

~~TOP SECRET CANOE - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

FSC53/2/R2
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9 June 1953

First Progress Report of Sub-Committee 2 (Technical)

I. The sub-committee finds itself agreed on the following points:

1. General

- a. NATO security is jeopardized by insecure national communications.
- b. An urgent need exists for speedy positive action to improve national communications security of NATO countries.
- c. Inasmuch as it appears to be impractical to attempt corrective action by provision of new equipment, action should initially be aimed at the improvement of available systems and practices wherever possible.
- d. In view of the fact that whatever action is taken to improve communications security will result in the eventual loss of the improvement must be so successful as to make it worth paying that price.

2. Proposed Action

a.

EO 3.3(h)(2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

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applicable to transmission security and that NATO nations must conform to these standards. It is intended to insert a strong recommendation to this effect in the conclusions and recommendations of the final report of the conference.

- b. The first step in implementing each action is to bring the problem into the framework of the Standing Group. This should be done as soon as the minimum standards for either crypto-security or transmission security are agreed by the UK and US.
- c. Since it is impossible to proceed to improve the communications security of NATO countries not members of the Standing Group without the full

- d.

- e. The preliminary approach should take the form of a diplomatic contact leading to technical discussions.
- f. The manner of the diplomatic contact is a matter for the Foreign Office and the State Department to decide.

II. The sub-committee has not reached agreement on the following points:

- 1. Whether the approach to non-Standing Group nations should be made to each singly or to all collectively;
- 2. To what extent will be necessary.

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3. Where, when, and how are preliminary technical discussions

to be held?

EO 3.3(h)(2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

4. Must the preliminary technical discussions

be completed before the problem is officially referred to the Standing Group?