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Responsibility in Connection with Crypto-  
equipments

Chief Signal Officer  
Department of the Army

Director of Intelligence

19 March 1948  
Lt. Plazak/147 Ext 462

1. Reference is made to discussion of above subject between Lt. Colonel S. S. Cerwin of your office, and Lt. Colonel Paul E. Neff of the Army Security Agency. During this discussion it was requested that a statement be forwarded indicating the responsibilities of the Chief Signal Officer, as now visualized by the Army Security Agency, for the organization of units, and the training of units and personnel required in connection with speech privacy equipments, such as the SIGSALY.

2. It is deemed appropriate at this same time to consider for clarification the responsibilities of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer and the Army Security Agency with regard to the organization and training of units and personnel for all crypto-equipments. In this connection, reference is made to AG letter, File AGAO-S-B-M 311.5 (31 Jul 46), dated 5 August 1946, subject: Policy on Maintenance of Cryptographic Equipment.

3. In order to fulfill the mission of the Army Security Agency most effectively and economically, the responsibilities for the operation, installation, and maintenance of crypto-equipments used by the Department of the Army have been broken down as follows:

a. For complex items of crypto-equipment, such as the SIGSALY, which would require the utilization of teams of specialists for their installation, operation, and maintenance:

- (1) The using services will procure and furnish qualified personnel for installation, operation, and first, second, and third echelon maintenance.
- (2) The Army Security Agency and/or civilian contractor under the direction of the Army Security Agency will be responsible for the training of such personnel in the installation, operation, and the first, second, and third echelon maintenance of the equipment.
- (3) The teams will install, operate, and perform first, second, and third echelon maintenance on the equipment which is furnished to them.
- (4) In cases where equipment installation is beyond the capabilities of the team, the Army Security Agency and/or the civilian contractor under the direction of the Army Security Agency will be responsible for the installation.

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b. For items of crypto-equipment, such as the SIGABA, which would require only one individual to install, operate, and perform first and second echelon maintenance:

- (1) The using service will procure and furnish basically qualified personnel for the installation, operation, and first and second echelon maintenance.
- (2) The using service will be responsible for training personnel in installation, operation, and first and second echelon maintenance.
- (3) The using service will procure and furnish basically qualified personnel for training in third echelon maintenance.
- (4) The Army Security Agency will be responsible for the third echelon maintenance training of personnel furnished by the using services.

4. The Army Security Agency or the civilian contractor under the direction of the Army Security Agency will be responsible for all fourth and fifth echelon maintenance.

5. In keeping with the breakdown of the responsibilities as outlined above, it is the belief of this Division that the Chief Signal Officer should have the following responsibilities in connection with team-operated crypto-equipments that may be developed in the future:

a. Planning for, and the procurement of, basically qualified personnel for the installation, operation, and first, second, and third echelon maintenance.

b. Activation of units and/or teams required in the event of the issuance of such equipment.

6. It will be the responsibility of the Army Security Agency to:

a. Develop and issue nonintegrated crypto-equipment used as an adjunct to the communications of the Army.

b. Keep the Chief Signal Officer apprised as to the status of the development of crypto-equipment, and the probable date of issue.

c. Recommend the number and type of personnel required for the installation, operation, and maintenance of crypto-equipment.

d. In the case of team-operated crypto-equipment, train basically qualified personnel, furnished by the Chief Signal Officer, in installation, operation, and first, second, and third echelon maintenance.

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e. Procure and train personnel in fourth and fifth echelon maintenance.

7. Attention is invited to Disposition Form from the Director of Intelligence to the Chief Signal Officer, dated 13 August 1946, subject; Storage and Destruction of SIGSALY and Associated Equipment, and Comment No. 2 from the Chief Signal Officer, dated 11 September 1946, wherein it is stated that "Planning for the procurement and instruction of personnel in the installation, operation, and maintenance of SIGSALY equipment, and for the activation of units or operating teams in the event SIGSALY is reissued, is a responsibility of the Chief Signal Officer." This statement should be interpreted in the light of the policy expressed in paragraphs 3a, 5 and 6 above.

8. At the present time, the Army Security Agency has several speech privacy equipment projects under development. However, development has not as yet progressed to a stage which will permit any definite planning for the use of the equipment.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE:

HAROLD G. HAYES  
Colonel, Signal Corps  
Chief, Army Security Agency