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81-1178131

OUTSIDE CONTACT REPORT

Subject: Substitution of MOS 801 for MOS 239 in ZI Commands

Date: 26 September 1949

Personnel Present:	Major Barnaby	CSGAS-22
	Captain Brownchweig	CSGAS-22
	Captain Brown	CSGAS-22
	Mr. Houtz	CSGAS-22
	Mr. Chittenden	CSGAS-81
	Mr. Wolfand	CSGAS-81
	Mr. Scott	CSGAS-81
	Captain Israel	CSGAS-81
	Lt. Johnson	CSGAS-81
	Lt. Bezjian	CSGAS-81

1. The problem appeared to be as follows:
 - a. Cryptomaintenance is inadequate at most ZI installations.
 - b. There is a severe shortage of qualified cryptomaintenance personnel.
 - c. There is a lack of understanding of the qualifications necessary for an MOS 801.

2. A draft of an AGO letter was prepared by AS-20 stating that ZI commands be authorized to substitute one MOS 801 for an MOS 239 to remedy the inadequacy of cryptomaintenance. There appears to be no objection to this providing the man who holds the MOS 801 is fully qualified. From their own figures it is clear that all the Army Areas have sufficient MOS 239 personnel to be able to spare at least one for training by ASA. All Army commands have also been authorized to send civilians to the ASA school for training. The chief difficulty appears to be a matter of funds for travel. The Army commands must pay the travel expenses of their personnel to and from the ASA school. It is also evident that the best way to handle cryptomaintenance in any ZI Army Area is to allow one or two men to travel throughout the area and perform routine maintenance. This the Army commands are unwilling to do because it would involve expenditure of funds for travel. However, there is no solution that does not require expenditure of funds for travel and the responsibility lies directly with the Army commands.

3. Under the present MOS system a commander must requisition an MOS 801 and designate the type of equipment on which the man should be trained, that is type C-1, C-2, or C-3. Requests come in without this equipment designation and it is apparent that commanders are unfamiliar with, or confused by, this requirement.

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4. Action can and should be taken immediately to inform all ZI commands by letter that they are responsible for maintenance of all crypto-equipments in their hands and they will be held accountable for seeing that proper maintenance is performed. It is their responsibility to plan ahead to provide funds and personnel so that their crypto-equipment can be properly maintained.

5. The single existing MOS 801 for cryptorepairman is inadequate even for existing equipment. It is necessary to have many more MOS numbers available if all the new equipments coming out are to be adequately covered. A series of numbers for each equipment and/or certain combinations of equipments would be helpful in two ways; it would permit a commander to positively identify and request the type of repairman he needs and it would assist in setting up a career guidance plan. Any system must allow for additional MOS numbers to cover the new equipments.

6. a. The Signal Corps has criticized the length of the ASA maintenance course. Their objection is based on a contention that the maintenance of crypto-equipment is a secondary duty for their teletype repairmen. The Signal Corps also believes that a cryptorepairman should be trained only in one type of equipment so as to shorten the length of time he is in school. They also suggested the adoption of a short course for preventive or third echelon maintenance. It was agreed by those present that the length of the ASA school courses were perhaps excessive and the number of hours could be reduced. AFSA intends to review all courses some time in the future. However, it was pointed out that the length of the ASA C-1 maintenance course could be decreased considerably if all the D. C. theory and teletype instruction could be eliminated. However, the men sent to the ASA school, by the Signal Corps, were known to be deficient in these very subjects.

b. It is not true that the maintenance of crypto-equipment is a secondary duty. In point of time it does not require more than a small part of the total time devoted to maintenance at any one installation because the number of crypto-equipments is few but it is as much a responsibility of the man to maintain crypto-equipments as to maintain teletype equipments. If it is felt that a primary duty should be measured by the number of hours spent on that duty the solution is to let the cryptorepairman spend all his time on the crypto-maintenance and travel around the Army Area to maintain all the crypto-equipment. Some cryptorepairmen will be trained in all crypto-equipment and some in one. If only a few men are available it is best to have them trained in all crypto-equipment. If sufficient men are available to assign one man to all of one type of crypto-equipment some can be trained on only one type of crypto-equipment but it should be remembered that if a man wishes to advance in his career field he must eventually become trained in more than one crypto-equipment. With the present crypto-equipment a man is either fully qualified to repair the whole machine or he is qualified to do only preventive maintenance and at present it is required that the operator be trained in PM. There is no intermediate stage of training. If a man who is not entirely familiar with it attempts to repair a cryptomachine he may put it in such a condition that it operates but is insecure. This feature is peculiar to cryptographic machines and does not exist in any other communications equipment. That is why cryptomaintenance men

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must be of such high quality and so thoroughly trained. This will not be true of the new equipments now in process of development. They are being designed so that intermediate echelons of repair will be possible.

7. It was finally agreed that:

a. A letter should be written to all Army commands informing them of their responsibilities with respect to crypto-equipment.

b. An attempt would be made to have additional MOS numbers assigned to cryptorepairmen.

c. The cryptorepairman courses will be reviewed by AFSA to see if the number of hours required can be reduced.

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