

BRIEFING SHEET FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF MEETING, 1000, WEDNESDAY

14 MAY 1952

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AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 5

J.C.S. 2074/13

SUBJECT: CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS FOR NATO USE

BACKGROUND:

1. SHAPE has expressed to the Standing Group concern about NATO communication security and has requested that action be taken to improve it. The U.S. Representative, Standing Group, corroborates the views of SHAPE and has requested the Joint Chiefs of Staff to direct preparation of a plan to improve NATO communication security. (Enclosure to J.C.S. 2074/12).

2. Two new U.S. equipments which will meet Combined and NATO requirements for literal communication security equipments are to be service tested by the British, at their request (Enclosure to J.C.S. 2074/11), and it is expected that the U.S. will recommend adoption of one of these equipments for Combined and NATO use. One of the equipments (AFSAM 7) will be available in quantity by the end of 1952, and the other (AFSAM 47), early in 1954. In 1950 a target date of 1 January 1955 was agreed for replacement of the CCM (Enclosure to J.C.S. 2074/7).

CURRENT REPORT:

3. A draft memorandum for the U.S. Representative, Standing Group, (Enclosure to J.C.S. 2074/13) outlines the specific actions being taken in the U.S. to improve NATO communication security. Briefly, it states:

a. Simplified procedures for the CCM, a crypto-mechanism change, and issuance of a new type of rotor will be completed by the spring of 1953. These will overcome the weaknesses which are of immediate concern about CCM security.

b. A new U.S. equipment for teletype encryption will be in full scale production late in 1953, and it appears to be the best solution for NATO on-line encrypted communications. Only a limited number of present U.S. equipments which might be suitable are available.

c. No U.S. equipment exists in sufficient quantity for a NATO tactical system, nor do U.S. equipments meet all NATO criteria for a tactical system. A mechanical device which meets most of the NATO requirements is near production, and is being considered for possible NATO use.

d. A long range and interim crypto-plan has been approved by the Armed Forces Security Agency Council. Implementation of this plan is well advanced, and it includes provision of systems for Combined and NATO use.

e. Representatives of the Director, Armed Forces Security Agency, plan to visit SHAPE early in June, 1952, to advise on NATO communication security matters.

RECOMMENDATION:

4. It is recommended that J.C.S. 2074/13 be approved.



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