

~~TOP SECRET~~~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

SEC #0001

10 January 1955

~~TOP SECRET U.S. EYES ONLY~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

Subject: Progress Report for Period 15 June 1954 to  
1 January 1955

Reference: USCIB 5/460 dated 30 July 1953

This report is in two parts. Part I summarizes the principal actions of the Security Committee from 15 June 1954 to 1 January 1955. Part II is a status report relative to assigned items that have not been completed.



WILLIAM R. CULMER  
Major, Arty., USA  
Chairman, SECCOM

Enclosure  
a/s

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10 January 1955

USCIBSECCOM PROGRESS REPORT

PART I

A brief summary of major items the USCIB Security Committee has completed and forwarded since 15 June 1954 follows:

1. Classification of Intercepted Traffic Passed from Intercept Stations to Processing Activities.

A recommendation against adoption of the NSA proposal to revise paragraph 40 of Appendix B regarding procedures for handling and mailing certain intercept traffic to field stations was forwarded to the Executive Secretary on 18 June 1954.

2. Review of USCIB Directives No. 4 and No. 8.

SECCOM found that no substantive revisions were needed in order to comply with the provisions of Appendix B. This recommendation was forwarded to the Executive Secretary on 21 July 1954.

3. Use of the Term "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" for COMINT Information Not Within the Purview of Executive Order No. 10501.

SECCOM unanimously agreed that COMINT information is adequately protected by the classification system and by the term "HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY" or its currently used variations and that there is no need at this time for the adoption of the term "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY". This recommendation was forwarded to the Executive Secretary on 6 August 1954.

4. Security Classification of "The Signal Corps: The Emergency".

A unanimously agreed recommendation that the information contained in the document "The Signal Corps: The Emergency" should not be included in an unclassified official document over which no security and distribution control will be maintained was forwarded to the Executive Secretary on 11 October 1954.

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5. Revision of USCIB Directive No. 5.

To avoid possible misinterpretation of the intent of USCIB Directive No. 5 the Security Committee recommended that a paragraph be added to the Directive pointing out that its provisions are applicable to persons being considered for access to Categories III and II COMINT. This recommendation was forwarded to the Executive Secretary on 16 November 1954.

~~TOP SECRET~~~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~6. Revision of USCIB Directive No. 14.

The Security Committee reviewed the need for establishment of a uniform policy for determining specific areas considered to involve undue risks for COMINT cleared personnel. It was concluded that there was an immediate need for such guidance and a recommended revision to USCIB Directive No. 14 was accordingly sent to the Executive Secretary on 29 November 1954.

7. USCIB Policy Concerning the Release of COMINT to the Legislative Branch of the Government.

The Security Committee reviewed ways and means of enhancing the prospect of being able to maintain the degree of security desired for classified information made available to the Legislative Branch of the government. The review resulted in a unanimous recommendation that a USCIB policy governing release of COMINT information be established. A recommended USCIB policy was therefore sent to the Executive Secretary on 16 December 1954.

8. Revision of USCIB Directive No. 6.

A recommended revision of USCIB Directive No. 6 containing present criteria plus guidance regarding manufacture of codeword stamps and printing of paper bearing a COMINT codeword was forwarded on 17 December 1954.

9. Classification and Handling of Documents Containing Information About COMINT Activities.

Unanimous agreement was reached on all aspects of a proposed directive on this subject and was forwarded to the Executive Secretary on 17 December 1954.

PART II

A brief summary of the status of assigned items not yet completed by the Security Committee follows:

1. Distribution of COMINT Documents in the Washington Area.

Status: Research is being continued on this item. It is scheduled for consideration during the February meeting of the Security Committee.

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~~TOP SECRET~~~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~2. Codification of USCIB Directives No. 7 and No. 14.

Status: A draft directive entitled "Hazardous Areas and Activities" incorporating provisions of CIBDs 7 and 14 plus pertinent portions of a proposed directive on conduct of COMINT activities in exposed areas has been prepared. Controversial points are being considered by two SECCOM subcommittees.

3. Limitations on Travel in Foreign Countries by Persons Having Knowledge of COMINT.

Status: Detailed provisions of this draft directive are presently being coordinated within the Department of State.

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