DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE

NO. 4/2 (SECOND REVISION)

Priority List of Critical National Intelligence Objectives
(Revised 8/4/53)

In accordance with DCID 4/1, paragraph 3, the following list in order of priority of critical national intelligence objectives, with respect to the USSR and its Satellites (including Communist China) is established; so the highest priority shall be given to the collection of information and to the production of intelligence concerning Soviet and Satellite capabilities and intentions for:

1. taking direct military action against the Continental United States;

2. taking direct military action, employing USSR and Satellite Armed Forces, against vital U.S. possessions, areas peripheral to the Soviet Orbit, and Western Europe;

3. conducting clandestine attack by mass destruction weapons against the Continental United States, vital U.S. possessions, areas peripheral to the Soviet Orbit, and Western Europe;

4. interfering with U.S. strategic air attack;

5. interfering with U.S. movement of men and material by water transport;

6. production and stockpiling, including location of installations and facilities, of atomic and related weapons, other critical weapons and equipment, and critical transportation equipment;

7. creating situations anywhere in the world dangerous to U.S. national security, short of commitment of Soviet and Satellite Armed Forces, including foreign directed sabotage and espionage objectives;

8. interfering with U.S. political, psychological and economic courses of action for the achievement of critical U.S. aims and objectives.

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director of Central Intelligence

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