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USCIB: 13.8/17

21 May 1954

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIBEC:

Subject: Classification of "War Secrets in the Ether,
Vol. II (Part III)".

Reference: USCIB 13.8/9 dated 3 December 1953.

1. Volume II of subject document has been reviewed by the Security Committee. Their report and recommendations are enclosed herewith.

2. Based on the practical principle that such information should remain classified unless there is no reasonable expectation of being able to maintain such status, the Executive Secretary reluctantly concurs in the SECCOM recommendation to treat subject document in the same fashion as was recommended in the reference for Volume I.

3. The Executive Secretary does not believe that the pages selected for removal (77-80) are more damaging (or the information any more controllable) than many other pages. For example:

a. The description of techniques beginning on page 109 and ending on page 111.


b. The revelations regarding the Churchill-Roosevelt telephone conversations on pages 253 and 254.

c. The discussion of German submarine difficulties on pages 255 and 256 (erroneous but likely to provoke discussion that would reveal the true facts).

d. The "Berne Case" on pages 317 and 318.

There are other, and perhaps better, examples scattered throughout the book. It appears, then, that if it is to be designated as "Unclassified" at all, it might as well be so treated in its entirety.

4. Copies of subject document have been distributed to SECCOM members. No additional copies are immediately available.


RUFUS L. TAYLOR
Captain, U. S. Navy
Executive Secretary, USCIB

Enclosure *28 Apr*
SEC #02 dtd *21 May* 1954.

USCIB: 13.8/17

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEC #02

28 April 1954

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

Subject: Classification and Handling of "War Secrets in the Ether,
Vol. II (Part III)"

References: (a) USCIB 13.8/2 dated 9 October 1953
(b) USCIB 13.8/10 dated 16 December 1953

1. Volume II (Part III) of Wilhelm Flicke's book "War Secrets in the Ether", as published by NSA, was submitted to the Security Committee for their recommendations as to the proper classification and handling of the document.

2. In considering this problem the SECCOM noted the following facts:

a. NSA desires to use this publication for training purposes, and best use can be obtained if the document is unclassified (Volume I is unclassified).

b. CIA bought publication rights for the book from Flicke and presumably have Flicke's word that he will honor the agreement.

c. Some of the material appearing in Volume I has also appeared in European countries in Sunday pictorials and in book form. Flicke could reproduce material contained in Volume II in the same manner if he so desired.

d. It would be impossible to maintain the classification of the material contained in this document. However, distribution of the NSA version could be controlled to some extent.

3. The SECCOM recommends that all references to and descriptions of the "ENIGMA" machine appearing on pages 77-80 of "War Secrets in the Ether, Vol. II (Part III)" be removed and that the document then be designated "UNCLASSIFIED" with the understanding that all feasible steps to limit distribution and access to the publication will be taken by the Director, National Security Agency.

4. The above recommendation is in consonance with the handling of Volume I as approved by USCIB (reference (b)).

(Signed)
WILLIAM R. CULMER
Major, Arty., USA
Chairman, SECCOM

Enclosure with USCIB 13.8/17 dtd 21 May 1954.