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 NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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19 JAN 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS-  
 ELECTRONICS, JOINT STAFF

SUBJECT: Communications-Electronics Technological Projection  
 and Plans (U)

1. Reference is made to the United States Communications Security Plan, promulgated 16 June 1960. A significant part of the plan is the statement of National Cryptographic Equipment Requirements (NCER) and their subdivisions. The NCERs are based, however, upon a projection of how the Military Departments and Federal Agencies will be communicating through 1975 from the standpoint of both systems concepts and technological implementation. It is apparent that the NCERs, and consequently our ability to fulfill future operational communications security requirements, can be no better than the communications-electronic projection upon which they are based.

2. The establishment of NCERs, their revision, and their updating is principally the responsibility of the Director, National Security Agency. The projection of the communications-electronic environment and the formulation of communications-electronic plans is the responsibility of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Military Departments in the Department of Defense.

3. The National Security Agency has initiated a review of the NCERs which are set forth in the reference. For this to be done on a sound basis, an essential prerequisite is the receipt of consolidated, up-to-date communications-electronic technological projections and communications plans of the Department of Defense and the Military departments. It is, therefore, requested that this information be provided for the period covering 1960 to 1975. To ensure timely revision of the NCERs in the United States Communications Security Plan, this information should be forwarded to NSA by 1 May 1961.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. H. Frost".

L. H. FROST  
 Vice Admiral, USN  
 Director

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Declassified and approved for release  
 by NSA on 10-24-2013 pursuant to  
 E.O. 13526

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cc: DIR	CSEC-011
AG	CSEC-04
Reading File	DOC
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CSEC	CSEC-06

M/R: As part of the work required to formulate the United States COMSEC Plan, it was necessary to formulate a technological and communications planning projection of U. S. communications. Considerable time was spent by NSA in discussing these matters with a large number of military and civilian establishments and in preparing this projection.

To be a useful document, the COMSEC Plan must be kept up to date. The process of reviewing the document and revising it has been initiated. As part of this work, the communications-electronic projection must be reviewed and any necessary revisions made. Although NSA of necessity did all of the spade work and preparation of the first projection, it is considered advisable to request that the elements of the Department of Defense responsible for this type of projection, namely the Joint Staff and the Military Departments, be requested to provide this information. NSA could then devote its effort to determining any changes necessary to the National Cryptographic Equipment Requirements (NCER's) in light of the communications-electronic projection. This memorandum explains the part such a projection plays in the COMSEC Plan and requests that such information be forwarded to NSA.

Coordinated with Lt. Col. Anderson, CSEC-04, on 6 January 1961. and with Mr. Wolfand, STED, on 9 January 1961.

*W. C. Unkenholz*

W. C. Unkenholz, CSEC-06, 2173, 11 Jan 61, jfb

Added M/R: Corrected and retyped in D/DIR's office at the request of Dr. Tordella.

K. Peterson, D/DIR's office, 3222, 19Jan1961

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