



**CabinetOffice**

**Notes on the Central Intelligence  
Machinery division of Cabinet  
Office records and other  
intelligence-related Cabinet Office  
records**

**Knowledge and Information Management Unit  
Revised: 2 November 2010**

## British central intelligence machinery

1. The evolution of Whitehall's central intelligence machinery can be traced back to the creation of the Industrial Intelligence in Foreign Countries Sub-Committee in 1929. This was subordinate to the Committee of Imperial Defence and was concerned with the collection, processing and dissemination of intelligence on industrial mobilization for war in foreign countries. The Sub-Committee was instrumental in the establishment of the Industrial Intelligence Centre (headed by Major Desmond Morton) in 1931.
2. In January 1936 the Committee of Imperial Defence approved the formation of the Inter-Service Intelligence Committee, which by July of that year evolved into the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee. Between July 1936 and August 1939 the Sub-Committee was composed of the deputy directors of intelligence of the three services, frequently with a representative from the Industrial Intelligence Centre and - from November 1938 - with representation from the Foreign Office. The Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee inherited from the Inter-Service Intelligence Committee a remit that included both the preparation of assessments and the coordination of the work of the intelligence staffs of the three services.
3. On the outbreak of war in September 1939, the Committee of Imperial Defence was dissolved but the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee continued in being throughout the war as one of the principal sub-committees of the Chiefs of Staff Committee. The Sub-Committee's Secretariat and the Joint Intelligence Staff (established in 1941) formed part of the Military Affairs component of the Offices of the War Cabinet.
4. Following the establishment of the Ministry of Defence in January 1947, responsibility for the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee was transferred to it, the Sub-Committee remaining subordinate to the Chiefs of Staff Committee. The title was amended in January 1948 to Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC). It should be noted that the symbol 'JIC' had been used since the establishment of the Sub-Committee in 1936.
5. In October 1957 the Prime Minister approved the return of the JIC to the Cabinet Office, reflecting the broadened scope and role of intelligence.
6. In 1968 the post of Intelligence Coordinator was created (first held by Sir Dick White) and an Assessments Staff was established in place of the Joint Intelligence Staff. The new Assessments Staff added economic intelligence to its responsibilities and the former Economic Intelligence Steering Committee of the Cabinet was redesignated JIC (B) under Treasury chairmanship effective 1 April 1968. On the same day the previous JIC became JIC(A).
7. The JIC(A)/JIC(B) split lasted until 1974. On 1 October 1974 JIC(A) reverted to the traditional JIC designation and the former responsibilities of JIC(B) passed to a new Overseas Economic Intelligence Committee (OEIC). OEIC was re-designated JIC (Economic Assessments) (JIC(EA)) in 1980. JIC (EA) was dissolved in January 1984.
8. The JIC Secretariat (re-designated the Joint Intelligence Secretariat in November 1976), the Assessments Staff (Joint Intelligence Staff until 1968), the Intelligence Coordinator and certain other supporting elements comprised the Joint Intelligence Organization (JIO).

## Central Intelligence Machinery division of Cabinet Office records

9. The more recent JIC and JIC-associated records comprise the Central Intelligence Machinery division of the records of the Cabinet Office.

10. The relevant series are:

- CAB 158 (JIC memoranda; 1947-68).
- CAB 159 (JIC minutes of meetings; 1947-68).
- CAB 163 (JIC Secretariat/Joint Intelligence Secretariat files; 1939 et seq).
- CAB 179 (JIC weekly reviews, surveys and summaries; 1956-2008).
- CAB 182 (JIC sub-committees, working parties etc; 1957 et seq).
- CAB 185 (JIC(A)/JIC minutes of meetings; 1969 et seq).
- CAB 186 (JIC(A)/JIC memoranda and reports; 1969 et seq).
- CAB 187 (JIC Secretariat/Joint Intelligence Secretariat minutes; 1969 et seq).
- CAB 188 (JIC(B), OEIC and JIC(EA) documentation; 1968-83).
- CAB 189 (JIC(A)/JIC assessments and notes; 1966 et seq).
- CAB 190 (JIC Secretariat/Joint Intelligence Secretariat 'INT' documentation; 1970-79).
- CAB 191 (fragments of the records of combined and overseas intelligence committees/groups; 1947 et seq).

