

USCIB: 9.2/30

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9 February 1955

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: COMINT Capability to Provide Early Warning of a CHICOM Attack on Formosa.


Reference: USCIB 9.2/28 of 1 February 1955.

1. The enclosure with the reference was approved by all members on the evening of 7 February 1955 and transmitted to the Secretary of Defense on the morning of 8 February 1955.

2. The National Security Agency member indicated that he would prefer several changes to Tabs A and C of the enclosure with the reference, but would not hold up approval of it on that account. These changes have been notified to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for background information in preparing action and are as indicated in the enclosure herewith.

3. The Chairman directed that quotation marks be inserted around the words "invasion season" in the last line of paragraph 1 of the enclosure with the reference so as to avoid the possibility of creating an impression that USCIB may be predicting an invasion. This was done.

4. It is understood that the Office of the Secretary of Defense will keep the Department of State and the Central Intelligence Agency informed, through COMINT channels, of its actions in this matter.


RUFUS L. TAYLOR
Captain, U. S. Navy
Executive Secretary, USCIB

Enclosure

NSA Serial 808 dtd 8 Feb 1955

USCIB: 9.2/30

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Serial: 808

8 FEB 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

SUBJECT: Early Warning of CHICOM Attacks in the Formosa Area

As indicated in telephonic notification to your office on 7 February 1955 regarding USCIB 9.2/28, the Director, NSA, considers the draft correspondence, addressed to the Secretary of Defense, to be an adequate means of continuing progress on this urgent matter. In order to avoid any unnecessary delays, he approves the draft notwithstanding certain changes which he would consider advisable if time were to permit. Those changes are described in the inclosure, and it is hoped that the members of USCIB will have an opportunity to consider them before reaching a final decision on the draft.

(SIGNED)

J. S. HOLTWICK, Jr.
Captain, US Navy
NSA Member, USCIBEC

Incl:

Director, NSA, comments
on USCIB 9.2/28

Enclosure with USCIB 9.2/30 dtd 9 Feb 1955.

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Comments by the Director, NSA, Regarding
The Draft Correspondence Inclosed
With USCIB: 9.2/28

1. The subject of the draft correspondence should be changed to read as follows: "US COMINT Capability to Provide Early Warning of Chinese Communist Attack in the Formosa Area." A similar change should be made in the first sentence of paragraph 1 of the draft.

2. The following should be added at the end of paragraph 1 of the draft:

"So far as USCIB can determine, there is little expectation of getting reliable early warning information from any source other than COMINT."

3. The following should be inserted between the second and third sentences of paragraph 2 of the draft:

"Although the requirement for additional U.S. COMINT resources in Formosa and in other Far East locations has long been recognized, and although appropriate plans have been developed to meet that requirement, it has not yet been possible to complete the necessary base rights negotiations."

EO 3.3(h)(2)
 PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

4. In Tab A of the draft, the second sentence of paragraph (a) should be changed to read as follows:

5. The following should be added at the end of paragraph (a) of Tab A:

6. The first sentence of paragraph (b) of Tab A should be changed to read as follows:

"For the same reason, we have a high interest in the results of any additional technical analysis of these materials."

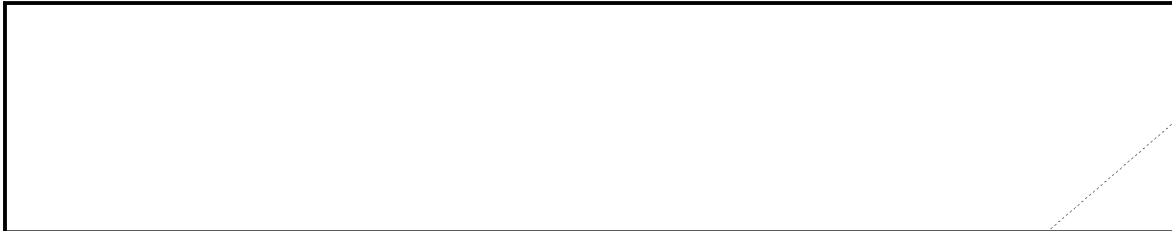
7. In paragraph 2 of Tab C, the final sentence should be deleted.

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 PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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7. The third and fourth sentences of paragraph 3 of Tab C should be changed to read as follows:



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PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

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