

9 May, 1945

Informal Memorandum to Mr. Friedman.  
Subject: Action on "A Intelligence".

There are many things about the disposition of Ultra information relevant to Communications Security which we believe should and could be rectified. A great volume of information comes in through Jap Ultra messages, usually termed "A Intelligence". Both the accuracy and source of this information are seldom, if ever, determined.

Current procedure is:

- 1) An "A Intelligence" item is deciphered.
- 2) If deemed worthwhile, this information is transmitted to the SSO in the field.
- 3) If it can be proven that a War Department approved system is involved, Communications Security Branch takes the necessary action.
- 4) If the system involved is not ascertained, the matter is dropped.

(Thus far, the only example of 3 is the AACS Px Code.) In other words, the usual outcome of "A Intelligence" is nothing.

We believe that rather than statements such as "this may have been a message sent in M 209" a definite verification should be made. At present, the only agent for this action is the SSO, who seldom takes the time to follow these items through.

We propose that, for a trial period, the following procedure be adopted:

- 1) Representatives with the specific function of tracing the source of "A Intelligence" be assigned to the field.
- 2) The afore-mentioned Ultra information be transmitted to them through the SSO.
- 3) Action then be taken by these representatives.

Were this adopted, we believe that after perhaps three months, proof could be given as to:

- 1) The accuracy of "A Intelligence".
- 2) The source of this information.
- 3) The results of any theatre deception program in effect.
- 4) The general cryptographic practices now in use which endanger security.

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These representatives should be men with a Security rather than MIS background, but would be under the sponsorship of MIS. Major Spitzer suggests that you write a memorandum to this effect to Lt. Col. Huddleson, MIS, who would then take the matter up with the proper MIS authorities. We believe in this manner we might get positive action.

Under any condition, we would like to discuss the matter with you.

*Herbert H. Maass*  
Herbert H. Maass  
Capt., SC

*Paul R. Reimers*  
Paul R. Reimers  
2nd Lt., SC

*Handwritten notes:*  
Huddleson  
MIS  
Spitzer  
Maass  
Reimers

FROM

IS-3

NO

IS-3-04487

FILE DESIGNATION

Ltr to Chf, IS-8, with inclosure, Ltr to CO, SSA, re Survey of Sec. Practices in POA (same number)

G. H. K.

TO <del>IS-8</del>	TO SPSIS-3	TO IS-1	TO IS-3	TO	TO
DATE <del>7 MAY</del>	DATE 8 May 45	DATE 8 May	DATE 9 May	DATE	DATE
ACTION					