

TOP SECRET~~CANOE SECURITY INFORMATION~~~~TOP SECRET CANOE - SECURITY INFORMATION~~Brief on Conference Report (USCIB 23/65)BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. A UK-US Conference to consider the improvement of the communications security of NATO countries was held in Washington, 5-12 June. USCIB 23/65, the Conference Report, is attached as TAB "A".
2. CIA filed a paper, USCIB 23/67, which essentially dissented with results of the conference. (TAB "B"). This paper was discussed by USCIBEC on 6 July, and as a result, CIA indicated its dissent would not be presented at the Board meeting unless the Director, CIA, personally desired to raise the differences noted.
3. A rebuttal to USCIB 23/67 was prepared by NSA representatives. (TAB "C")

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS

4. USCIB is scheduled to vote on the conference results at the 10 July meeting.
5. The main conclusions of the conference were essentially as follows:
 - a. The diplomatic communications of certain NATO countries constitute a potential source of valuable intelligence for the USSR.
 - b. Action should be taken immediately to rectify all vulnerable communication security practices of NATO countries.
 - c. An approach should be made to the French government by the cognizant UK-US authorities with the objective of bringing French Communication security up to an agreed UK-US standard; an approach to the NATO countries, other than France, should be made by the Standing Group of NATO, with the objective as above.
6. Actions remaining as result of conference:
 - a. The cognizant US authorities must be designated.
 - b. In paragraph 10d (TAB A) it states that the means of improving communication security of commercial cipher machines, without reducing UK-US COMINT, would be a subject for further consideration.
 - c. In paragraph 21 (TAB A) it states that the UK and US will formulate agreed and detailed minimum security standards for NATO countries.
 - d. In paragraph 24 (TAB A) it was suggested that a small combined working group should be set up in Washington, made up of intelligence, political, and technical interests. The exact composition and terms of reference to be decided by cognizant UK and US authorities.

RECOMMENDATION

7. It is recommended that the NSA member vote for approval of the conference report, USCIB 23/65. (TAB A)
8. Approval, however, should be made with the recommendation that USCIB appoint an ad hoc committee, composed of US delegates to the recent conference, whose function will be to work out the details for the US action remaining from the conference.

cc: Mr. Friedman

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88th USCIB Meeting

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Item 1 APPROVAL OF THE FINAL MINUTES OF THE 85TH MEETING

It is recommended that the Final Minutes of the 85th USCIB Meeting be approved as amended.

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Item 2

BRIEF ON CONFERENCE REPORT (USCIB 23/65)

1. A UK-US Conference to consider the improvement of the communications security of NATO countries was held in Washington, 5-12 June. USCIB 23/65 is the Conference Report.

2. CIA filed a paper, USCIB 23/67, which essentially dissented with results of the conference. This paper was discussed by USCIB-C on 6 July, and as a result, CIA indicated its dissent would not be presented at the Board meeting unless the Director, CIA, personally desired to raise the differences noted.

3. A rebuttal to USCIB 23/67 was prepared by NSA representatives.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS

4. USCIB is scheduled to vote on the conference results at the 10 July meeting.

5. The main conclusions of the conference were essentially as follows:

a. The diplomatic communications of certain NATO countries constitute a potential source of valuable intelligence for the USSR.

b. Action should be taken immediately to rectify all vulnerable communication security practices of NATO countries.

c. An approach should be made to the French government by the cognizant UK-US authorities with the objective of bringing French Communication security up to an agreed UK-US standard; an approach to the NATO countries, other than France, should be made by the Standing Group of NATO, with the objective as above.

6. Actions remaining as result of conference:

a. The cognizant US authorities must be designated.

b. In paragraph 10d, USCIB 23/65, it states that the means of improving communication security of commercial cipher machines, without reducing UK-US COMINT, would be a subject for further consideration.

c. In paragraph 21, USCIB 23/65, it states that the UK and US will formulate agreed and detailed minimum security standards for NATO countries.

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Item 2 (continued)

d. In paragraph 24, USCIB 23/65, it was suggested that a small combined working group should be set up in Washington, made up of intelligence, political, and technical interests. The exact composition and terms of reference to be decided by cognizant UK and US authorities.

RECOMMENDATION

7. It is recommended that the NSA member vote for approval of the conference report, USCIB 23/65.

8. Approval, however, should be made with the recommendation that USCIB appoint an ad hoc committee, composed of US delegates to the recent conference, whose function will be to work out the details for the US action remaining from the conference.

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