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ABBEY 7800

OFFICES OF THE CYPHER POLICY BOARD,

C/o ROOM 9

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1

~~SECRET~~

13th November, 1953.

Reference: L/26B/2418

Dear General Canine,

As no doubt you are aware, the Cypher Policy Board has for some months been considering the possible need to re-organise its supporting organization. Considerable progress has been made in this direction but there are still many important aspects of this re-organization yet to be resolved.

In September last the Chiefs of Staff took note of the general nature of the re-organization which had been agreed by the C.P.B. This consisted in the main of:

- A. Widening the terms of reference of the Board,
- B. Strengthening the main policy making committee in support of the Board.
- C. Appointing a Director to be responsible for the execution of the agreed policy.
- D. Establishing an Agency in support of the Director; this Agency to absorb the existing Secretariat of the Cypher Policy Board.

The terms of reference of the Board have been widened to include:-

- (i) To decide questions of policy affecting the security of all practices and procedures used in communications transmissions.
- (ii) To provide security appreciations and advice to the appropriate authority regarding the security of non-communications transmissions (e.g. Navigational Aids, Radar, etc.) in respect of the intelligence which may be derived from such transmissions.
- (iii) To provide security advice to the appropriate authority regarding Communications Deception and Radio Deception.

The precise responsibility of the C.P.B. for Research, Development and Production in the field of cryptographic devices has yet to be defined and this is dependent in part on the outcome of a separate investigation which is being carried out at the request of the C.P.B. by a representative of the Chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee.

With the widened terms of reference, the title "Cypher Policy Board" does not accurately represent the Board's responsibilities. It is probable, therefore, that a new title will be found and "Radio and Telecommunications Security Board" has been suggested but not yet agreed. It is not certain that the Board itself will continue in its present form, it has however been agreed that this question shall come up for review when the new organization has been running for a year.

/The

Lieut. General Ralph Canine,
National Security Agency,
Washington, D.C.

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The new terms of reference at (i) and (ii) above introduce further points to be resolved. There exist at present our British Joint Communications-Electronics Board which has some responsibility for transmission security and also our Control of Radio Transmissions and Broadcasting Sub-Committee which is responsible for the policy affecting the denial of the use by an enemy of Communications and Non-Communications Transmissions emanating from the U.K. as navigational aids. We have yet to define precisely where responsibility lies as between our Board and these two organizations.

The many operational and administrative aspects affecting the new Agency both domestically and as far as its relationship with other Departments and overseas authorities are concerned, have yet to be worked out and this task was left until the Director of the new Agency had been appointed.

The main policy-making committee in support of the Board has been strengthened by having a permanent Chairman, by including the then Director of ~~Signals~~ ^{Communications} in the Service Ministries, two representatives of USA Civil Departments, one of whom will be a consultant, the Director R.C.S.G. and the Director of the new Agency. I attach a chart showing briefly the committee structure and the new representation.

[REDACTED]

Communications but also has wide experience in the operations, maintenance, Production and Supply fields. He took up office on 26th October 1950 and was in fact the day of the opening Plenary Session of the UK/US Communications Security Conference and in view of his very recent arrival it was agreed that I should be responsible for conducting the Conference. I have been asked to become the Deputy Director of the new Agency and have agreed to do so but suggested that the new arrangement should be subject to review after six months. There will of necessity be a period during which [REDACTED] will wish us to continue to be responsible for the direction of the business of the Cypro Policy Board and I am continuing at least for the time being to be Secretary of the Board. However, in the near future [REDACTED] will assume full responsibility and I shall then function as his deputy.

Hitherto I have been the main U.K. contact with you and N.S.A. on COMSEC matters and before I move into the position of Member Two in the new Agency I should like to thank you and all at N.S.A. for your most valuable and much enjoyed cooperation during my term of office.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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Chair: Director General of Signal Intelligence
(Maj.Gen. Sir John Sinclair)
The Rt.Hon. Sir Edward Bridges
Permanent Head of the Treasury
(appointed in a personal capacity to
represent the interests of the Civil
Departments)
A representative of the Chiefs of Staff,
Lt.Gen. Sir Nevil Brownjohn
(Military Secretary of the Cabinet and
Chief Staff Officer to the Ministry of
Defence.)

Chair: Chairman of CFB (at least initially)
3 Directors of Signals of Service
Departments
3 Directors of Intelligence of Service
Departments
2 Representatives of the Civil
Departments (one to be a communicator)
Director GCHQ
Director of the new Agency -

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