

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

SUBJECT: ASA Suggestion No. 53-13

TO: Executive Secretary FROM: S/ASST  
Efficiency Awards  
Committee

DATE: 29 May 1953 COPIES: 10

1. The ideas presented in the attached suggestion have been previously considered and discarded. In 1950, under AFSA, a study was made of the feasibility and desirability of consolidating the distribution of cryptomaterial by establishing joint distribution offices, or by having one Service in each geographical area distribute to all Services present in that area. This study led to the conclusion that consolidation of Service issuing facilities was not advisable. DIRAFSA approved this conclusion and so advised the Director, Communications-Electronics and the Service Cryptologic Agencies.

2. The authority and responsibility of the Director, NSA, in the communication security field are presently identical to those he exercised under AFSA. Action has been initiated to extend his responsibilities under the National Security Agency.

3. It is possible that his COMSEC responsibilities may be extended to cover the needs of the whole Government, rather than merely those of the Armed Forces. The ideas in the present suggestion may therefore be re-examined with the hope of finding them more useful under the new situation than under the present and past situation.

4. It is recommended that the suggestion be held in abeyance for about 3 months and then re-submitted to NSA-04 for reconsideration after the new COMSEC arrangements have been established and are operative.

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