

SEC # 0008

15 June 1954

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB:

Subject: SECCOM Progress Report 1 January 1954 - 15 June 1954.

Reference: USCIB 5/460 dated 30 July 1953.

1. The enclosed progress report is in two parts: Part I summarizes the principal actions of the Security Committee from 1 January 1954 to 15 June 1954; Part II is a status report of assigned items not yet completed by the Security Committee.

2. THE ENCLOSURE WITH THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AND SHALL BE HANDLED ONLY IN CHANNELS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR COMINT.

William R. Culmer
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Major, Arty., USA
Chairman, SECCOM

Enclosure
USCIBSECCOM Progress Report
dtd 15 June 1954.

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 07-23-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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15 June 1954

USCIBSECCOM PROGRESS REPORT

PART I

A brief summary of major items the SECCOM has completed and forwarded since 1 January 1954 follows:

1. Exploitation of

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

INTCOM recommendations regarding the above subject were reviewed and found entirely acceptable from a security standpoint.

2. Emergency and Operational Dissemination of COMINT.

An INTCOM paper on the above subject was reviewed and SECCOM recommendations were submitted to the Chairman, INTCOM in the form of a draft directive.

3. Assignment of COMINT Personnel to Hazardous Duties.

The SECCOM prepared and forwarded a proposed directive on the above subject.

4. Establishment of COMINT Clearance Levels.

SECCOM considered the above problem and recommended that the present single standard for investigation and clearance procedures (CIBD #5) remain in effect after categorization becomes fully effective.

5. Classification of "War Secrets in the Ether, Vol. II".

The SECCOM recommended that certain portions of the above publication, deemed to be classified, be removed and the document then be designated UNCLASSIFIED. Dissemination to be controlled as possible by the Director, NSA.

6. Designation of Officials Who May Grant Clearance Prior to Completion of the Required Investigation.

The SECCOM recommended that designation of specific officials who may take the above action was not necessary at this time and that further consideration of this item be deferred until action is taken to codify USCIB security directives and security policy statements.

Enclosure with SEC #0008 dtd 15 June 1954.

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7. During the period of this report, due to conflicting information received in regard to an air crash at Keflavik Airport, Iceland involving loss of accountability of COMINT material, the Chairman was placed on TDY for ten days in order to investigate the matter to determine the true circumstances as best he could and to subsequently recommend ways and means of achieving better tracer and casualty control of COMINT in transit by air courier. The Chairman's recommendation that all COMINT aboard the aircraft be considered compromised within the meaning of the definition of CIBD #9 was upheld and his recommendations regarding ways and means of achieving better tracer and casualty control will be placed on the agenda for the July SECCOM meeting.

8. The Chairman, in his capacity as Secretary for the U.S. Ad Hoc Committee and for the Combined Working Group for the Improvement of Allied (NATO) Communications Security (approach to the French), has attended nine ad hoc committee meetings and six CWG meetings during the period covered by this report.

PART II

A brief summary of the status of assigned items not yet completed by SECCOM follows:

1. Proper Classification and Handling of Documents Containing Information about Communications Intelligence Activities.

A basic directive on the above subject has been completed. However the SECCOM is awaiting redrafts of certain examples of proper classification which are to be included in appendices to that document.

2. Conduct of COMINT Activities in Exposed Areas.

This item has been given to an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of preparing a directive covering all types of COMINT activities. A codification of CIBD #7 and an NSA draft directive covering COMINT technical activities is being considered.

3. Review of CIBD #4 (Revised), 25 October 1950.

This item has been placed on the agenda for the 17 June SECCOM meeting in order to determine whether that directive needs substantive revision in order to comply with the new Appendix "B".

4. Review of CIBD #6 (Revised), 18 April 1952.

Same as paragraph 3 above.

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5. Review of CIBD #8, 11 August 1950.

Same as paragraph 3 above.

6. Classification of Intercepted Traffic Passed from Intercept Stations to Processing Activities.

An NSA proposal to revise paragraph 40 of Appendix "B" with regard to procedures for handling and mailing of certain intercept traffic at field stations will be considered at the 17 June meeting of SECCOM.

7. Use of Term "For Official Use Only" for COMINT Information Not Within the Purview of Executive Order No. 10501.

It is planned to place the above item on the agenda for the July meeting of SECCOM to determine the desirability of using the phrase "For Official Use Only" (now authorized by the Department of Defense) for COMINT information requiring protection in the public interest, but which does not fall within the purview of Executive Order No. 10501.

8. Security Classification of "The Signal Corps: The Emergency."

It is planned to place the above item on the agenda for the July meeting of SECCOM to consider the classification and handling of that portion of a draft history of the U.S. Army Signal Corps dealing with COMINT.

9. Security of COMINT Information Made Available to the Legislative Branch of the Government.

It is planned to place the above item on the agenda for the August meeting of SECCOM to consider ways and means of enhancing the prospect of being able to maintain the degree of security desired for COMINT information made available to the Legislative Branch of the Government.

10. Distribution of COMINT Documents in the Washington Area.

It is planned to place the above item on the agenda for the August meeting of SECCOM for review.

11. Codification of USCIB Directives and Policy Statements Pertaining to Security.

The Chairman has prepared a draft outline for a USCIB directive covering all aspects of COMINT security standards and procedures. The outline will be submitted to SECCOM for comment prior to actual compilation of the directive. It is expected that this directive will be completed during the early part of next year..