11. More details are at **Annex A**.

## Other intelligence-related Cabinet Office records

12. For technical reasons, certain other intelligence-related Cabinet Office records are not included in the Central Intelligence Machinery division.

13. The relevant series (or pieces within series) are:

- CAB 21/2722 (JIC daily Situation Centre reports; 1939-41).
- CAB 48 (Industrial Intelligence in Foreign Countries, 1928-39).
- CAB 56 (JIC; 1936-39).
- CAB 81/64 and CAB 81/87-148 (JIC; 1939-46).
- CAB 88/57-62 (CIC/CISC/CIS; 1942-45).
- CAB 100 (War Cabinet daily situation reports; 1939-45).
- CAB 104/195-203 (Middle East Intelligence Centre products; 1939-42).
- CAB 121/230-231 (Special Secret Information Centre files concerning the Joint Intelligence Staff; 1940-48).
- CAB 134/1790-1795 and CAB 134/2732-2735 (EIS/EIS(SIG)/EIS(G); 1962-68).
- CAB 176 (JIC Secretariat minutes; 1942-68).

14. More details are at **Annex B**.

## Bibliography

15. A select bibliography is at **Annex C**.

### Annexes:

- A. Central Intelligence Machinery division of Cabinet Office records.
- B. Other intelligence-related Cabinet Office records.
- C. Select bibliography.

## Central Intelligence Machinery division of Cabinet Office records

### 1. CAB 158

#### Title

Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee, later Committee: Memoranda

#### Symbol

JIC

#### Covering dates

1947-68

#### Scope and content

- a. Memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee for the period September 1939 to December 1946 are at CAB 81.
- b. The pieces at CAB 158/1-71 comprise the memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee until 31 December 1947) during the period January 1947 to December 1968. The memoranda appear in numerical sequence by year; the numerical sequence is not necessarily the chronological sequence of issue. Some 1947 and 1948 memoranda carry an '(O)' suffix indicating that they were concerned with operational matters.
- c. Some 'special circulation' memoranda were filed separately. Some such memoranda for the period January 1947 to December 1960 are in the Secretary's Standard Files (CAB 158/72-89). Further 'special circulation' memoranda for the period October 1956 to December 1968 are at CAB 158/90-104. CAB 158/72-104 are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they contain intelligence derived from sources that remain sensitive.
- d. Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbol 'JIC' continued in use on the memoranda until the end of 1968. JIC(A) (and JIC effective 1 October 1974) memoranda starting from January 1969 are at CAB 186.

### 2. CAB 159

#### Title

Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee, later Committee: Minutes of Meetings

#### Symbol

JIC

#### Covering dates

1947-68

#### Scope and content

- a. Minutes of meetings of the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee for the period September 1939 to December 1946 are at CAB 81.
- b. The pieces at CAB 159/1-49 comprise the minutes of meetings of the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee until 31 December 1947) during the period January 1947 to December 1968. Some items within the 1947 and 1948 minutes carry an '(O)' suffix indicating that they were concerned with operational matters.
- c. Some Confidential Annexes were filed separately and some are wanting. Miscellaneous Confidential Annexes for the period August 1952 to December 1955 are at CAB 159/50. Other Confidential Annexes for the period January 1947 to December 1960 are

in the Secretary's Standard Files (see under CAB 158 above). 'Special circulation' Confidential Annexes for 1961-64 are wanting (CAB 159/51). Further Confidential Annexes for the period January 1965 to December 1968 (all 'special circulation') are at CAB 159/52-53; these pieces are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they contain intelligence derived from sources that remain sensitive.

d. Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbol 'JIC' continued in use on the minutes until the end of 1968. JIC(A) (and JIC effective 1 October 1974) minutes starting from January 1969 are at CAB 185.

