

USCIB: 29.2/6

4 June 1954

~~TOP SECRET~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Release of AFSAM-7 to NATO Nations.

References: (a) USCIB 29.2/1 dated 3 May 1954.  
(b) USCIB 29.2/4 dated 27 May 1954.

1. The references were considered at a joint meeting of the United States Communications Intelligence Board and the United States Communications Security Board held at 1430, 3 June 1954, in Room 3E 869, The Pentagon.

2. 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 U.K. Cypher Policy Board pointing out at the same time that this policy is not intended to in any way inhibit the operation of existing U.S.-British agreements with regard to provision of U.S. cryptographic material and information to the British.

3. For the information of members the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff approved the provision of AFSAM-7 (with ADONIS crypto-principle) on a free loan basis for Combined and NATO use on 16 January 1953 and so notified the Representatives of the United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff. The Representatives of the United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff asked on 4 February 1953 for clarification of this decision as follows:

"(a) Could the machines be lent for use until new British machines embodying the ADONIS Principle, have been manufactured;

(b) Could an assurance be given that the above loan of machines can be made at little or no dollar expense...?"

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In response to this query the Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff replied on 11 February 1953 in part as follows:

"b. The United States will be prepared to provide the machines required by the United Kingdom as well as by NATO.

c. The necessary number of machines can be lent to the U.K., for return to the U.S. when the new British equipments, embodying the ADONIS principle, have been manufactured. I am informed that under foreseeable conditions, arrangements for this loan can be made with little or no dollar expense to the U.K."

4. In the absence of objection of any member of USCIB or USCSB to the above record of decision by 15 June 1954 it will be considered approved and the Director, NSA will be expected to act accordingly.

5. This document is graded TOP SECRET owing to references to and extracts from actions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff already so classified.

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

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