

1. AS-83 AS-81 17 Oct 49

Security of Special Gas-Filled Cables

Mr. Small Hrt 318

1. Reference is made to your verbal request for information regarding the security of special gas-filled telephone cables.

2. In a conversation with Mr. Ken Schmidt, Research Products Company, Danbury, Connecticut, and with Mr. Alex Frangle, Chief, Foreign Security Section, Department of State, on 12 October 1949, it was learned that Mr. Schmidt had personally, physically tapped a gas-filled cable similar to the one used by the Army Security Agency. Mr. Schmidt's efforts were in connection with the installation of gas-filled cable at Hyde Park for President Roosevelt. It took him some ten or fifteen minutes to accomplish the physical tap. He stated that, as a result, it was ordered that the President's special cable be patrolled when in use by him. Mr. Schmidt has also inductively tapped lead-covered cable similar in its inductive shielding to our gas-filled cable, and insists that an inductive tap against our gas-filled cable would be successful.

3. As a point of further interest, Mr. Frangle explained a method of opening the latest pick-proof three-combination lock being sold by Greenleaf and Whittier. According to him a supersonic oscillator and special oscillographic receiver are being developed to permit "probing" the inner disks with supersonic waves, to provide a "picture" of the disks which reveals where the slots are located.

4. This information is provided for your information and action.

A. W. SMALL
Acting Chief, Technical Staff
Security Division

161.00

17 Oct 49