

~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~

FINAL

SUBJECT NUMBER

USCIB: 29.1/25 Item 4 of the Agenda for the 103rd Meeting of USCIB,
held on 14 May 1954.

Subject: Program to Improve Communications Security of NATO
Countries (Oral Report).

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN (General Cabell) invited comments by the Chairman of the Combined Working Group, Mr. T. A. Polyzoides.

MR. POLYZOIDES expressed regret at having to report orally but informed the members that his basic papers have not yet been returned from London. A summary of his report follows:

The talks with the French on the above subject have been completed. The French readily accepted the minimum security standards recommended by the U.S. and the U.K. as well as a similar recommendation concerning bad practices which must be avoided.

Further, our delegation expressed the view that positive action will be taken by the French to improve their communications security; however, some time may elapse before any action they take will become effective.

MR. POLYZOIDES went on to recount further details of the negotiations in Paris stating, among other things, that it would have been difficult to find a better group of Frenchmen with whom to work, both from the viewpoints of technical competence and willingness to cooperate in every possible way. He described the part played by the CWG leading up to, and throughout, the negotiations and informed those present that the British members were of the opinion that the CWG should continue to have cognizance over this matter -- an opinion shared by the U.S. members as well.

MR. POLYZOIDES then offered these three specific recommendations for Board consideration: (a) That the Board approve his oral and informal presentation as an interim report pending presentation of a detailed analysis, (b) that the U.S. element now be expanded to include at least one member from CIA and one member from OSD.

He concluded by expressing thanks to the Army for splendid service rendered by the SSO system, and to NSA for the help provided by SUSLO, London.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN invited comments on Mr. Polyzoides' report.

GENERAL ERSKINE moved that the report and recommendations be approved.

It was so ordered.

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CAPTAIN TAYLOR stated that he had attended many of the U.S. Ad Hoc Committee and Combined Working Group meetings. He recommended that in addition to recognizing the fine job done by the delegates in Paris, the Board congratulate the Chairman of the two Committees, Mr. Polyzoides, on the excellent job he has done by his personal supervision and persevering insistence on adhering to the established policies of the Board throughout the long negotiations preceding the approach to the French. The members of the Board wholeheartedly accepted this recommendation.

DECISION: (14 May 1954) USCIB:

(a) Approved Mr. Polyzoides' oral presentation as an interim report pending presentation of a detailed analysis.

(b) Agreed that the U.S. element of the Combined Working Group should be expanded to include one member each from CIA and OSD.



This item to be dropped from the agenda.

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PL 86-36/50 USC 3605103rd USCIB MeetingBRIEFING SHEET FOR GENERAL CANINE
ITEM 5 OF USCIB AGENDA

1. It is proposed by the U.K. to make direct COMINT revelations to France in order to force her to increase her communications security.

2. The proposal is understood to stem

3. It is recommended that the proposal be rejected.

4. The U.K. proposal is undesirable for the following reasons:

a. A program to tighten up the French already is in progress, and would be jeopardized.

(1) It has been agreed with the British for some time to be necessary to tighten up the national Comsec of NATO countries with particular emphasis in France. A carefully worked out plan to accomplish this is now underway and meetings were held with the French in Paris from 22 April to 1 May of this year.

(2) The present British approach to us appears to have overlooked the existing plan and would seriously endanger this much broader and longer range program.

(3) The British have had little or no time to consult with their own representatives as to the results to be expected from the Paris talks. The French have had very little time to make any changes which they may wish to make as a result of the talks which ended less than two weeks ago. Neither we nor the British have had

b. The proposal is an oversimplification.

(1) The low range problem is not a one-shot affair. The

Arrangements were carefully made before breaking off the talks in Paris for resuming talks at any time simply and expeditiously through existing channels.