HEADQUARTERS
ARMY SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

GAS24

SUBJECT: Surplus Disposal of M-209( ) Cryptographic Equipment

TO: Director
   Armed Forces Security Agency
   Washington 25, D. C.
   Attn: AFSA-OOT

1. Attached herewith is copy of directives and correspondence to indicate that the responsibility for the Department of the Army disposition of M-209( ) has been established. Further that all possible action to prevent sales of M-209( ) on civilian surplus markets has been taken.

2. In view of the Department of the Army position and the action shown by the inclosures, information copies are inclosed for any appropriate action deemed necessary.

FOR THE CHIEF, ARMY SECURITY AGENCY

[Signature]

5 Incls.
1. Cy OM to AGofS, G-2
2. Cy WARK 98567
3. Cy WARK 98568
4. Cy DF 1, P&D Serv
   13 Jan 47 w/incl(s) (2)
5. Msg OCSigO 14 Aug 51

THOMAS J. BEE
Lt. Colonel, AGC
Asst. Adm. Cen

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 06-10-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526
OFFICE MEMORANDUM — UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: AGofS, G2
FROM: Chief, Army Security Agency
SUBJECT: Surplus Disposal of M-209( ), Cryptographic Equipment

1. Reference Comment #2 from OCSigO, file SIGDB (7 Aug 51) dated 17 August 1951, subject as above.

2. Information received from the OCSigO indicate the Army has taken every appropriate action to prevent sale of the M-209( ) cryptographic equipment. However, since the M-209( ) now observed on the civilian markets are probably the residue of the Air Forces M-209( ) surplus declaration and sale, this matter is no longer considered a responsibility of the Army.

3. The Air Forces Security Service Liaison Office located in Room 5B 478, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C., was queried informally as to Air Forces directives on the disposal of M-209( ) and, as far as is known by then, no directives exist. The Air Forces Liaison Office does not concur in the measures of precaution that the Department of the Army takes and is of the opinion that this equipment (not being classified) may be disposed of as surplus if the situation warrants it.

4. In view of the Department of the Army stand and the informal Air Force Liaison Office comment information copies of correspondence will be sent to Director, Armed Forces Security Agency for appropriate action.

FOR THE CHIEF, ARMY SECURITY AGENCY

THOMAS J. BEE
Lt. Colonel, AGC

1 Incl.
Comment #2 from OCSigO
w/4 Incls.
SIGDB(7 Aug 51)
SUBJECT: Surplus Disposal of M 209( ), Cryptographic Equipment

TO: Asst Chief of Staff FROM: OCSigO DATE: 17 August 51 COMMENT NO. 2 Fowler/71654

1. This office has no knowledge of the unauthorized disposition of Converters, M-209, by any Signal Corps installation and is taking every precaution to prevent such a possibility. The same item, however, is used by Air and Navy to some extent. Any details on this case sufficient to permit an investigation, would be appreciated.

2. Information requested in paragraph 3, Comment 1, is as follows:

a. Directives of the Chief Signal Officer:

(1) Provide instructions for demilitarizing referenced equipment, and

(2) Prohibit disposal prior to demilitarization.

b. (1) Theaters were advised per WARX 98567 which you inclosed (Incl 1), WARX 98568 (Incl. 2), and DA Memo 700-50-22, 17 March 1948, providing:

" ** "Converter M-209 (Stock Number 6E1009). All excess equipment are to be demilitarized and destroyed within the theater, and under no circumstances are they to be turned over to disposal agencies.** **

(2) Depots in the Continental U.S. were advised of the demilitarization and disposal policy of the Army Security Agency as indicated in Inclusion 3.

c. Message (Incl 4) is being released to all Signal Supply Installations again to direct their attention to this policy.

FOR THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER:

4 Incls
1. Cy WARX 98567
2. Cy WARX 98568
3. DF 1, P&D Serv
   13 Jan 47 w/incles (2)
4. MSG OCSigO 14 Aug 51

s/ Eugene V. Elder,
t/ EUGENE V. ELDER, Brig Gen, USA
Chief, Procurement and Distribution Division
DISPOSITION FORM

G2/ASA

Surplus Disposal of M 209( ), Cryptographic Equipment

TO: SIGS
FROM: G2
DATE: 7 Aug 1951

Comment No. 1

Mr. Moran, Code 147, Ext 218

1. Information received from the Army Security Agency indicates that the "Cryptographic Equipments – M 209( )" are being disposed of in the civilian surplus market. Indications point to the vicinity of the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the area where disposal is most concentrated.

2. The disposal of this cryptographic equipment is prejudicial to the cryptologic efforts of the United States. Therefore, it is of great importance that immediate steps be taken to terminate the sale of additional M 209( ) equipments and if possible reclaim those now in individual inventories and possessions.

