MAIN SUBJECT: Request for Exception to Para 50a, AR 380-5

To: Dir. of Intelligence
From: ASA

BRIEF SUMMARY:

A requirement exists for the establishment of a circuit between the ASA and State Department, for the exchange of highly classified information of mutual interest.

A survey of possible cryptographic devices for the proposed circuit indicates that either Converter M-228, Modified (SHEHUAD) or SIGTOT equipment would meet security requirements.

Para 50a, AR 380-5, specifies that the custodian of War Department cryptographic material must be a commissioned officer. In the case of the State Department this requirement cannot be fulfilled. It is recommended that an exception to AR 380-5 be granted and that ASA be authorized to issue SIGHUAD and associated cryptographic material to a civilian custodian at the Department of State.

Classifier: Mrs Beyke
Typist: Mrs Beyke

CROSS REFERENCE NUMBERS:
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Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 04-15-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526
Request for Exception to Paragraph 50a, AR 580-5

Director of Intelligence
Chief, ASA
31 Mar 47

Lt. Col. Riser/8129 Ext. 468

1. A requirement exists for the establishment of a circuit between the Army Security Agency and the Office of the Special Assistant for Research and Intelligence, Department of State, New War Department Building, Washington, D. C., for the exchange of highly classified information of mutual interest.

2. This information has been passed heretofore via secure telephonic between ASA and the State Department office located in the Pentagon Building. However, secure telephonic facilities do not exist between ASA and the new location of the State Department office in the New War Department Building and the expense of installing such facilities is prohibitive.

3. A survey of possible cryptographic devices for the proposed circuit indicates that either Converter K-226, Modified (SIGNAL) or SICOT equipment would meet security requirements. From the standpoint of expense and budget restrictions of the State Department, use of the SIGNAL is more advantageous, since the continuing expense of producing SICOT tapes is eliminated.

4. Paragraph 50a, AR 580-5, 15 August 1943, specifies that the custodian of War Department cryptographic material must be a commissioned officer. In the case of the State Department this requirement cannot be fulfilled.

5. It is recommended that an exception to AR 580-5 be granted and that the Army Security Agency be authorized to issue SIGNAL and associated cryptographic material to a civilian custodian at the Department of State with the limitation that utilization of this device and associated material be confined to the Washington, D. C. area only.

HAROLD G. HAYES
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17 Mar 47