

~~TOP SECRET~~

Serial:

~~TOP SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

SUBJECT: Preparation of History of the Naval COMINT Operation
During the Korean Conflict

TO: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-20)
The Pentagon

Reference: DMC ltr (OP-202B), ser. 00055SP20, 18 Nov 53

1. I am pleased to learn from the reference that the projected study of the U.S. COMINT effort during the Korean conflict has your support. In view of the fact that the cryptologic agencies of the Army and Air Force are preparing accounts of their COMINT operations as separate histories, it seems to me that it would be advantageous for the cryptologic agency of the Navy to produce a comparable account of the Navy COMINT effort. This would afford autonomy to the Navy in the determination of the form and content of its history; it would also provide for uniformity in the execution of the project by all three Services.

2. I would be glad to assist the Navy in executing such a project. National Security Agency assistance would take the form of making available to the Director of Naval Communications (DNC) the services of Commander E. W. Heagy and personnel subordinate to him, as well as the services of Lieutenant H. W. Joslin. Under this arrangement, Commander Heagy would confer with Commander M. B. Gillespie and provide for the details of implementation. In this latter connection, Commander Heagy would be authorized to make the services of one of his Naval officers who participated in the Navy COMINT effort in the Korean theater available to DNC on a full-time basis as may be required. The other NSA personnel concerned would be authorized to devote sufficient time to the project to insure that their respective capabilities to contribute information are fully exploited.

3. Your concurrence in the plan outlined in paragraph 2 above is requested.

4. If the plan meets with your concurrence and is brought to completion, NSA would like to have 10 copies of the report.

RALPH J. CANINE
Lieutenant General, US Army
Director

SEE ATTACHED FOR M/R AND DISTRIBUTION

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Letter to Chief of Naval Operations (OP-20)

Serial:

cc: AG
 C/S
 P/P
 PROD (Cdr. Adams)
 S/ASST (Mr. Friedman)

M/R: In the Dir., Naval Communications ltr (R.B. 53-3645) of 18 Nov, he concurs in our request (DIRNSA ltr Ser. 000494, 26 Aug) that he prepare a study of communication intelligence operations during the Korean conflict. He suggests that Cdr. D. W. Heagy be authorized to direct the project. We state that we will be glad to assist the Navy with this project by making available Cdr. Heagy & personnel subordinate to him and Lt. H. E. Joslin. Cdr. Heagy is to confer with Cdr. Gillespie & provide for details of implementation. We ask concurrence of outlined plan in par. 2 and if the plan is concurred in and is brought to completion we request 10 copies of the report. *Copy to CNO (OP-202) not required.*

R.B. Young/S/ASST/60493/7 Dec 53

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