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USCIB: 13.5/106

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24

20 June 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Compromise of COMINT Material.

Reference: CIBD #9 dated 4 February 1954.

The attached report of physical compromise of COMINT material is circulated for information.

Acting Executive Secretary, USCIB

Enclosure a/s

USCIB: 13.5/106

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Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 02-24-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Serial: 3948

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8 JUN 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

SUBJECT: Compromise of COMINT Material

Reference: CIBD No. 9

1. On 23 March 1955 a compromise of COMINT material occurred at the 6950th Security Group, Chicksands Priory, England. On that date, during a daily burning of classified waste, at least six (6) burn bags were burst open in high winds of 55 knots velocity. As a result, an undetermined amount of classified material was scattered within and without the restricted area.

2. An immediate search over a four square mile area resulted in the recovery of some of the scattered material. The bulk of the recovered material was raw traffic classified CONFIDENTIAL. However, some codeword material was found. Although the material compromised cannot be evaluated, this appears to be a serious compromise.

3. The following corrective action has been taken:

a. The personnel responsible have been reprimanded for their neglect.

b. Only commissioned officers now supervise destruction of classified material.

c. Classified material will not be burned in winds exceeding 15 knots.

d. Locally made burn bags were being used, but action is now being taken to procure commercially manufactured bags.

4. A study is being conducted of the overall destruction problem at the 6950th Security Group to determine what action can be taken to further improve the destruction procedures.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

(Signed) J. S. HOLTWICK, Jr. Captain, US Navy Deputy Chief of Staff Operations

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