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USCIB: 29.2/17 Item 2 of Discussion of a Joint Session of USCIB-USCSB
COMSEC: 3-/5 held at 1430, 3 June 1954.

Subject: Release of AFSAM-7 to NATO Nations (USCIB 29.2/1 of
3 May 1954, USCIB 29.2/4 of 27 May 1954 -- COMSEC 3-/1
of 7 May 1954, COMSEC 3-/3 of 27 May 1954).

The CHAIRMAN, USCIB, asked the Chairman, USCSB, if he were ready to discuss release of the AFSAM-7 to NATO nations, adding that it is his understanding that these machines will not be available in adequate quantity for a year or so. He asked if this understanding is correct.

The CHAIRMAN, USCSB, indicated an affirmative answer to the first of these two questions.

GENERAL CANINE, addressing himself to the second question of the Chairman, USCIB, stated that it will be two years before our needs are satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN, USCIB, asked if it is planned to satisfy the needs of NATO military elements after our own military needs.

GENERAL CANINE answered by saying that present schedules provide first for the military needs of our active forces, then active NATO military and finally reserve requirements. He added that this schedule has been coordinated with the military phasing programs of our Services.

The CHAIRMAN, USCIB, expressed misgivings in view of the time lag, as to the wisdom of reaching a decision now on a matter that could change radically with future changes in the world-wide situation. He asked Mr. Armstrong to comment in view of the political aspects of the problem.

MR. ARMSTRONG expressed the view that a decision now on such a matter, with implementation 2 years hence, might well prove to be premature owing to the changes in our international relationships and in the international groupings that might occur between now and then.

There followed a brief discussion of quantities and matters of ordering machines in which it was pointed out by General Canine that small orders of a few machines might be diverted out of existing large domestic orders at any time thus requiring that a policy be established now even though the problem of meeting demands for large foreign orders might be two years away.

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The CHAIRMAN, USCIB, suggested that a policy be adopted of not entertaining requests for machines until our own and NATO military needs are met.

A brief general discussion of this proposal followed, then, MR. ARMSTRONG suggested that requests for machines other than the AFSAM-7 be dealt with on the basis of procedures adopted as result of recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee just previously decided upon.

GENERAL CANINE suggested that whatever policy is adopted be applied to all crypto equipments.

The two Chairmen conferred briefly and the CHAIRMAN, USCSB, then stated that he moves for the proposal presented by the Chairman, USCIB.

MR. ARMSTRONG seconded this motion.

In the discussion that followed the question of how this action might affect agreements with the British was discussed at some length. It was agreed that this action is not intended to inhibit previous arrangements already agreed between UK authorities and the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The motion was carried with the proviso that, subject to verification by the Executive Secretary of the understanding of the two Boards with regard to JCS approval of UK national use of the AFSAM-7 and excepting the Canadians from application of this policy, the Director, NSA, should make a suitable reply to the instant query of the Washington Liaison Officer of the UK Cypher Policy Board in effect as above.

DECISION: (3 June 1954) It was agreed that, subject to verification of the understanding that existing agreements with the United Kingdom include provision of the AFSAM-7 to the United Kingdom for national use, the United States should not entertain requests from other friendly nations, with the exception of Canada, for supply of the AFSAM-7 for national use until the needs of the United States and those of the military commands of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have been met. It was further agreed that the Director, National Security Agency should respond in effect as above to the instant query of the Washington liaison official of the UK Cypher Policy Board pointing out at the same time that this policy is not intended to in any way inhibit the operation of existing US-British agreements with regard to provision of US cryptographic material and information to the British.

The meeting adjourned at 1515.

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