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2. AS-20 AS-80 7 May 47

Supplement to FY 1948  
Research and Development Program (contd)

1. The Security Division concurs in general in the policy as outlined in Section 1 of the inclosed "Supplement to Fiscal Year 1948 Research and Development Program." Attention is invited to paragraph 1d wherein it states that Research and Development Agencies will maintain close liaison with the using agencies. It is recommended that a rather definite program be adopted in order to keep the Army Ground Forces and the Army Air Forces informed of our progress and development and in order to secure any comments concerning changes or improvements which they desire. In connection with this subparagraph, it is also believed advisable that a report from this Agency be included in the 1948 Research and Development program. It is believed that this report can be written in such a manner that the material contained therein may be classified as SECRET and it appears to this Division that the Army Ground Forces, the Army Air Forces and the Signal Corps will be vitally interested in information as to the progress of our research and development program. It is necessary liaison and can best be accomplished by this method.

2. Attention is invited to paragraph 5c. Although the policy, as indicated in this paragraph, places particular emphasis upon research and development and, although it is definitely stated that this policy will not prevent development agencies from considering the need for modification of existing items, it is believed advisable at this time to consider the necessity and desirability of possible modifications of some of our cryptographic devices. Considering the present supply status of 131B2 equipment, it is believed advisable to develop a repeater, mixer unit, specifically designed for military use with the thought in mind that the procurement of this new equipment in time of emergency will not only be required but will be necessary.

3. The modification of the SIGCUM should also be considered in order to improve its inherent security and its operational characteristics. The development of another type JODO should be considered in order that the operational characteristics of the SIGABA may be improved, and from the standpoint of cost per unit, as well as space requirements, the modification of the present 14AB transmitter distributor should be carefully considered. The present transmitter distributor is a modification of commercial equipment and, from the standpoint of military usage, it has several disadvantages. While these suggestions provide for modification of existing equipments, it is believed that they are vitally necessary and that they may be considered in a sense as new items, since the 131B2 and 14AB transmitter distributor are commercial equipments and were not intended for field military use.

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