### **3. CAB 163**

#### **Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee Secretariat until November 1976 and then Joint Intelligence Secretariat: Files

#### **Covering dates**

1939 et seq

#### **Scope and content**

a. This series includes the few files of the Joint Intelligence Committee Secretariat that have survived from the period 1939-57. The first pieces (CAB 163/1-14) concern the organization of the intelligence staffs during and after World War 2, intelligence support to particular operations and the disposal of sensitive documentation found among those papers of Sir Winston Churchill that subsequently accrued to PREM 3..

b. The Joint Intelligence Committee Secretariat was transferred from the Ministry of Defence to the Cabinet Office in 1957 and a new filing system was introduced. The pieces at CAB 163/15 et seq belong to this new system (J Series files). The J Series filing system was reorganized in 1979. Those J Series files that are selected for permanent preservation are added to CAB 163 as the review of JIC documentation progresses.

### **4. CAB 179**

#### **Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee (and Joint Intelligence Committees from 1 April 1968 until 30 September 1974): Weekly Reviews, Surveys and Summaries

#### **Symbols**

WRCI, JIC(WSI)

From 5 October 2000: JIC(WSA) [eg JIC(01)(WSA)5]

#### **Covering dates**

1956-2008

#### **Scope and content**

a. In 1956 the Joint Intelligence Committee was issuing Weekly Summaries of Current Intelligence (derived from Reviews of Current Intelligence presented at Committee meetings and discussed and amended during the meetings). The 1956 Weekly Summaries of Current Intelligence (JIC(56)14/1-18; covering the period January to May 1956) are preserved within CAB 158/23.

b. A new system for the production and dissemination of current intelligence was introduced during 1956. The Weekly Summary of Current Intelligence was discontinued in May 1956 and replaced with two weekly publications – the Weekly Review of Current Intelligence (the Grey Book) and the Weekly Survey of Intelligence (the Red Book). The Grey Book was intended for a fairly wide distribution. The Red Book expanded on selected items

of current intelligence at higher levels of classification and had a correspondingly limited distribution.

- c. The Grey Book was discontinued at the end of 1966. From January 1967 the Red Book bore a symbol (eg JIC(67)(WSI)15) and was split into Part I (items for Ministers) and Part II (additional items and expanded versions of items in Part I). This two-part division of the Red Book ended in 1970 and the Red Book was then published as a single document until 1974.<sup>1</sup> From October 1974 the Red Book assumed a three-part format; Part I provided an overview of current intelligence with more detail in Part II (items releasable to Allies) and Part III (items with national caveats).
- d. Effective 5 October 2000 the Red Book was re-designated the Weekly Summary of Assessments (WSA).
- e. The Red Book was discontinued in 2008, the last issue being JIC(08)(WSA)3 (28 January 2008).
- f. Grey Books for 1956 (June to December), 1957, 1958, 1959, 1962, 1963 and 1966 are at CAB 179/1-12. Grey Books for the years 1960, 1961, 1964 and 1965 are wanting.
- g. The Red Books (commencing 4 May 1956) are preserved at CAB 179/13 et seq. All Red Books are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they contain intelligence derived from sources that remain sensitive.

## 5. CAB 182

### **Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee (and Joint Intelligence Committee (A) from 1 January 1969 until 30 September 1974): Sub-Committees, Working Parties etc

### **Symbols**

Various [eg JIC(INT)(P)(WP), JIC(A)(MT), JIC(IC)]

### **Covering dates**

1957 et seq

### **Scope and content**

- a. This series comprises the documentation of sub-committees, working parties and similar groups subordinate to the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Committee (A) between 1 April 1968 and 30 September 1974).
- b. The earliest pieces date from the late 1950s with the volume of documentation increasing during the 1960s. This is attributable to the previous procedure of issuing sub-committee and working party documentation as Secretariat minutes (see CAB 176). A decline in the volume of documentation during the 1970s is attributable to the records of several working parties and similar groups being registered as 'INT' documentation (see CAB 190).
- c. Some pieces in this series are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they concern intelligence matters that remain sensitive.

---

<sup>1</sup> INT 42(74)1 (Working Draft) (CAB 190/64) is informative on the procedures for the preparation of the Red Book.

