

ARMY INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE.
(Course, 1927 - 1928)

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS
of the
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2.

Lecture by
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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2.

Colonel Carr and Gentlemen of the Army Industrial College:

I have looked upon this coming before you this morning as a real opportunity because I believe that the subject which is to be presented is of especial interest to you. I have followed the progress and development of the Army Industrial College with increasing interest and insofar as the Military Intelligence Division is concerned with increasing profit. We sometimes wonder why this institution has not been in being for a very much longer time. We have always looked upon the military aspects of the problems of the country and we have attended to them, but this is the one institution that fills a real need.

Military Intelligence, you will readily understand, has a very direct and intimate relationship with the work you are doing here. This relationship and the understanding of it will come to you, I have no doubt, later on when you take up various functional studies, those in which you will be obliged to call on all the intelligence agencies of the Government, including G-2, for information concerned with the problem which will confront you. It seems desirable, nevertheless, to say something of the Military Intelligence Division as it exists today so that you will get a picture of the whole, for many of the activities of the Division will come into play during your studies.

Military Intelligence may be briefly defined as "knowledge of the enemy". We have many definitions, detailed and otherwise, concerning the subject but briefly that is it. The Military Intelligence Division, unfortunately, has not had a place in the War Department for any great length of time. Perhaps forty years would cover all the activities up to date. However, before 1885 when provisions were made in the Adjutant General's Office for the collection of military information and by which one officer and one clerk was supplied, there were various missions sent abroad for the purpose of observing foreign armies. For example, we had a mission to the Crimean War in 1855, to the Russian Turkish War, and throughout the early period up to 1885 we depended upon special provision for enemy information concerning foreign countries. In 1903, when the General Staff was created, Military Intelligence activities were transferred to the General Staff; but it was not until 1918 that the subject of Military Intelligence was given a separate place in the General Staff organization, known as the Military Intelligence Division - an independent and coordinate division of the War Department General Staff. Under the National Defense Act, as amended in 1920, Military Intelligence activities were grouped under the Military Intelligence Division, G-2.

Military Intelligence is as old as combat itself. We have only to turn over the pages of history and we find some reference to Military Intelligence; it was referred to even in Biblical times. We come down through ages of our own history and we find many frequent references. It played a very prominent part in the Civil War, especial reference being made thereto in connection with the Battle of Gettysburg. It was not, however, until the World War that the Military Intelligence Division received the impetus which has its influence today on all its activities. From a very small beginning in 1917, when the Military Intelligence Division consisted of twelve officers and twenty-two civilian employees, it developed rapidly during the World War until on November 11, 1918, there were two hundred and eighty-two officers and one thousand and ninety civilian employees connected with our Military Intelligence activities. So you see that there has been considerable progress. At the present time we sometimes feel that we are not carrying on that progress as rapidly as we should. However, I do not believe that we are in the same position as that of a sentinel who had been stationed in the Czar's Courtyard for one hundred and twenty-five years, having been originally placed there for the purpose of guarding a beautiful flower which Catherine had admired. Briefly, we are making progress, and I think that the functions of the Army Industrial College will serve to help us, to prompt the officers of the Military Intelligence Division to carry their work on further.

Incidentally, as I shall explain later, we have called upon our military attaches for the purpose of supplying information that was suggested by the work you are doing here.

Military Intelligence is divided into two principal classes as relating to the War Department General Staff, one known as War Department Intelligence and the other as Combat Intelligence. The two classes of Intelligence have been considered very carefully and for the purpose of placing them definitely before you I shall read to you the definitions thereof.

"Military Intelligence is the resultant product of a scientific and systematic collection and evaluation of information on the Geographic, Political, Economic, Psychologic, and Military factors of any given country for the purpose of arriving at a definite conception as to its military capacity and intentions".

There are five factors covered in this class. The one in which you are especially interested is the Economic Factor. We have taken steps to provide for you such parts of these various factors as will be of service to you.

The Military Intelligence which has just been defined is that in which we are principally concerned in the War Department, whereas in the field the intelligence brought forth is known as Combat Intelligence, defined as follows:

"Combat Intelligence is the military intelligence produced in the field after the outbreak of hostilities. Generally this class of intelligence is confined to the location, strength, composition, armament, equipment, supply, tactics, training, discipline, morale, movement, intentions, condition, and the situation of the enemy forces opposing a combat unit, and the terrain over which a combat unit is to operate or is operating. This intelligence furnishes a basis for future operations".

