

COPY

29 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, ARMY SECURITY AGENCY:

SUBJECT: Release of Cryptographic Principles.

1. The following policy is announced to be effective immediately:

a. Cryptographic principles or devices developed by officers, enlisted men, or civilians employed in any War Department Agency, or patents or patent applications on such principles or devices which are owned by, assigned to, or licensed for use of the War Department will not be released for use of foreign governments or for foreign or domestic commercial or private use until such time as necessary information is available and a procedure established in the Army Security Agency whereby information which is cryptographed by means of such principles or devices can be cryptanalyzed and read under any and all circumstances.

b. Where it is in the interest of the Government of the United States that an employee have no patent rights in cryptographic principles or devices to dispose of, and for the Government to own the entire interest for security reasons throughout any foreseeable future; and where discovery or invention of cryptographic principles or devices has been made by a civilian employee and does not relate to a matter as to which the employee was specifically directed to experiment with a view to suggesting improvements nor was produced as a result of any specific employment or contract to invent a specific device or article; and where an application for patent on such principles or devices has been filed with an assignment-in-trust to the Government for the purpose of maintaining such application in secrecy, the Military Intelligence Division will support, subject to the availability of appropriations, any reasonable request for purchase of all commercially exploitable reversionary rights of the inventor in the patent application.

/s/ CARTER W. CLARKE  
Colonel, GSC  
Acting Deputy, A. C. of S., G-2

COPY