## 6. CAB 185

### Title

Joint Intelligence Committee (A) until 30 September 1974 and then Joint Intelligence Committee: Minutes of Meetings

### Symbols

JIC(A), JIC

### Covering dates

1969 et seq

### Scope and content

- a. Minutes of meetings of the Joint Intelligence Committee for the period January 1947 to December 1968 are at CAB 159.
- b. This series comprises the minutes of meetings of the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) during the period January 1969 to September 1974 and thereafter the minutes of the Joint Intelligence Committee. Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbol 'JIC(A)' was not taken into use on the minutes until the beginning of 1969. The reversion of JIC(A) to the JIC designation effective 1 October 1974 was reflected in an immediate readoption of the 'JIC' symbol.
- c. Confidential Annexes and Limited Circulation Annexes (the latter term replaced the former effective 16 January 1976) were filed with the parent minutes unless extremely sensitive topics merited special circulation and discrete filing arrangements. These 'special circulation' pieces are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they contain intelligence derived from sources that remain sensitive.

## 7. CAB 186

### Title

Joint Intelligence Committee (A) until 30 September 1974 and then Joint Intelligence Committee: Memoranda and Reports

### Symbols

JIC(A), JIC

From 10 January 1996: JIC Report [eg JIC(96) Report 5]

### Covering dates

1969 et seq

### Scope and content

- a. Memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Committee for the period January 1947 to December 1968 are at CAB 159.
- b. This series comprises memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) during the period January 1969 to September 1974 and thereafter memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Committee. Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbol 'JIC(A)' was not taken into use on the memoranda until the beginning of 1969. The reversion of JIC(A) to the JIC designation effective 1 October 1974 was reflected in an immediate readoption of the 'JIC' symbol.
- c. The memoranda appear in numerical sequence by year; the numerical sequence is not necessarily the chronological sequence of issue.
- d. The term 'reports' was often used in place of 'memoranda'. Following the introduction of special assessments and notes in 1967 and the subsequent introduction of immediate assessments and priority assessments (see CAB 189), the number of reports issued each



year declined. The distinction between longer-term reports and current intelligence products was formalized in January 1996. JIC(96)(SEC)1 explained that reports would be restricted to a 'longer term study of a complex issue generally expected to have a shelf life of at least a year; or a particularly lengthy assessment, often supported by background material'.

e. Some 'special circulation' memoranda/reports were filed separately. These pieces are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they contain intelligence derived from sources that remain sensitive.

## **8. CAB 187**

### **Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee Secretariat until November 1976 and then Joint Intelligence Secretariat: Secretariat Minutes

### **Symbols**

JIC(A)(SEC), JIC(SEC) [eg JIC(A)(72)(SEC)29, JIC(75)(SEC)107]

### **Covering dates**

1969 et seq

### **Scope and content**

- a. Secretariat minutes for the period October 1942 to December 1968 are at CAB 176.
- b. This series comprises the Secretariat minutes of the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) during the period January 1969 to September 1974 and thereafter the Secretariat minutes of the Joint Intelligence Committee. Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbol 'JIC(A)(SEC)' was not taken into use on the Secretariat minutes until the beginning of 1969. The reversion of JIC(A) to the JIC designation effective 1 October 1974 was reflected in an immediate readoption of the 'JIC(SEC)' symbol. Secretariat minutes of the Joint Intelligence Committee (B) between 1 April 1968 and 30 September 1974 and thereafter (1974-83) of the Overseas Economic Intelligence Committee and the Joint Intelligence Committee (Economic Assessments) are preserved separately within CAB 188.
- c. All pieces in this series are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 in view of the preponderance of Secretariat minutes concerning intelligence matters that remain sensitive.

