

USCIB: 29.1/13

20

12 January 1954

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Loan of ROCKEX Crypto System to West Germans.

1. The enclosure, considered by USCIB at the Ninety-Ninth (Special) Meeting, is forwarded for information.

2. THE ENCLOSURE WITH THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AND SHALL BE HANDLED ONLY IN CHANNELS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR COMINT.

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

Enclosure

Copy of GCHQ msg 081850Z/1/54.

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~~TOP SECRET~~COPY OF SIGNAL FROM MR. [REDACTED] TO BRIGADIER TILTMAN.

From: G.C.H.Q.

DTG: 081850Z/1/54.

To: S.L.O., Washington.

Subject: Your Memorandum GIB #0010.

Sequence of events was as follows. Germans approached U.K. High Commissioners representative in Bonn concerning provision of cypher facilities for Foreign Ministers Conference in Berlin. They asked specifically for four T.52S to provide circuit between Federal representative Berlin and Foreign Ministry Bonn. We have replied that we have no T.52S and that is the limit of action so far with Germans.

2. Though Germans may look askance at Rockex with U.K. tapes it is not in fact intended to retain any monitoring copy of tapes supplied. Sole objects of proposed action are

- (a) To make a co-operative response to German approach
- (b) To ensure security of information given to them by ourselves and possibly also
- (c) To glean a little information if occasion allows about West German cryptographic progress and trends.

3. Failing assistance from us, Germans could and perhaps would use OTP but they obviously want something quicker. They might succeed in raising T.52S elsewhere and we could not be sure they would use them securely.

4. There is no reason to expect any implications to US/UK Comint. We should be giving West Germans a crypto principle that they already possess and there is no question of any mention of Comint.

5. Possibility of precedent in West German eyes is we think negligible especially in view of what must happen if and when EDC come into existence.

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