SUBJECT: M-209's Sent to French Indo-China

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Department of the Army
The Pentagon

1. By letter dated 12 January 1954, Serial 00015-5, the
Director, National Security Agency, concurred in the proposal
of the Department of the Army to release 350 M-209's to the
French for use in French Indo-China.

2. The desired machines were shipped to Indo-China and
on arrival there on 1 April 1954 were received for by French
authorities as having arrived in good condition.

3. It is possible that these machines arrived too late
to be employed and hence may never have been used or even taken
out of the boxes in which they were shipped.

4. In the light of the Department of the Army policy with
respect to the disposal of crypto-apparatus, including Converter
M-209, it is recommended that steps be taken to ascertain the
present whereabouts of these 350 M-209's, if not distributed to
troops, in order to forestall the possibility of their being
sold as surplus property or otherwise disposed of in a manner
contrary to the interests of the United States.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

L. H. FROST
Rear Admiral, US Navy
Chief of Staff

cc: AG
C/O
S/ASST (Mr. Friedman)
P/P

M/R: Self-explanatory.

I. T. MCDONALD, Capt, USAF/60493/280ct54/can

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 07-16-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526