## **9. CAB 188**

### **Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee (B), Overseas Economic Intelligence Committee and Joint Intelligence Committee (Economic Assessments): Minutes, Memoranda and Other Documents

### **Symbols**

JIC(B), JIC(B)(SEC), JIC(B)(N), OEIC, OEIC(SEC), OEIC(N), JIC(EA), JIC(EA)(SEC), JIC(EA)(N)

### **Covering dates**

1968-83

### **Scope and content**

- a. Minutes and memoranda of the Economic Intelligence Steering Committee and its supporting Scientific Intelligence Group during the period September 1962 to March 1968 are at CAB 134/1790-1795 and CAB 134/2732-2735.
- b. The responsibilities of the Committee passed to a Joint Intelligence Committee (B) (JIC(B)) effective 1 April 1968. The JIC(B) was dissolved effective 30 September 1974 and

its responsibilities passed in turn to an Overseas Economic Intelligence Committee (OEIC). JIC (Economic Assessments) (JIC(EA)) replaced OEIC in April 1980. JIC(EA) was dissolved in January 1984.

c. This series comprises the documentation (minutes, memoranda, Secretariat minutes and notes) of JIC(B) during the period 1 April 1968 to 30 September 1974 and thereafter (1974-83) of OEIC and JIC(EA).

d. Some 'special circulation' documentation was filed separately. These pieces are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they contain intelligence derived from sources that remain sensitive.

## 10. CAB 189

### Title

Joint Intelligence Committee (and Joint Intelligence Committee (A) from 1 January 1969 until 30 September 1974): Assessments and Notes

### Symbols

JIC(IA), JIC(IA)(IR), JIC(N), JIC(N)(IR), JIC(PA), JIC(RSI), JIC(SA), JIC(SA)(T), JIC(A)(N), JIC(A)(SA), JIC(A)(SA)(IR), JIC(A)(SA)(T), JIC(EXA)(PA), JIC(EXCIG), JIC (EX CIG), JIC(EXIA), JIC(EXIA)(SA), JIC(IA)(EX), JIC(A)(EX), JIC(A)(XA)

From 10 January 1996: JIC [eg JIC(96)005]

### Covering dates

1966 et seq

### Scope and content

a. From January 1967, the output of current intelligence in the Red Book (see CAB 179) was augmented with special assessments and notes. Special assessments addressed important items of immediate interest and notes covered longer-term matters of less urgency or expanded on topics that had already attracted a special assessment. Special assessments were discontinued effective 30 September 1974 and replaced with immediate assessments. From 14 January 1992 priority assessments were issued additional to immediate assessments and notes.

b. The distinctions between immediate assessments, priority assessments and notes were abandoned effective 10 January 1996 when all such current intelligence products became known as 'assessments' and assumed a discrete numbering system.

c. This series comprises assessments, special assessments, immediate assessments, priority assessments, notes and similar products issued by or on behalf of the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Committee (A) between 1 January 1969 and 30 September 1974).<sup>2</sup> There are also some similar 1966 products concerning Rhodesia (JIC(RSI); CAB 189/1). Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbols 'JIC(A)(N)' and 'JIC(A)(SA)' were not taken into use until the beginning of 1969. The reversion of JIC(A) to the JIC designation effective 1 October 1974 was reflected in an immediate readoption of the 'JIC(N)' symbol and the adoption of the new 'JIC(IA)' symbol.

d. Notes issued by the Joint Intelligence Committee (B) between 1 April 1968 and 30 September 1974 and thereafter (1974-83) by the Overseas Economic Intelligence Committee and the Joint Intelligence Committee (Economic Assessments) are preserved separately within CAB 188.

---

<sup>2</sup> INT 42(74)1 (Working Draft) (CAB 190/64) is informative on the circumstances in which Notes and Special Assessments could be issued without submission to JIC(A) for approval.

e. All pieces in this series are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 in view of the preponderance of assessments and notes concerning intelligence matters that remain sensitive.