The War Department Intelligence gives the foundation upon which all our War Plans are based, whereas Combat Intelligence is that which is supplied to the commander in the field and upon which he makes his Strategical Plans. It is of the War Department Intelligence I wish to speak this morning because you are not especially interested in Combat Intelligence.

Before going into the organization of the G-2 Division it is well to again speak of its mission, as defined in regulations. Army Regulations 10-15, War Department, giving the mission of the Division in detail, states:

"The Military Intelligence Division is charged, in general, with those duties of the War Department General Staff which relate to the collection, evaluation and dissemination of military information. It is specifically charged with the preparation of plans and policies and the supervision of all activities concerning:

- (1) Military topographical surveys and maps, including their reproduction and distribution (except special situation maps prepared by G-3).
- (2) The custody of the General Staff map and photograph collection.
- (3) Military attaches, observers, and foreign language students.
- (4) Intelligence personnel of all units.
- (5) Liaison with other intelligence agencies of the Government and with duly accredited foreign military attaches and missions.
- (6) Codes and ciphers.
- (7) translations.
- (8) Relations with the press.
- (9) Censorship in time of war.

You can see that the duties imposed on G-2 as it functions today are quite comprehensive in character.

Inasmuch as the chief mission of the Military Intelligence Division relates to the collection and evaluation of military information, as well as the dissemination of the resultant product, I shall take up first the Intelligence Branch of the Division.

The Military Intelligence Division is organized into four Branches - the Administration Branch, the Intelligence Branch, the Press Branch, War Plans and Training Branch; and, in addition, we have the Air Section which is specifically provided for by the Air Corps Act.

Beginning with the Intelligence Branch - it has to do with the principal mission of G-2; it is the branch that is charged with evaluation principally and the dissemination of Military Intelligence. That part of G-2 which is comprised of the Intelligence Branch is situated in the War Department and is known as the office force, in contra-distinction to the field force which is comprised of our military attaches. While the Military Attache Section, in the set-up of the organization of the Division, comes under the Administration Branch, the work is handled separately. The Intelligence Branch receives the reports of the military attaches, evaluates them and disseminates the resulting intelligence. We have for our field office twenty-two senior military attaches and seventeen assistants, making a total of thirty-nine officers in the field. In that number there are representatives of the Ordnance Department, the Chemical Warfare Service and the Air Corps. These officers are especially selected by their branch chiefs in order to assist the attaches in whose offices they will operate to gather information which is more technical in character. However, they are assistant attaches and as such submit their reports to the senior attaches who send them direct to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

For the purpose of receiving and evaluating this information sent in, it is necessary to divide the Intelligence Branch into sections. Beginning with the Latin American Section, which includes Cuba, the five Central American countries and all of South America (which is a very active section), we have a Far East Section (comprising principally China and Japan), the Eastern European Section, the Central European Section, the Western European Section, the British Empire Section, and the Balkans and Near East Section. In addition to these we have what is known as the Geographic Section.

It can be seen that by the organization of the above named sections we have covered all of the principal areas on the face of the earth. Military attaches are stationed in the capitols of

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twenty-two different countries and in their activities cover forty-four countries. Some of the attaches cover two or more countries from one station. I desire to point out that in the Far East we have an attache in China and one in Japan. In addition thereto, we have eight language students at each place - eight officers from our Army studying the Japanese language and eight studying the Chinese language. Those officers are detailed for a period of four years; and upon a successful conclusion of their detail are placed on an eligible list. The Military Intelligence Division watches their activities very closely and endeavors to keep them in the activities for which they were trained in such a way that they will be available at a later date for similar duty. There is an attache accredited to Cuba and only one in Central America. In South America we have five - in Brazil, Chile, Peru, Columbia and Argentina.

It is very interesting to note that the studies we make of foreign countries, particularly South America, have a very direct bearing upon our War Plans. South America is one of those groups of countries that has been more or less neglected in the past. We do not realize in looking at that map that Brazil has an area of 200,000 square miles in excess of that of the United States and has a coast line of 6,000 miles. That is only one of the things that I might call attention to in passing which will be involved in the economic factor when you examine the various estimates.

