

~~SECRET~~24 *J*USCIB: 12./4
COMSEC: 2-/6

20 August 1954

SECRETMEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE: U.S. COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE BOARD
U.S. COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY BOARDSubject: Procedures for Dealing with Requests by Foreign Nations
for Cryptographic Assistance.Reference: COMSEC 2-/2 (USCIB 12./2) of 3 June 1954 (Item 1 of the
Minutes of the Joint Session of USCIB/USCSB held at 1430,
3 June 1954.

1. The enclosed Report of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee established in compliance with the reference is submitted for approval or comment as appropriate.

2. In submitting his Report to the Executive Secretary the above mentioned Chairman included a comment as follows:

"The ad hoc committee believes that its terms of reference as they pertain to 'cryptographic' assistance were too restrictive in the sense that the broader field of 'communications security' assistance might better have been considered. It is the opinion of the ad hoc committee, however, that the proposed procedure can be applied in cases where requests are made for more than 'cryptographic' assistance."

3. It is requested that the members execute the attached vote sheet and return it to this office by the close of business, Friday, 3 September 1954.



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

Enclosure

Memo from Chairman, Combined
Ad Hoc Committee, dated
20 Aug 1954, subject as above.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE:

U.S. COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE BOARD
U.S. COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY BOARDSUBJECT: Procedures for Dealing with Requests from Foreign Nations for
Cryptographic Assistance

1. At a combined meeting on 3 June 1954, USCIB and USCSB agreed that an ad hoc committee would be appointed to study and make recommendations with regard to the establishment of standard operating procedures for dealing with requests of foreign governments for cryptographic assistance.

2. A uniform procedure for member departments and agencies to follow in handling requests for cryptographic assistance submitted by foreign nations is attached as Inclosure 1.

3. In connection with the procedures described herein (Incl. 1), the ad hoc committee also studied a matter closely related to handling of requests for foreign cryptographic assistance. USCSB is responsible for establishing broad policies necessary to guide the relations of the U.S. Government with foreign governments and international organizations in COMSEC matters (paragraph 1 c (2) (e), NSC 168). Implicit in this assigned responsibility of USCSB is the function of authorizing disclosure of cryptographic information to foreign nations. This function insofar as it pertains to military information is now performed by the State-Defense Military Information Control Committee (S-DMICC) acting as agent for the Secretaries of State and Defense.

4. Attached hereto (Incl. 2) is a proposed memorandum to the Chairman, S-DMICC, from the Chairman, USCSB, which states that USCSB, under the authority of NSC 168, will assume the national authority for approving disclosure of cryptographic information to foreign nations, and proposes that S-DMICC recognize USCSB as the national authority for this matter.

5. The ad hoc committee recommends that:

a. The procedure contained in Inclosure 1 be approved, and implemented by the members of USCSB and USCIB within their respective departments and agencies.

b. The memorandum contained in Inclosure 2 be forwarded to S-DMICC.

6. This memorandum may be downgraded to CONFIDENTIAL upon removal of the inclosures.

James H. Douglas
JAMES H. DOUGLAS
National Security Agency
Chairman, Combined Ad Hoc Committee

Incls:
a/s

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PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH REQUESTS FOR CRYPTOGRAPHIC
ASSISTANCE FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

1. "Cryptographic assistance" includes, for the procedure described herein, provision of crypto-material such as crypto-equipments, codes, ciphers, key lists, and associated material, as well as instructions or advice pertaining to the use, development, or improvement of cryptographic systems.
2. When a member department or agency receives, either formally or informally, requests for cryptographic assistance from foreign governments, international organizations, or their authorized representatives, the member department or agency shall take the following action:
 - a. Ascertain that the request is one authorized by proper officials of the foreign nation.
 - b. Inform the requesting official that the matter will be referred to the appropriate U.S. officials for action.
 - c. Forward a copy of the request together with other information provided by the foreign representative concerning the requirement for cryptographic assistance to the Director, National Security Agency, and an information copy to the Executive Secretary, USCSB.
3. The Executive Secretary may forward copies of the request to members of USCSB and USCIB for their information, or will do so upon request of a member.
4. Upon receipt of a request from a member department or agency, the Director, NSA, will if current policy permits, take appropriate action to fulfill the request and inform the Board that such action has been taken. If, however, current policy does not authorize the request to be granted the Director, NSA, will present his recommendations for the action to be taken on the request to USCSB. The Director, NSA, will effect coordination as necessary with USCIB before submitting his recommendations to USCSB.
5. In considering disclosure of cryptographic information to foreign nations, USCIB may consult with LSIB.
6. The Director, NSA, will maintain records of the information and crypto-material disclosed and furnished to each foreign nation.
7. In cases where requirements for cryptographic assistance given to members are ambiguous and need clarification before final decision can be

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recommended, the Director, NSA, may arrange with the appropriate member department or agency for NSA technicians to interview the foreign official to ascertain in detail the nature of the requirement. When interviews are arranged under the foregoing procedure, the NSA technicians will not be identified as NSA personnel.

8. The member department or agency receiving the request shall be responsible for making a suitable reply to the original request. When a decision is made that the requested assistance will be provided, the member department or agency concerned and the Director, NSA, will consult on the manner in which the requested cryptographic assistance is to be made available.

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(DRAFT)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, STATE-DEFENSEMILITARY INFORMATION CONTROL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Responsibility for Policies on Disclosures of Communications Security Information to Foreign Governments

1. A National Security Council directive on communications security (COMSEC) dated October 20, 1953 (NSC 168) delegates responsibility for policies and procedures affecting the security of Federal telecommunications to the United States Communications Security Board (USCSB). This responsibility includes disclosures of COMSEC information to foreign governments.
2. In view of the National Security Council directive, it is requested that you take the necessary actions to remove the responsibility for disclosures of classified military communications security information to foreign governments from the terms of reference of S-DMICC.
3. It is recognized that decisions by the USCSB might have some bearing on disclosures of information which might be considered by S-DMICC. The Executive Secretary, USCSB, will supply S-DMICC an information copy of decisions of USCSB which approve disclosures of classified information to foreign governments.
4. I suggest that details concerning the mechanics of this change of responsibilities and the exchange of the necessary information in connection with the change should be as agreed between the secretaries of the two bodies.
5. Please let me know what action is taken by your Committee in regard to this request.

(Draft)
Chairman
USCSB

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