## 11. CAB 190

### Title

Joint Intelligence Committee Secretariat, later Joint Intelligence Secretariat: 'INT'  
Documentation

### Symbols

INT [eg INT 7(70)1 or INT 17(71) 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting] until 4 April 1976; thereafter JIC(INT) [eg JIC(76)(INT 4)2]

### Covering dates

1970-79

### Scope and content

a. Discrete registry arrangements for 'INT' documentation were introduced in 1970. 'INT' references were allocated to various topics (including the circulation of reports received from overseas sources) and to the documentation generated by certain working parties and similar groups. The common characteristic was that the documentation was not the product of the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (Joint Intelligence Committee from 1 October 1974) itself (as were memoranda, minutes, special assessments, notes etc) but documentation generated/circulated for the information of Committee members and of others within the intelligence community.

b. During the period 1970-76 documentation was registered under 'INT' numbers ranging from 1 to 51. None of these numbers was in use for the entire period 1970-76.

c. Effective 5 April 1976 the scope of 'INT' documentation was reduced and new symbols were allocated:

- The previous INT 11 became JIC(76)(INT 1).
- The previous INT 25 became JIC(76)(INT 2).
- The previous INT 26 became JIC(76)(INT 3).
- The previous INT 27 became JIC(76)(INT 4).
- The previous INT 28 became JIC(76)(INT 5).
- The previous INT 43 became JIC(76)(INT 6).
- The previous INT 44 became JIC(76)(INT 7).
- The previous INT 47 became JIC(76)(INT 8).

d. There is also evidence that a JIC(INT 9) reference was created. No JIC(INT 6) or JIC(INT 9) documentation has been sighted.

e. The discrete JIC(INT) registry arrangements were discontinued effective 15 June 1979. From that date documentation previously circulated under a JIC(INT) reference was circulated bearing the reference of the appropriate J Series file (see under CAB 163 above).

f. Some pieces in this series are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they concern intelligence matters that remain sensitive.

## 12. CAB 191

### **Title**

Fragments of the Records of the Combined and Overseas Intelligence Committees/Groups

### **Symbols**

ANZAM JIC, EARIC, JIC(FE), JIC(G), JIC(Germany), JICG, JIC(MIDEAST), JIG(CY), JIG(Cyprus), LIC(ADEN), LIC(GIBRALTAR), LIC(HK), LIC(LIBYA) and LIC(MALTA)

### **Covering dates**

1947 et seq

### **Scope and content**

- a. 'Combined intelligence committees/groups' for the purposes of these notes are intelligence fora comprising representatives of two or more nations. A World War 2 example is the Anglo-American Combined Intelligence Committee, the records of which are at CAB 88/57-62. Post-war examples are the UK/Australian/New Zealand Joint Intelligence Committee that supported the ANZAM (Australian, New Zealand and Malayan region) consultative defence structures over the period 1964-71, the similar Joint Intelligence Committee that supported the successor ANZUK consultative structures from 1971 to 1975 and the associated ANZUK Intelligence Group (Singapore).
- b. 'Overseas intelligence committees/groups' for the purposes of these notes are British intelligence fora established overseas in support of British military commanders and/or officers administering British colonial etc governments. Examples include:
  - Joint Intelligence Committee (Germany), Joint Intelligence Committee (Middle East) and Joint Intelligence Committee (Far East).
  - Joint Intelligence Group (Arabian Peninsula), Joint Intelligence Group (Cyprus) and Joint Intelligence Group (Gulf). Joint Intelligence Groups were similar to overseas Joint Intelligence Committees but had a more limited geographical focus.
  - Local Intelligence Committees established in most British colonial territories and in places such as Malta (post-independence) and Libya in support of British military commanders.
- c. CAB 191 contains those (few) fragments of the records of the combined and overseas intelligence committees/groups that have been found within the registry of the Joint Intelligence Secretariat. They complement similar fragments that are:
  - Preserved within the records of other departments (the application of the terms 'intelligence committee' and 'intelligence group' to the TNA catalogue search facility should identify the relevant series/pieces).
  - Preserved as 'INT' documentation within CAB 190.

