

~~TOP SECRET~~LCS/(53)/P/M(1).COPY NO: 4UK/US COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY CONFERENCE 1953.

Minutes
of the First Plenary Session
26th October, 1953.

U.S.

Mr. W.F. Friedman	N.S.A.
Mr. F.C. Austin	N.S.A.
Mr. J.R. Chiles	N.S.A.
Mr. T.R. Chittenden	N.S.A.
Mr. H.J. Stukey	N.S.A.
Lt.Col. F. Chilton	U.S. Army
Maj. W.M. Getchell	U.S. Army
Mr. A.W. Small	A.S.A.
Mr. D. Wolfand	A.S.A.
Cdr. J.C. Hargreaves	U.S. Navy
Mr. H.M. Beck	U.S. Navy
Mr. F.T. Grimm	U.S. Navy
Mr. W.A. Haynes	U.S. Navy
Lt.Col. F. Marshall	U.S. Air Force

(Secretary)

1. Appointment of Conference Secretary.

PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

The Chairman nominated [] as U.K. Conference Secretary and asked Mr. Friedman whether he wished to nominate a U.S. Secretary. Mr. Friedman declined, saying that he was content to leave all Secretarial matters in the hands of the U.K. Secretary.

2. Opening Remarks by Chairman.

The Chairman said: "This meeting is the formal opening of the 1953 Communications Security Conference and I should like to extend a very warm welcome to the U.S. team. Some of you have in fact been working together for the past fortnight having informal talks, which I understand have been of great benefit; we now come to considering formally all that you have been discussing informally. When, in 1952, it was recommended that the Conference should take place in June of this year in London we had in mind that you would be able to see some of the

/events

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 2 -

events connected with the Coronation. Owing to the shortage of hotel accommodation, however, this was not possible and it was decided to postpone the Conference until October. We are very glad to welcome you here and hope this Conference will be very successful and that you will enjoy your visit to us.

The aim of the Conference is to achieve a very wide agreement on all aspects of communications security and it is hoped that, from the full and frank discussions between experts, much benefit will be derived. The exchange of details of work that has been going on 3,000 miles apart will be of great mutual interest and in the clash of minds you will get the best answer. I would like to say that we in this country are seriously perturbed at the state of our communications security as distinct from cryptographic security. I am informed that our standards compare very unfavourably with those of some other countries.

The Cypher Policy Board, of which I am Chairman, has now materially enlarged its terms of reference and has brought into its main policy-making committee the three Service Directors of Intelligence; it has enlarged its Secretariat, established it as an Agency and appointed [redacted] as Director of that Agency. [redacted] has great experience in signal, intelligence and supply matters. As [redacted] did not formally join the Agency until to-day the Conference will be conducted on the U.K. side by [redacted]. I hope that this 1953 Conference will be very successful and in addition that our U.S. friends will enjoy their stay in England."

PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

3. Remarks by Mr. W.F. Friedman (Head of U.S. Delegation)

Mr. Friedman replied: "First I would like to say on behalf of my team how much we appreciate your cordial welcome. We are very glad to be here and incidentally I shall put in a request that we get full marks for bringing such lovely weather with us. Seeing London is a great pleasure to begin with but seeing it under such favourable conditions makes it very much nicer. This is No.4 in the series of these Conferences, which began in October 1950 for the purpose of surveying certain features of communications security of interest both to your Government and to mine. The purpose of course is to provide a mechanism for exchanging technical information and keeping in step to ensure that we have adequate means with which to communicate securely. I am one of the old timers in our group and in 1941 we were confronted with the immediate necessity for combined communications in a high grade system. There was a very serious lack of a secure Combined system. You had your high grade machine and we had ours but they could not interwork. How serious this was I hardly need point out to all those present. In fact I may say that that lack occasioned the loss of many lives and of millions of pounds sterling in material. We must ensure that this does not happen again.

This Conference is especially concerned with several requirements. First of our communicators and second of our intelligence community. It was originally decided to hold this Conference in June but this was postponed owing to the Coronation and also because we hoped to have more clearly before us the requirements of NATO. Mentioning the NATO requirements brings to my mind the disease to which I have applied the term "cryptologic schizophrenia." On the one hand many of us are concerned with the provision of secure means for communications, on the other hand, part of our organization has a natural reluctance to this course of action. As for myself I have learned how to handle some of the symptoms of that illness; I hope the same is true as to the others present.

The work of Phases I and II of the Conference has been greatly facilitated by the informal discussions which have been held in the last two weeks. The two Phases were in the background of the minds of the persons who sat around the table at these informal discussions and I am quite sure, as [redacted] has expressed, that these informal meetings are very, very useful things. It is, however, a question for discussion whether we want these informal discussions to continue their present form. I will not spend any more time on that now and again I agree with [redacted] as to the great value of these Conferences for combined communications and also for NATO communications.

