

The study attempts to examine a number of questions concerning the National Security Agency which are its functions. #

1- under what authority was the NSA created?

2- continuing question of the legality of the ComSec/Comint activities of the United States

The study attempts to examine two specific problems currently confronting the cryptologic profession. One has the first, and one which has plagued the profession almost from inception, is the legality of the United States cryptologic communications intelligence and security activities and the second is the authority of the NSA by which it was created and its functions.

For purposes of clarity, the term communications intelligence activities includes the obtaining of communications messages, whether by whatever means; reading the contents analysis of the communications, and the production of finished intelligence therefrom. Communications security will be meant as simply the production and safeguarding of United States Government communications.

It can be asserted at the outset that there has never been any question concerning the legality of activities concerned with communications security or cryptography.