In order to indicate what takes place in the Intelligence Branch so far as reports are concerned, I wish to touch upon the character of them. I have said that they cover five principal factors. The information coming in is listed and fitted in under an index number. There is an index guide which prompts the attache to present his information in a certain form. Before an attache leaves the War Department he must be O.K'd. by every division and every appropriate section in it before he takes his post so that he understands thoroughly what is expected of him and how the information should be sent in. Moreover, he is expected to send in not only the information itself but is required to place his own evaluation upon it. For that reason those officers who possess high professional qualifications, those who are graduates of the Command and General Staff College and the War College, one or the other or preferably both, are sent out as military attaches in order that they will be men who will understand the character of work expected of them when they go into the field.

Information received from the military attaches is not the only information coming into G-2. The second course, and one in which you are especially concerned, brings forth the information obtained from the other agencies of the Government. G-2 has an especially close liaison with the State Department; it has an equally close or perhaps closer one with the Department of Commerce; it also has liaison with the Department of Justice.

This information, I want to repeat, comes in as such; the second step is the evaluation thereof and the third the dissemination. Dissemination of Intelligence may be divided into three classes: the routine, the periodical and what we know as spasmodic. The routine dissemination which takes place upon receipt of the report from the military attache, or other source, consists in sending such report to the chiefs of branches, the service schools, or any other personnel that might be interested. The chiefs determine what dissemination shall be given the information. The periodical dissemination is that which relates to our estimates. We make these estimates and they are sent around from time to time. In addition to that particular class we have what is known as the bi-weekly Intelligence Summary, which is desired for the purpose of keeping some selected officers abreast of the current international affairs. It contains articles not altogether military or strictly military in character but those relating to the political as well as the economic features, and sometimes the psychological. The distribution of that Summary has been recently increased so that we now send out something like four hundred and forty copies every two weeks. The reports indicate that they are well received. In their distribution they are sent to the officers in charge of Reserve activities throughout the country as well as to every post commandor. Up to a year ago the Summary was confined principally to the President, The Secretary of War, Chief of Staff, and a few divisions in the War Department. It is prepared with the greatest care, the articles contained therein being carefully edited.

In the preparation of the Summary by the officers detailed to the Intelligence Branch, the officers are assisted by personnel known as "research" clerks. Too much cannot be said in praise of these research clerks; they are the more permanent personnel of G-2; they are highly trained; they understand the duties of G-2 but confine themselves principally to those subjects not military in character. They are not relieved every four years from their duties and have a thorough understanding concerning their work.

I should now like to touch on the Administration Branch. That branch is directly under the Executive Officer of G-2. Your attention is invited to the fact, however, that although the Military Attache and Foreign Liaison Section comes under the office organization of the Administration Branch, it is more directly supervised by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

The Military Attache Section is a very important one insofar as G-2 is concerned. It is that section which handles all of the correspondence with the military attaches. It has at its head what is known as the Foreign Liaison Officer. He has direct liaison with the State Department; is the one who receives the military attaches; makes the necessary arrangements for missions and observers; makes the necessary arrangements and drafts the necessary instructions for all foreign missions.

The Record Section deserves a word because G-2 is the only Division in the War Department General Staff which keeps its own records. This is especially provided for because of the nature of the work and the duties performed by G-2. The office records are voluminous, extending back a great many years, so it is necessary to provide a special section for them. All communications relating to the particular duties of G-2 are handled direct due entirely to the nature of those duties.

The Finance Section is a special section provided for particularly because of the large amount of work relating to finance in which the military attaches are involved. All vouchers or expenditures from the military attaches, from the field forces as well as those relating to G-2 in the War Department, are handled by that section. The officer at the head of it is detailed from the Finance Department.

Before going beyond the Intelligence Branch too far, I want to call your attention to the Geographic Section thereunder. There is no more important information than that received from the map, and it is one of those functions specially provided for in regulations of G-2's activities. The map collection we have in the War College under G-2 is the largest collection of maps in the United States, being over one million in number.