## Other intelligence-related Cabinet Office records

### 1. CAB 21/2722

**Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee Daily Situation Centre Reports

**Covering dates**

1939-41

### 2. CAB 48

**Title**

Sub-Committee on Industrial Intelligence in Foreign Countries: Minutes of Meetings and Memoranda

**Symbols**

IFC, FCI, FCI(TA), FCI(Sub), FCI(AT)

**Covering dates**

1928-39

**Scope and content**

- a. This series includes the minutes and memoranda of the Committee of Imperial Defence's Sub-Committee on Industrial Intelligence in Foreign Countries and of its various sub-committees.
- b. A report on the Conference on Industrial Intelligence in Foreign Countries (1928) is also included.

### 3. CAB 56

**Title**

Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee: Minutes of Meetings and Memoranda

**Symbols**

JIC, JIC(S), JIC(A)

**Covering dates**

1936-39

**Scope and content**

- a. This series comprises the minutes and memoranda of the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee (June 1936 to August 1939), the minutes and papers of the Sub-Committee on Air Warfare in Spain (1937-38) and the minutes and papers of the Sub-Committee on Air Warfare (1938-39). CAB 56/7 comprises notes compiled in 1974 on the formation and activities of the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee from 1936 to 1939.
- b. Minutes and memoranda of the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee for the period September 1939 to December 1946 are at CAB 81.

### 4. CAB 81 (part)

**Title**

Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee and Associated Committees and Sub-Committees: Minutes of Meetings, Memoranda and Other Documents

**Symbols**

JIC, FOES, APS, FINS, BWIC, CCFEI, IPC, CIPC

## **Pieces**

CAB 81/64 and CAB 81/87-148

## **Covering dates**

1939-46

## **Scope and content**

- a. Minutes and memoranda of the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee for the period June 1936 to August 1939 are at CAB 56.
- b. The pieces at CAB 81/87-88 comprise the minutes of meetings of the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee during the period September 1939 to December 1941 with associated Confidential Annexes at CAB 81/89. The minutes of meetings during the period January 1942 to December 1946 are at CAB 81/90-94. Some items within the minutes carry an '(O)' suffix indicating that they were concerned with operational matters.
- c. The pieces at CAB 81/95-134 comprise the memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee during the period September 1939 to December 1946. The memoranda appear in numerical sequence by year; the numerical sequence is not necessarily the chronological sequence of issue. Some memoranda carry an '(O)' suffix indicating that they were concerned with operational matters.
- d. The papers of the Future Operations (Enemy) Planning Section (FOES) are at CAB 81/64. Some miscellaneous pieces concerning the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee during World War 2 are at CAB 81/136-148. These include the papers of the Axis Planning Section (APS) at CAB 81/136 and a specimen product of the Intelligence Section (Operations) (IS(O)) at CAB 81/148. The FOES and the APS were predecessors of the Joint Intelligence Staff (JIS) formed in June 1941. Both the IS(O) and the JIS came under the Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee. The IS(O) was concerned with immediate intelligence support to the planning of operations whereas the JIS concentrated on longer-term assessments of enemy intentions. The wartime Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee also supervised the activities of the Inter-Services Security Board, the minutes of which are preserved at WO 283.
- e. Memoranda issued by the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee until 31 December 1947) for the period 1947-68 are at CAB 158. Minutes of meetings of the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee until 31 December 1947) for the period 1947-68 are at CAB 159.

## **5. CAB 88 (part)**

### **Title**

Combined Intelligence Committee, Combined Intelligence Sub-Committee and Combined Intelligence Staff: Minutes of Meetings and Memoranda

### **Symbols**

CIC, CISC, CIS

### **Pieces**

CAB 88/57-62

### **Covering dates**

1942-45

### **Scope and content**

- a. The Combined Intelligence Committee (CIC) was established in Washington DC in February 1942 as part of the Combined Chiefs of Staff machinery. The Committee comprised representatives of the British Joint Intelligence Committee (Washington DC) (drawn from members of the British Joint Staff Mission) and the American Joint Intelligence Committee (subordinate to the Joint Chiefs of Staff). An associated Combined Intelligence Sub-

Committee (CISC) was developed during 1942 and was reconstituted as the Combined Intelligence Staff (CIS) in August 1943.

b. CIC minutes and memoranda for the period Mar 1942 to October 1945 are at CAB 88/57-60. CISC minutes for the period February 1942 to August 1943 are at CAB 88/61 and CIS minutes for the period August 1943 to February 1944 are at CAB 88/62.