3. This office request the following:

a. A copy of the directive, if any, authorizing the declaration of M 209( ) as surplus for sale on the open market.

b. Any directive issued subsequent to WARX 98567 regarding type classification and stock status. (Incl. 1)

c. What action in addition to WARX 98567 (Incl. 1) has been taken to terminate the sale of this equipment on the open market.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G2:

Frederick D. Sharp
Colonel, GSO
Executive

1 Incl. Copy WARX 98567
Office of the Chief Signal Officer 74130
Requirements Division
Supply Control Branch - SPSCL

25 February 1946

J. N. Montgomery

WARX 98567

CO GREENLAND BASE COMMAND MARSARSSUAK GREENLAND
CG NEWFOUNDLAND BASE COMMAND ST. JOHNS NEWFOUNDLAND
CG ICELAND BASE COMMAND MEEK FLD ICELAND
CG KINDLEY FLD BERMUDA
CG CDC QUARRY HEIGHTS Cz
CG SAWATC NATAL BRAZIL
CG ALASKAN DEPARTMENT FORT RICHARDSON ALASKA
CG USFCT SHANGHAI CHINA
CG USFIBT NEW DELHI INDIA
CG USFATO CASERTA ITALY
CG AMET CAIRO EGYPT
CG US ARMY FORCES IN THE AZORES LACHENS FLD AZORES

FROM: WARGOS

CONVERTER M TWO ZERO LINE IS CLASSIFIED HEREBY AS MILITARY TYPE
ITEM PD DESIRE ALL CLASS A AND B STOCKS BE RETURNED TO UNITED
STATES PD ALL CLASS C STOCKS AND ANY CLASS A AND B STOCKS NOT
RETURNED WILL BE DESTROYED PD FOR SECURITY REASONS NONE SHOULD
BE DECLARED SURPLUS TO ANY DISPOSAL AGENCY

A true of Sheet Available in the
Historical Section, G-2 with WAHX
number added and hand written notes omitted.

/s/ JOHN M. BAKER
Lt. Col. AGO
CLASIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING CLASIFIED MESSAGE

RESTRICTED
PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. HANDLE AS RESTRICTED CORRESPONDENCE
PER PARAS 44g and 53a, AR 380-5

Office of the Chief Signal
Officer Requirements Div
Supply Control Br SPSCL
J N Montgomery 74130

25 February 1946

CG USFET Main Frankfurt Germany
CINCAPAC Tokyo Japan
CCKENAF/MDPAC Pt Shafter TH
CG Peninsula Base Sector Main Leghorn Italy
CG London Area Office TSFET London England
CG AFWESPAC Manila PI

Number WARX 98568
From WARCOS

Following clarifies disposal instructions contained in
WARX 96322 and supersedes any previous instructions regarding
converter K-209. Converter K-209 is classified hereby as
military type I. For security reasons none should be declared
surplus to any disposal agency. Desire all class A and B
stocks be returned to United States. All class C stocks
and any class A and B stock not returned will be destroyed.

End

ORIGINATOR: ASF-CSO

DISTRIBUTION: OP
G-2
G-4

CM-OUT 98568 (Feb 46) DTG 270034Z ed

---RESTRICTED---
Disposition of Unserviceable Converters M-209

TO Commanding Officer P & D Service DATE: 13 Jan 47
Storage and Issue Agency Sup Cont. Br. COMMENT NO. 1
150 S. Broad Street Montgomery/74130
Philadelphia, Pa

1. At the present time approximately 5,844 Class C, Converters M-209 are being held in various Signal Corps repair shops awaiting repair. It has been determined that this quantity will not be required by the Army, therefore, action can be initiated to dispose of these after the item has been properly demilitarized. Instructions covering the steps which are necessary to demilitarize the subject equipments are contained in the attached Disposition Form from Army Security Agency. It is requested that this information be furnished all depots which will be involved in the disposal of this unserviceable equipment. Depots should also be advised to be extremely careful in this disposal since if any of the equipments are allowed to reach the civilian channels in their present form the present security methods of the Army may be compromised which could result in jeopardizing present communications security maintained by the Army.

2. Prior to demilitarization and disposal of Converter M-209, the stock balance of all repair parts should be reviewed and consideration given to the cannibalization of these sets to bring existing stocks of parts up to desired levels in cases where present stocks of such parts are not adequate to meet anticipated future demands.

BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF, PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION SERVICE:

MARVIN M. KILGO
Lt. Colonel, SigC
Chief, Supply Control Branch

1 Incl
DP fm ASA dd 23 Dec 46
w/1 Incl
TO: The Chief Signal Officer  
Washington 25, D. C.  
Atttn: Chief, Supply Control Br  
Phila 2, Pa

From: 8 & I Agency  
150 So Broad St  
Iyle/228

Date: 13 Feb 47  

Subject: Disposition of Unserviceable Converters M-209

1. Letters have been sent to the seven depots having class "C" Converters M-209, requesting that they perform the following operations on the total amount now on hand:

   a. Remove the required quantities of repair parts for stock.
   b. Demilitarize in accordance with inclosed instructions.
   c. Dispose of the remainder.

2. The approximate quantities involved in this action are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depot</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holabird</td>
<td>852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>3618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>1282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>1144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The total quantity is seen to be somewhat higher than the estimate furnished in Comment No. 1. Disposal of this higher quantity was agreed upon in Telephone conversation between Mr. Montgomery of your office and Mr. Franklin of this Agency, 27 January 1947.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

CLIFFORD A. BEESECKER  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Chief, Depot Operations Branch

I Inc. w/d
Demilitarization of Converter M-209

Chief Signal Officer  Director of Intelligence  23 December 46  COMMENT NO. 1
Capt Utter/8129 Ext 216

1. Reference is made to letter from the Chief Signal Officer, dated 16 December 1946, subject as above.

2. In order to properly demilitarize the Converter M209 to permit its disposal, it is necessary that the following listed parts be removed and destroyed:

   a. Typewheel assembly, Stock Number 6E1009A/T8

   b. The 6 key wheel, Stock Numbers 6E1009A/K1, 6E1009A/K2, 6E1009A/K3, 6E1009A/K4, 6E1009A/K5, 6E1009A/K6

   c. The 6 key wheel gears, Stock Numbers 6E1009A/G1, 6E1009A/G2, 6E1009A/G3, 6E1009A/G4, 6E119A/G5, 6E1009A/G6

   d. Intermediate gear shaft, Stock Number 6E1009A/352


3. Information, description and nomenclature of these parts may be obtained from TM 11-380, "Converter M-209, M-209A and M-209B."

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE:

GEORGE A. BICHER
Colonel, Signal Corps
Deputy Chief, Army Security Agency

1 Incl
Ltr fm OCSigO
dd 16 Dec 46

COPY

Copy of Incl in file
JTL
CSICO DEPART OF ARMY WASH DC
CO BALTIMORE SIG DEPOT BALTIMORE MD
CO DECATURE SIG DEPOT DECATUR ILL
CO LEXINGTON SIG DEPOT LEXINGTON KY
CO SACRAMENTO SIG DEPOT SACRAMENTO CAL
SIG SUP OFF SIG SEC ATLANTA GEN DEPOT ATLANTA GA
SIG SUP OFF SIG SEC SAN ANTONIO GEN DEPOT SAN ANTONIO TEX
FROM SIG-B DASH FOUR

THIS OFFICE ADVISED CONVERTER MIKE DASH TWO ZERO NINE HAS RECENTLY APPEARED IN
CIV SURPLUS CHANNELS PD TAKE NEC ACTION IN YOUR DEPOT AN; THRU LIAISON CHANNELS WITH
POST CAMPS AND STATIONS IN YOUR AREA TO INSURE THAT NONE ARE TURNED OVER TO SALVAGE
WITHOUT BEING DEMILITARIZED BY REMOVAL OF FOL PARTS CLN PARA ABLE PD TYPE WHEEL ASSEMBLY
CMA STOCK NR SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT TAKE RIGHT PD PARA BAKER PD THE
SIX KEY WHEELS CMA STOCK NRS SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT KING ONE CMA SIX
EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT KING TWO CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT
KING THEE CMA BIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT KING FOUR CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO
ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT KING FIVE CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT KING SIX ED
PARA CHARLIE PD THE SIX KEY WHEEL GEARS CMA STOCK NRS CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE
ABLE SLANT GEORGE ONE CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT GEORGE TWO CMA SIX
EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT GEORGE THREE CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE
CSICO DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WASH DO Routines

XXX

FROM SIG B DASH FOUR (CONTINUED)

SLANT GEORGE FOUR CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT GEORGE FIVE CMA SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT GEORGE SIX PD PARA DOG PD INTERMEDIATE GEAR SHAFT CMA STOCK NR SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT SUGAR THREE TWO PD PARA EASY PD DRUM ASSEMBLY CMA STOCK NR SIX EASY ONE ZERO ZERO NINE ABLE SLANT DOG ONE ZERO PD PARA DISPOSAL OF THIS ITEM PRIOR TO D-MILITARIZATION IS CONTRARY TO DA POLICY AND WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE PERMITTED

CARROLL BB, FOWLER

SIG B-4 71654

A. J. BURCH, LT COL, SIG C

ASST CHIEF, Depot Branch P&R DIV