/I

~~TOP SECRET~~

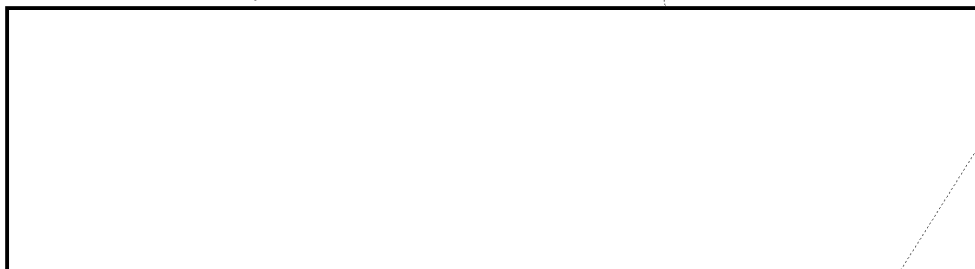
~~TOP SECRET~~

I listened with great interest to what [] had to say about the need for improved communications security in the widest sense. I may say that personally I have been considerably distressed about the things at which he hinted in his very brief remark on that point. I feel that we are handing information to our enemies on a silver platter instead of forcing them to devote great effort and to expend a great deal of money in an unprofitable endeavour to obtain it.

Thank you for the cordial welcome which you have expressed; I also wish to express my appreciation of the working arrangements which have been provided for our team and for their comfort."

4. Appointment of Executive Committee.

The Chairman nominated U.K. representatives as follows:-



[] was nominated as observer. The Chairman added that he would like to reserve the right to nominate one or two other observers for the purpose of elucidating any technical points.

Mr. Friedman agreed and nominated the U.S. representatives as follows:-

Mr. Friedman	}	representing N.S.A.	PL 86-36/50 USC 3605
Mr. Austin			
Mr. Chiles			
Mr. Chittenden			
Mr. Small		representing the U.S. Army (with Lt.Col. Chilton, Major Getchell and Mr. Wolfand as alternates)	
Cdr. Hargreaves		representing the U.S. Navy.	
Lt.Col. Marshall		or Lt.Col. Anderson	representing the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Friedman also reserved the right to introduce technical advisors or observers from time to time as required.

5. Appointment of Chairman of Executive Committee.

The Chairman offered to Mr. Friedman the Chairmanship of the Executive Committee. Mr. Friedman replied that he was delighted to be offered the Chairmanship of the Executive Committee but would prefer that a U.K. member of the Executive Committee should serve as Chairman.

The Chairman then nominated [] as Chairman, Executive Committee.

6. First Meeting of Executive Committee.

It was agreed that the first meeting of the Executive Committee should take place immediately after this Plenary Session.

7. Date of Next Meeting.

The Chairman then announced that the date of the Closing Plenary Session had been tentatively fixed for 3 o'clock on Tuesday, 10th November and he asked all members to hold themselves in readiness to attend. He added:-

"Before closing this Plenary Session I should like to wish you great success in your deliberations and I look forward to seeing you to-night at the Cocktail Party."

~~TOP SECRET~~

[]
Conference Secretary.

26 Oct 53

1. Response to welcome.
Glad be here & incidentally shall request that we get full marks for bringing good weather, which makes being London a double pleasure.
2. This is No 4 in series of ^{Regular, periodic} Combined Equipments Conf., began Oct 50.
Purpose - to provide mechanism for exchanging tech info so as to keep in step & hence to insure provision secure & adequate means for Combined Com. - Recall Situation 1941 & consequences.
3. This Conf especially concerned with review of equipment & plans ~~to~~ to meet stated requirements of our ^{of} ~~our~~ ^{Int Com-} ~~Committee~~.
4. At end of Conf. No 3 it was decided hold next Conf in May 1953 but for reasons unnecessary to detail, mutual agreement to postpone until autumn, when NATO requirements would be better known. These on agenda for ~~the~~ ^{the} second phase & fully outlined & will be fully discussed.
5. Mention of NATO requirements brings to mind the occupational hazard of us facing ^{to which}. I've given the appropriate terminology - Cryptologic Schizophrenia - & why.
6. ~~The~~ Phase I of Conf. much facilitated by informal discussions past two weeks. Also needs of Phase II were constantly in background of those informal discussions, visits & meetings. As to ~~overall~~ overall value of these preliminary discussions, will take up that matter later in Conference, will exchange views as to whether continue in same way next time.
7. Our opinion these annual conferences highly useful as medium for exchange of ideas. They ~~are~~ ^{are} useful if only for sake of Combined Com, but now, with NATO in picture, they are additionally useful for ^{that} purpose.
8. Thanks for welcome & for the very nice arrangements here at No 8 to facilitate meetings & working arrangements for our comfort.