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DRAFT 5 Oct 1954

MINIMUM SECURITY STANDARDS FOR THE CLASSIFICATION, TRANSMISSION AND PHYSICAL SECURITY OF COMINT

1. All COMINT resulting from the U.S.-[ ] COMINT agreement will be classified as agreed between the COMINT authorities of both nations, and will be distributed only to those COMINT indoctrinated individuals who require it in the performance of their duties.

a. The U.S. will classify COMINT materials provided to [ ] as SECRET or TOP SECRET, according to content. Material classified as SECRET CODEWORD by the U.S. will normally be classified TOP SECRET for exchange with Norway. Non-codeword materials will be classified for this exchange in accordance with the appropriate U.S. classification, except that no COMINT material will be classified lower than SECRET.

b. The U.S. will accept COMINT materials from [ ] classified either in accordance with existing [ ] policy, or with U.S.-[ ] agreement on [ ] application of para 1 above.

2. The COMINT authorities of each nation will insure against revelation of the source of COMINT resulting from the agreement by means of special designation and/or carefully controlled handling procedures for every sheet of paper containing results from, or disclosing the existence of this agreement. Protection of COMINT source shall be accomplished either by:

a. Adoption of agreed supplementary codewords by [ ] to designate COMINT materials, or

b. Use of other devices or special handling procedures by [ ] to provide source protection at least equivalent to that provided by UKUSA standards and regulations.

3. The U.S. and [ ] will use agreed exchange designators to cover the following aspects of U.S.-[ ] COMINT liaison under the terms of the

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EO 3.3(h)(2)  
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agreement:

a. COMINT materials (including results derived therefrom) provided by the U.S. to [ ] (including U.K. produced items) which can be integrated into [ ] COMINT products.

b. COMINT materials (including results derived therefrom) provided by the U.S. to [ ] which must be given special handling, and which under no circumstances can be passed to other than [ ] personnel.

c. COMINT materials provided by [ ] to the U.S.  
(If [ ] agrees to use supplementary codewords as in 2a above, such codewords may be used to cover, insofar as practicable, these aspects of U.S. [ ] COMINT liaison.)

4. If [ ] desires to use some device or special handling procedure for protection of COMINT source instead of supplementary codewords, and does not want individual sheets of material marked with agreed exchange designators, it shall be permissible to use the designator on the cover sheet(s) only for each shipment of material. In this event the U.S. must be assured that all material will receive limited and controlled handling and distribution within the [ ] COMINT activity.

5. Documents containing COMINT information should be double-wrapped and addressed to a COMINT indoctrinated officer (by name, not function); the inner envelope should bear the appropriate security classification. As a minimum security requirement, such documents must be sent by hand of officer or by a secure courier service.

a. Documents from the U.S. to [ ] will be addressed to a designated [ ] COMINT recipient, and will be transmitted to such recipient through

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the NSA Liaison Officer in [ ] The NSA liaison officer will receive from the [ ] recipient properly executed receipts for all materials delivered.

b. Documents from [ ] to the U.S. will be addressed to and delivered to the NSA Liaison Officer in [ ]. He will receipt for all materials so received.

6. If comint materials is transmitted within either nation by electrical means or by any physical means not completely secure, it must be encrypted in a secure cryptographic channel reserved exclusively for this requirement. The COMINT authorities of each nation must additionally insure that when COMINT is transmitted to the other it is encrypted in a cryptographic channel specially approved by COMINT authorities of the other nation.

a. Electrical communications between the U.S. and [ ] COMINT organizations will be so arranged that it will not be possible to identify such communications as being between the respective COMINT organizations.

b. The U.S. will establish a private cryptochannel for direct communications between the NSA liaison officer and the Director, NSA. This channel will be the exclusive channel for passing communications which must be handled in COMINT channels only.

c. Messages from [ ] to the U.S. will be either encrypted by the [ ] in a cryptographic system provided by the U.S. and passed in encrypted form to the NSA liaison officer for transmission to the Director, NSA, via channels specifically agreed upon between the U.S. and [ ], or they will be passed directly to the NSA liaison officer for encryption and transmission to the Director, NSA.

7. The highest standard of physical security must be applied to the custody of COMINT by all persons authorized to receive it. Normally, except when in transit under conditions prescribed herein, COMINT materials and communications relating thereto must at all times be:

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- a. under the direct surveillance of a COMINT indoctrinated person responsible for their safe-keeping, or
  - b. locked in a three-combination safe accessible only to COMINT indoctrinated personnel, or
  - c. stored in a locked compartment which is under constant surveillance by an armed sentry and which is accessible only to COMINT indoctrinated personnel.
8. COMINT documents must be destroyed as soon as they have ceased to be of use. This is particularly important under hazardous conditions.

9. In order that necessary operational use can be made of certain types of low-level tactical COMINT (such as direction finder results and plain text messages) on which immediate action must obviously be taken in combat operations, the U.S. and  National Authorities may permit the dissemination of such COMINT at a classification not below CONFIDENTIAL, to unindoctrinated recipients who need to know.

EO 3.3(h) (2)  
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

10. In exceptional instances where it is essential for immediate operational purposes, information based on COMINT may, as specifically authorized by appropriate National COMINT authority, be disseminated to unindoctrinated individuals, provided the source is not disclosed. Where possible, names, times, positions, and other data identical with that from the original text must be omitted, or if the retention of such an item is essential, must be carefully paraphrased. Such information must be passed by a secure dispatch service, by a secure line, or in a cipher system approved by the National COMINT authority for this requirement. It must not be passed in clear by radio (including radiotelephones.)

11. Each nation will expand these standards into a set of regulations adapted to local conditions. Copies of the COMINT security regulations so developed will be exchanged through COMINT channels.