

USCIB: 12./21

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15 July 1955

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Issue of a Class A Cryptosystem to the [redacted] Army.

1. Pursuant to USCIB decision, at the 117th meeting, that the views expressed on the above subject be prepared by this office and circulated prior to forwarding to USCSB, it is suggested that USCSB be advised as follows:

"1. Based upon a request by the Director, NSA that USCIB express its views on the issuance of a Class A cryptosystem to the [redacted] Army, the matter was considered at the 117th meeting of USCIB on 12 July 1955. [redacted] of the request and the formulation of recommendations to USCSB in this regard.

"2. USCIB, after a thorough discussion of the problem, agreed that:

a. A lack of precise knowledge of [redacted] future plans from a national standpoint suggests the exercise of caution in the consideration of assistance of this nature.

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

b. Approval of the request probably would not result in immediate, serious [redacted] assuming that the requested cryptosystem would remain in the hands of, and be used exclusively by, the [redacted] Army; however, considering the possibility that the system might eventually be adopted for use in the [redacted] field, USCIB is in agreement [redacted] could result.

c. For the foregoing reason, USCIB desires to express to USCSB a strong caution that there is [redacted] involved, though its extent is difficult to assess at this time.

d. A means of improving [redacted] Army communications security other than by the provision of a Class A machine system, e.g., the provision of additional one time pads, probably would not result in a [redacted]

2. The foregoing is submitted for USCIB approval. In the absence of objection by the close of business Monday, 25 July 1955, the above decision will be considered approved and USCSB will be notified accordingly.

*W. D. Jones*  
W. D. JONES

Acting Executive Secretary, USCIB

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Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 04-01-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526