

~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ FINALSUBJECT NUMBER

USCIB: 13.7/29 Item 2 of the Agenda for the Seventeenth Meeting of USCIBEC, held on 30 July 1954.

Subject: Emergency Dissemination of COMINT to Non-indoctrinated Persons (Report by the Chairman, USCIB INTCOM - USCIB 13.7/20; 13.7/24).

The CHAIRMAN introduced subject Report by suggesting consideration of changes proposed by various members pointing out that in the main all members have indicated their willingness to approve a directive along the lines of the one recommended in the Report of the Chairman, INTCOM.

The discussion then centered around footnote #1 to the proposed directive. The Chairman and the Defense Member urged changes that would permit the designated officials to appoint an agent for the purpose of making determinations to permit extraordinary dissemination of at least Category II and Category I COMINT rather than make such determinations the direct personal responsibility of the incumbent.

MR. POLYZOIDES pointed out that it would be easier in the future to relax the provisions of the proposed directive than to tighten them and that therefore the purpose of footnote #1 as recommended by the INTCOM should remain unaltered.

MR. GODEL stated that he agreed with the Chairman's suggestion permitting the designation of an agent for the purpose. He stated that the footnote as proposed by INTCOM might interfere with the prerogatives of commanders in delegating authority. He added, however, that he would accept the positions of the Service Members on this matter. The Service Members all expressed satisfaction with the idea of fastening the required decision personally upon the commanders concerned.

It was therefore agreed that the following wording for footnote #1 proposed by the Navy Member should be adopted:

"This authority is to be exercised and decisions made personally by the incumbent or in his absence, by that person duly authorized to succeed."

The CHAIRMAN expressed the view that this decision would prove to be a mistake and that the Air Force in particular might find it difficult in its application to Category I COMINT. He suggested deletion of the footnote as applied to Category I.

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CAPTAIN McCORMICK suggested deferring final decision on footnote #1 until after consideration of the Air Force plan for use of Category I COMINT (next on the agenda).

The CHAIRMAN pressed for a decision on the principle. Such decision to be on a trial basis. He added that the first test of such decision would then be the Air Force Plan next on the agenda.

It was agreed that whatever provisions were approved would be on a trial basis of 1 year and that this would be taken into account when considering the AIR FORCE PLAN.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed consideration of amendments by the Defense Member in the reporting procedures set forth in paragraph V. A. on page 8 of the proposed directive.

Discussion centered around the question of reporting each individual item of Category II COMINT involved.

The CHAIRMAN urged adoption of the modification proposed by the Defense Member to confine reporting of Category II material to a general description of the extent and nature of the material.

LT. COLONEL HARROLD asked what the Executive Secretary would be expected to do with the reports.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Executive Secretary's action would depend on the nature of the reports but that in any case they would be examined and the members advised whether or not the action taken is in accord with the Board's policy. The Chairman added that this would involve distribution of numerous copies of the reports and probably an expression of unpopular opinions by the Executive Secretary.

LT. COLONEL HARROLD expressed the view that something more than punitive action must be in mind.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the purpose of the reporting procedure is, amongst other things, to provide for corrective surveillance.

MR. PACKARD offered the statement that corrective surveillance was not what was in mind when Appendix "B" was drawn up. He added that the reporting envisaged therein was purely for information.

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The CHAIRMAN pointed out that Mr. Packard's interpretation of the intent of Appendix "B" notwithstanding, the Executive Secretary is the Security Officer of the Board and is therefore bound to draw attention to variations from the policy of the Board that might weaken security.

MR. POLYZOIDES indicated some distaste for this view and emphasized that his idea of the purpose is merely a mutual exchange of information with the British as required by Appendix "B".

The CHAIRMAN drew attention of the members to the fact that punitive or disciplinary action is a matter for each individual member and has nothing to do with either the Executive Secretary or the point under discussion. He added that the mere matter of having to report so much information to the Board creates complications that should be minimized.

LT. COLONEL HARROLD stated that the purpose of his question was to explore the operational implications of the required reports.

MR. GODEL pointed out that the purpose of the amendment was to reduce the operational inconvenience of such reporting.

The CHAIRMAN agreed with this view and emphasized the difficulty that might be encountered in isolating the individual Category II items to be reported in the first instance.

After some further discussion it was agreed to accept the modifications proposed by the Defense Member as set forth in subparagraph b. of the DOD vote sheet action reported in USCIB 13.7/24.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed consideration of a new paragraph IV.D.3. on page 7 as follows:

"3. While it is desirable to keep Category I COMINT in COMINT channels, it may be disseminated to U.S. recipients in accordance with the rules governing intelligence materials of similar classification."

This proposal was accepted.

CAPTAIN AGNEW agreed that this amendment obviated the need for the NSA proposed amendment set forth in USCIB 13.7/24.

The CHAIRMAN summed up the changes and it was agreed that the proposed directive as amended be approved on a trial basis of 1 year.

DECISION: (30 July 1954) USCIBEC approved on a trial basis of 1 year the directive recommended by the INTCOM as presented in USCIB 13.7/20 and as amended in accordance with the above discussion.

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