We will now take up the Press Branch. It is not generally understood either inside the War Department or outside the War Department. It is the only Press Branch in the War Department and operates and conducts all of its functions directly under G-2. G-2 is responsible by regulations for relations with the press. The policy relating to the press, insofar as the War Department is concerned, is that the public is entitled to know what is going on throughout the War Department, and the Press Branch does not withhold from the public anything except secret and confidential information. It also provides special articles that are required by the Secretary of War and the Chief of Staff. The Press Branch is so organized as to provide liaison for the press daily and arrange for the reception of the newspaper representatives. I think that an examination of the records of the Press Branch will indicate that the publicity insofar as the operations of the military branch is concerned has increased many fold in the last few years and it is the desirable kind of publicity, prompted by the policies of the War Department.

We will now take up the War Plans and Training Branch, the fourth branch of G-2. That is divided into the Training Section, the Translation Section and the Communication Section. The Training Section might be termed the all-important section in that it comes into prominence more than any other section of that branch. It is the one that prepares the G-2 Appendix for the General Mobilization Plan. It is also the section that supervises the prepara-

tion of the G-2 appendices for all special plans; it is the section that supervises the training of the Military Intelligence Reserve Officers. There are something over eight hundred of these officers, about four hundred being in the Branch Assignment group directly under G-2, the remaining number in the Territorial Assignment Group. This section prepares the correspondence insofar as the Reserve Officers are concerned, also prepares the correspondence courses. It is a very busy section, necessarily so, and I think the activities of this section indicate that their work has not been in vain because our correspondence with the intelligence associations located all over the country has been quite voluminous. In addition to the above duties, the Training Section is charged with the Intelligence which comes from patriotic and other associations throughout the country. It also concerns itself with knowledge of the so-called subversive activities. I wish, however, to state at this point that G-2 employs no agent for the purpose of gaining information concerning individuals or organizations engaged in subversive activities. The information received in G-2 upon this subject comes in the regular way, through patriotic associations or individuals interested, by publications which are on G-2 mailing list, or otherwise. From that information the Training Section endeavors to keep abreast of the conditions throughout the country insofar as they affect all war plans.

During the war G-2 came into slight disrepute because of certain activities, we might say relating to subversive movements. Generally G-2 was termed the "gum shoe" organization. It was incorrect then and is not true now. There is a department of the Government charged with that duty - The Department of Justice. The fact that G-2 undertook to cover those activities during the World War was due to the fact that they were not being covered fully by any other agency of the Government, and their supervision became a necessity.

The Translation Section is one of which we hear little. We have only four translators in G-2; one of those translators is able to translate fourteen different languages. We consider that no translator has a place in G-2 unless he can translate at least four languages. During the past Fiscal Year translations were made in twenty-three different languages in this Section. It is a very busy section and is always engaged in the translation of articles that are of interest to the War Department, including technical subjects that are of interest to the chiefs of branches and to the various service schools.

The Communication Section is also one of which we hear little, but it is an extremely important one. It is the section which prepares the policies and supervises the activities concerning codes and ciphers. It has a very distinct place in all of our war plans; it takes upon itself the duty of keeping abreast of the information that comes from foreign countries and the developments that take place there.

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The Air Section is especially provided for by the Air Corps Act. That section operates directly under the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, and is charged with the special study of activities relating to Air Corps matters that come to our attention from foreign countries., and with all other special studies in G-2 in which the Air Corps is concerned. It is also charged with the compiling of intelligence insofar as G-2 is concerned in the Air Corps.

That brings up a subject which I omitted in connection with the War Plans and Training Section - the one of combat intelligence so far as G-2 is concerned. H-2 is expressly charged with all combat intelligence personnel training. It seems rather strange perhaps that that function should not be a part of G-3 of the War Department General Staff, but it is under G-2 because the relationship is closer there. Therefore G-2 is charged with that particular phase and has issued the so-called "Combat Intelligence Operations" which are now in operation throughout the service.

In time of war our organization as now set up contemplates no change. We shall still have our original set-up of branches; there will be a few necessary sections to be added because of the increased duties to be performed and new developments in time of war.

In conclusion it might be said that G-2 is interested in every phase of human life and in all human activities. There is no part of the world which is not covered in its activities. Its objective is to have on hand and to produce without material delay the information as it is called for by the Secretary of War and the Chief of Staff for the preparation of War Plans, and the success of the G-2 Division depends upon reaching that objective.