

USCIB: 13.5/77

~~APPENDED DOCUMENTS  
CONTAIN CODEWORD MATERIAL~~


6 July 1954

~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Compromises of COMINT Information.

Reference: CIBD #9 (Revised) dated 4 February 1954

Attached for your information is a summary of initial reports of three cases involving ineffective communications security practices which have been evaluated by the National Security Agency as compromises of COMINT information. Complete reports, which will include information regarding corrective action taken, etc., will be circulated when received.

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

Enclosure -  
NSA Serial 000305-S  
dated 25 June 1954

USCIB: 13.5/77

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Serial: 000305-S

25 June 1954

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

SUBJECT: Compromises of COMINT Information

Reference: CIBD NO. 9

1. A report of recent compromises of COMINT information is inclosed for your file. Extra copies of the inclosure are furnished for forwarding by you to the members of USCIB.

2. It is noted that this report is initial in nature. When sufficient information is received, a final type report will be forwarded to you.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

(signed)  
L. H. FROST  
Captain, US Navy  
Chief of Staff

Incl:  
a/s (40 copies)

~~APPENDED DOCUMENTS~~  
~~CONTAIN CODEWORD MATERIAL~~

Inclosure with USCIB: 13.5/77 dtd 6 July 1954

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COMPROMISES OF COMINT INFORMATION

1. The following report of COMINT compromises cover the period from 5 April 1954 to 15 May 1954.

a. On 5 April 1954, a communications security violation occurred at Detachment E, 333rd Communications Reconnaissance Company, Nome, Alaska. On that date portions of four messages, one classified SECRET CODEWORD and three classified CONFIDENTIAL were inadvertently enciphered in depth and subsequently transmitted over communication circuits vulnerable to interception. These messages must be considered compromised. The subject violation, if intercepted and decrypted, would compromise our success in the recovery of a [redacted]

b. On 12 April 1954 a communications security violation occurred at the 34th Radio Squadron Mobile. On that date a portion of a message classified CONFIDENTIAL was inadvertently transmitted in plain language over a landline teletype circuit to Wheelus Air Force Base, Tripoli, Libya. Since the relevant transmission was vulnerable to interception, the information must be considered compromised. The subject violation if intercepted, would [redacted]

c. On 15 May 1954 a communications security violation occurred at the National Security Agency Communication Center, Washington 25, D. C. On that date a portion of a message classified SECRET CODEWORD was inadvertently transmitted in the clear over a landline communication circuit to the Navy Security Station (OP-302) Washington 25, D. C. Since the relevant transmission was vulnerable to interception, the information must be considered compromised. The subject violation, if intercepted, would expose our system of case notations and our use of RAD numbers to indicate callsign continuity.

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2. In each case, appropriate instructions have been issued to operating personnel, stressing the importance of more alert surveillance during operation of cryptographic equipment.

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