency.
- (2) Strategic Intelligence School.
- (3) Research and Development Division, OTSG.
- (4) Army Medical Service School.
- (5) Chemical Corps Intelligence Agency.
- (6) Public Health Service.
- (7) Department of Agriculture.

c. Distribution. Materials were sent for retention to the following:

- (1) Department of the Army Library - 21 items.
- (2) Walter Reed Army Institute of Research - 3 items.
- (3) National Naval Medical Center - 26 items.
- (4) National Library of Medicine - 198 items.
- (5) Library of Congress - 45 items.

4. PERSONNEL.

a. Personnel of the library received a one hour orientation on the operations, mission, and functions of the OTSG Reference Library.

b. The following personnel were on duty during the month of October.

- (1) Mrs. Boris W. Abelman.
- (2) Miss Elizabeth I. Hedges.
- (3) Miss Gladys M. Nambert.
- (4) Mrs. Naomi Towler.
- (5) Miss Lena Williams.

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B. OTSG REFERENCE LIBRARY. The following reflect actions taken by the OTSG Reference Library, under the direction of Mrs. Mary A. Jackson, during the month of October:

1. REFERENCE QUESTIONS: A total of 554 reference questions were answered, as follows:

- a. Quickly answerable questions asked by readers - 286.
- b. Quickly answerable questions asked by telephone - 255.
- c. Readers' questions which required research - 11.
- d. Telephone inquiries which required research - 2.

2. ACQUISITIONS.

- a. Serial and non-serial items received for retention - 677.
- b. Non-serial items received on permanent loan - 17.

3. CIRCULATION.

- a. Serial and non-serial items used by readers in the Library - 494.
- b. Serial and non-serial items borrowed for us within the Main Navy Building - 294.
- c. Serials circulated on a multiple routing - 648.
- d. Serial and non-serial items obtained for OTSG Divisions on inter-library loans - 189.

4. WITHDRAWALS.

- a. Non-serial items withdrawn from OTSG Reference Library - 4.
- b. Non-serial items withdrawn from permanent loan - 1.

JAMES W. DEAN
Lieutenant Colonel, NSC
Commanding

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ACTIVITIES OF THE
MEDICAL INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER,
FOR THE MONTH ENDED
31 OCTOBER 1956

WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, WISC

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