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26 July 1946

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

N.I.A. DIRECTIVE NO. 6

PROVISION FOR COORDINATING THE
ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

Paragraph 1 of the letter from the President, dated 22 January 1946, designated this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the Federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security. Since the mass of foreign publications required by the various Federal agencies, as references useful in the conduct of their business, contains matter of value as intelligence information related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to the acquisition of foreign publications, are announced:

1. A permanent Inter-departmental Committee on the Acquisition of Foreign Publications is hereby established as a subordinate agency of the National Intelligence Authority. The Department of State will administer the committee and furnish the Secretariat therefor.

2. The Director of Central Intelligence will invite the Librarian of Congress to accept the Chairmanship of the Committee and will send invitations for membership on the Committee to representatives of all Federal agencies interested in the acquisition of foreign publications for the conduct of their business.

3. The Committee will have duties and responsibilities as follows:

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a. To coordinate cooperative acquisition as between and among the several departments and agencies. The scope of this coordination shall include the establishment of agreed policies and procedures for the maintenance of comprehensive collections of library materials, in appropriate locations, the rapid interchange and loan of such materials, and the distribution of bibliographical information. These coordinating responsibilities are distinct from and therefore will not interfere with the usual responsibilities of individual agencies for the maintenance of working collections of library materials necessary to the transaction of their business.

b. To originate recommendations to the several departments and agencies concerning the development of their libraries within a framework of over-all Federal acquisitions, such recommendations to be designed to make available to this Government, with minimum duplication, all foreign library materials necessary to the conduct of the public business.

c. To originate recommendations to the Department of State on matters of broad policy connected with the procurement of foreign library materials through the Foreign Service, in so far as they pertain to servicing the acquisitions needs of the Federal Establishment as a whole.

d. To review requisitions on the State Department procurement facilities whenever it is necessary to determine whether said requisitions are consistent with the Committee's comprehensive acquisitions program.

4. The Director of Central Intelligence will designate a representative to act with the Committee as the Vice-Chairman and to be responsible for ensuring that the Committee's activities make adequate provision for the securing of intelligence information related to the national security.