



IN REPLYING ADDRESS
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND REFER TO

HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS
WASHINGTON

SERIAL
DFA-1086-bn

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PLANS AND POLICIES:

Subject: Training of Attaches and Intelligence Officers at the Strategic Intelligence School, Intelligence Division, General Staff, U. S. Army.

Reference: (a) Director, Division of Plans and Policies Memorandum for Commandant of the Marine Corps, same subject.

1. The Personnel Department concurs in the recommendation contained in paragraph 8 (a), reference (a).

(a) In view of the length of the course and with the present plan to establish a relief policy for overseas duty during the spring and summer months, requirements should be foreseen for attache assignments at least six months in advance, and officers assigned to training in numbers and at such times as their services can be used upon completion of school. By arbitrarily setting a quota of three (3) students every sixteen (16) weeks throughout the year, officer graduates selected for attache duty would not complete the course of instruction at such times to make reliefs during the spring and summer months.

(b) Due to the shortage of line officers, it is recommended that the Division of Aviation fill the quota to meet their needs in the class commencing in January, 1948.

2. In regard to paragraph 8 (b), the following information is furnished:

(a) With the shortage of line officers, particularly in the ranks of Captain through Lieutenant Colonel, the Detail Branch is having difficulty filling the school billets now authorized in the Operating Force Plan.

(b) During the present transition period and until such time as the actual strength in ranks becomes more nearly equal to the authorized strength, it is recommended that additional school billets be held to a minimum.

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 gence Division, General Staff, U. S. Army.

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(c) It is felt that the Amphibious Warfare Courses at the Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Va., will meet the need for indoctrination in intelligence, until the Marine Corps has completed its officer procurement program under the existing promotion laws.

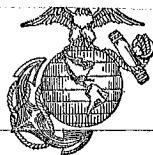


P. A. del Valle,
 Major General, U. S. Marine Corps,
 Director of Personnel,
 Marine Corps.

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DIVISION OF PLANS AND POLICIES
HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS
WASHINGTON

DEC 29 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDANT:

Subject: Training of Attaches and Intelligence Officers at the Strategic Intelligence School, Intelligence Division, General Staff, U. S. Army.

1. At present, many Marine Officers being assigned to duty as intelligence officers in higher staffs and as Naval and Assistant Naval Attaches, do not possess sufficient formal intelligence education or broad enough practical intelligence experience to give them an appreciation of the problems involved in collecting, collating, and evaluating information and disseminating the resultant intelligence during the peacetime years. This is particularly applicable to Naval and Assistant Naval Attaches where for over a period of one year many have produced little or no intelligence of value to the Marine Corps or the Naval Service as a whole.

2. In regard to intelligence activities in the Marine Corps the problems facing intelligence in peacetime are considerably different than those which occur in war. There are no specific enemies, therefore effort has to be spread over many countries of the world. Furthermore, budgetary and personnel limitations make it impossible to produce the mass of readily usable material which is forthcoming in wartime. Consequently the burden of producing timely finished concise intelligence for operational use from the mass of raw material falls more and more on the using agencies.

3. In peacetime, the Intelligence Officer must be familiar with world geography and the political and military aspects of the various areas of strategic importance if he is to utilize fully all information which he receives from the various sources. This will assist him in rendering best advice to his commander concerning the significance of information collected in the field and will facilitate the discharge of his duties.

4. The Intelligence Division, General Staff, U. S. Army has established a Strategic Intelligence School at the Pentagon which is of sufficiently short duration and yet comprehensive enough to meet the needs outlined above. It is designed to train officer replacements for the Intelligence Division and for the orientation and training of future Military Attaches. The course covers foreign area training, international

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relations; geographical, scientific, political and economic factors in war potential; current economic, political, military, naval and air organization; recognition of trends of development, and foreign order of battle. This school is established primarily for field officers and is considered to be on the highest level of service schools conducted by the U. S. Army.

5. The course is divided into three phases, totaling a period of 16 weeks. The first phase consists of approximately six weeks of lectures, examinations and problems in which the student is taught the organization and functions of the important intelligence agencies in Washington, world geography, and other phases of intelligence enumerated above. The second phase consists of approximately a six weeks period of research, during which the class, by means of committees, prepares area staff studies. Further, attaches make area studies of the country to which they will be sent. In the third phase two separate courses are offered, depending on the future assignment of the student. For future military attaches an orientation course is given; for future Intelligence Division personnel, study is made of the war potential of the USSR and her satellites as compared to the war potential of the United States and her probable Allies.

6. The next class in the Strategic Intelligence School commences on or about 5 January 1948; with new classes commencing every 16 weeks thereafter.

7. It is believed that the following advantages would result if the future occupants of those billets mentioned in Paragraph 1 were graduates of the Strategic Intelligence School:

(a) All such graduates would have a broad background knowledge of the problems involved in producing intelligence in peacetime and would be more cognizant of the ground force intelligence requirements.

(b) Intelligence Officers would have a general knowledge of the intelligence presently available and the agencies in Washington which produce such intelligence, with the capabilities and limitations of each; which knowledge would be invaluable in planning a projected operation or for strategic planning.

(c) Assignment of officers to this course would assist in building a cadre of well trained experienced intelligence officers in the regular service.

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(d) Marine officers on attache duty would produce intelligence needed by the Marine Corps and other forces which would be in greater quantity and of a higher quality than that now being received in Washington.

8. It is therefore recommended:

(a) That Marine officers detailed to attache duty be graduates of the Strategic Intelligence School; this prerequisite being achieved by the establishment of a quota of approximately three per class, until needs are met. (Action: G-2; G-3; Pers Dept).

(b) That insofar as practicable, all future assignees to intelligence billets on the staffs of FMF, Lant., FMF, Pac., and G-2 Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps be graduates of the Strategic Intelligence School (Action: Pers Dept; G-3).

Ray A. Robinson
RAY A. ROBINSON

Paragraph 8 (a)	Approved _____	Disapproved _____
8 (b)	Approved _____	Disapproved _____

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