## **6. CAB 100**

### **Title**

War Cabinet Daily Situation Reports

### **Covering dates**

1939-45

## **7. CAB 104/195-203**

### **Title**

Miscellaneous Middle East Intelligence Centre Products

### **Covering dates**

1939-45

## **8. CAB 121/230-231**

### **Title**

Special Secret Information Centre Files Concerning the Joint Intelligence Staff

### **Covering dates**

1940-48

## **9. CAB 134 (part)**

### **Title**

Economic Intelligence Steering Committee and Scientific Intelligence Group: Minutes of Meetings and Memoranda

### **Symbols**

EIS, EIS(SIG), EIS(G)

### **Covering dates**

1962-68

### **Pieces**

CAB 134/1790-1795 and CAB 134/2732-2735

### **Scope and content**

a. The Economic Intelligence Steering Committee was a Cabinet Committee and was supported by a Scientific Intelligence Group. The minutes and memoranda of the Committee and the Group during the period September 1962 to March 1968 are at CAB 134/1790-1795 and CAB 134/2732-2735.

b. The responsibilities of the Committee passed to the new Joint Intelligence Committee (B) effective 1 April 1968 (see CAB 188).

## **10. CAB 176**

### **Title**

Joint Intelligence Committee Secretariat: Secretariat Minutes

### **Symbol**

JIC(SEC) [eg JIC(67)(SEC)123]



## **Covering dates**

1942-68

## **Scope and content**

- a. Secretariat minutes were used to pass information to members of the Joint Intelligence Committee. Some covered fairly mundane topics such as the dates and times of meetings or changes of contact details. Others covered substantive documents such as intelligence assessments that were to be noted or that were to be discussed at future meetings. Until the late 1950s (when discrete symbols and registry arrangements were introduced; see CAB 182), Secretariat minutes were used to disseminate the reports of Joint Intelligence Committee sub-committees and working parties.
- b. The 'JIC(SEC)' symbol (eg JIC(67)(SEC)123) was introduced in January 1967. The previous referencing system employed the sequential number of the minute followed by the year as in JIC/123/63 or JIC 456/66.
- c. The pieces at CAB 176/1-81 comprise selected Secretariat minutes of the Joint Intelligence Committee (Joint Intelligence Sub-Committee until 31 December 1947) during the period October 1942 to December 1963. For this period selected Secretariat minutes have been preserved; the selection represents a small proportion of the total. Those 1958 Secretariat minutes selected for preservation are wanting (CAB 176/64-67).
- d. From January 1964 virtually all Secretariat minutes have been preserved. The Secretariat minutes for the period January 1964 to December 1968 are at CAB 176/82-121.
- e. Some pieces in this series are currently retained under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 as they concern intelligence matters that remain sensitive. The retained pieces include 'special circulation' Secretariat minutes at CAB 176/122-139.
- f. Although the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) became the Joint Intelligence Committee (A) (JIC(A)) effective 1 April 1968, the symbol 'JIC(SEC)' continued in use on the Secretariat minutes until the end of 1968. JIC(A) (and JIC effective 1 October 1974) Secretariat minutes starting from January 1969 are at CAB 187.



## Select bibliography

Sir Percy Cradock, *Know Your Enemy: How the Joint Intelligence Committee Saw the World* (London: John Murray, 2002)

Peter Hennessy, *The Secret State: Preparing for the Worst, 1945-2010* (London: Penguin Books, 2010)

Michael Herman, *Intelligence Services in the Information Age* (London: Frank Cass, 2001)

F. H. Hinsley et al, *British Intelligence in the Second World War: Its Influence on Strategy and Operations* – Volumes 1, 2 and 3 (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1979-1991)

Edward Thomas, 'The Evolution of the JIC System Up To and During World War II' in Christopher Andrew and Jeremy Noakes (editors), *Intelligence and International Relations, 1900-1945* (Exeter: Exeter University Publications, 1987), pp. 219-234