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8 April 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Demonstration of the ASAM 2-1


1. Yesterday afternoon I demonstrated the ASAM 2-1 a second time, this time to M. Jean Viala, the head of the Communications Service of the French Foreign Office. I had been led to believe that he just happened to be in Washington, but I learned that he had made a special trip just for the purpose of seeing the machine. Present at the demonstration were Mr. deVosjoli and Mr. Dousseau who had been present at the first demonstration.

2. I repeated the demonstration much as I had given it the first time and the only difference was that Mr. Viala had a considerable number of questions to ask, most of them fairly technical, most of them showing a very good grasp of the principles of the machine and of the procedural aspects involved in its use.

3. I would say that he was very pleased and in my opinion there is no doubt that the French will very gratefully accept our offer of 5 machines. We also discussed the arrangements for their delivery and this remains unchanged. They still plan to send a qualified maintenance man here for training and to make the first installation in Paris and Washington.

4. During the discussions with Mr. Viala I listened for, but got no indication at all of any knowledge on his part of the arrangements which are now in process for the technical discussions with the French which Mr. Raven and I are going to attend.

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cc: DD/COMSEC  
V/DIR  
S/ASST (Mr. Friedman)   
P/P  
Capt. Taylor  
Mr. Packard (State Dept)  
NSA-42  
NSA-402

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