

Get as many film strips as  
poss

Get as many still pictures  
as possible

Color pictures

Motion pictures not  
necessary

Set up photo place

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE:

TO :  
FROM :  
SUBJECT:

*nobody go: also acq E with diff  
was consid going into full details*



SPSIS-3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 589465-3-03612



80-2263

ARMY SERVICE FORCES  
SIGNAL SECURITY AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

16 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Photographic Project, Signal Intelligence Installations and Activities, IBT, for Historical Purposes.

TO: Commanding General, USAFIBT, APO 885, % Postmaster, New York, New York. Attention: Theater Signal Officer.

Handwritten notes: 'S. C. H. 1060' written vertically on the right margin.

1. The Signal Security Agency was recently granted authority to have appropriately classified motion and still pictures made of the local installations and activities of the Signal Security Agency, for historical and training purposes. There is attached a copy of the correspondence pertaining to the project, in which there are set forth the measures to be taken by the Signal Security Agency to safeguard the material to be produced. It will be noted that only two copies will be made, both to be delivered to the Signal Security Agency upon completion; all personnel engaged on the project will have the type of clearance required for cryptographic personnel /War Department letter A.G. 311.5 (16 Dec 43) OB-S-B-M of 24 Dec 43, subject: Clearance of Personnel for Cryptographic Duties/; during production the film will not be shown to anyone not cleared for the project or approved by the Commanding Officer, Signal Security Agency; and no copies will be retained by the Army Pictorial Service or filed outside the Signal Security Agency.

2. A similar project has already been approved for the Signal Intelligence Service installations and activities of the European Theater of Operations, under safeguards similar to those described above. It is suggested that a similar project for the signal intelligence installations and activities in your theater would be desirable, if one has not already been initiated. Information in this regard is requested.

3. Referring to the attached correspondence, it will also be noted that as regards the record to be made of Signal Security Agency installations and activities, the record will consist of two parts, it having developed that good motion pictures of interior operations and activities would be impractical to make without extensive preparations and the installation of special lighting fixtures. It is likely that similar conditions in your installations will also make it desirable to restrict the motion picture record to outside buildings and areas. Moreover, it is believed that the film

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strips and accompanying sound records will be quite satisfactory for historical purposes and technically better for training purposes than a complete motion picture record. A record of the installations and operations of field radio intelligence installations and activities is regarded as being very important.

4. If a project has been or will be initiated in your theater, this office would appreciate having, as soon as practicable, a copy of the detailed plans drawn up for making the motion picture and film strip records. Coordination of similar projects in the several theaters and their integration with the Signal Security Agency project is deemed highly desirable. It is proposed that the motion picture film and set of film strips prepared within each theater should tell a well-knit story of the activities within that theater, but at the same time, the respective local stories should, if possible be capable of being integrated with the motion picture film and set of film strips prepared for the operations of the Signal Security Agency. Thus, it is hoped that a complete, accurate, factual, but nevertheless highly interesting record of the entire signal intelligence operations of the U. S. Army during the present war will result from the effective collaboration of all concerned. Such a final record of the signal intelligence agencies of the Army should be very valuable for historical as well as training purposes.

*W. Preston Corderman*  
W. Preston Corderman,  
Colonel, Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

1 Incl.:  
Incl. 1: Ltr to Chief, Army Pic. Serv.,  
dtd 17 Nov 44, and 1st Ind.  
thereto, dtd 11 Jan 45.

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REF ID: A58946

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(BASIC: Ltr fr ASF, Signal Security Agency, Washington 25, D.C., 16 Mar 45, Subj: Photographic Project, Signal Intelligence Installations and Activities, IBT, for Historical Purposes, to: CG, USAF, IBT, APO 885)

062(Sig)(16 Mar 45)

12 1st Ind FP/cbb  
HEADQUARTERS, U.S.F., INDIA BURMA THEATER, APO 885, 21 Aug 45.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D.C.  
(Attn: Army Service Forces)

1. After considerable investigation and review the suggested Photographic Project, Signal Intelligence Installations and Activities, IBT, for Historical Purposes has been rejected by this Headquarters.

2. At the time of the receipt of the basic correspondence it was believed the project could be accomplished, and preliminary plans were made accordingly. However, since the initial steps in the execution of this project, and before properly cleared personnel could be made available, certain obstructions to the accomplishment of this mission intervened as follows:

a. The installation of the Fifth Radio Squadron, Mobile, formerly operating from two sites in the India Burma Theater, was transferred to China.

b. The 127th Signal Radio Intelligence Company, the one radio intelligence company formerly in the Theater, was moved to China, leaving behind simply one detachment, itself in gradual process of liquidation.

c. The installation of the Sixth Radio Squadron, Mobile, in North Burma will in all likelihood shortly close down, and the Headquarters detachment of this unit is likewise anticipating a cessation of its activities.

d. The activities at Signal Intelligence Service, Hq, USF, IBT, have been greatly reduced, the Traffic Analysis Section having moved to China, and the operations of the Solution and Air Intelligence Sections having in large part ceased.

3. It is considered therefore that the production of a motion picture and film strip record which would tell a complete, accurate, and well-knit story of India Burma Signal Intelligence activities would be impossible to complete. In view of these considerations it is the opinion of this Headquarters that the rejection of the proposed project is justified.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*Frank Milani*  
FRANK MILANI  
Colonel, A.G.D.  
Adjutant General

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(BASIC: Ltr fr ASF, Signal Security Agency, Washington 25, D.C., 18 Mar 45, Subj: Photographic Project, Signal Intelligence Installations and Activities, IBT, for Historical Purposes, to: CG, USAF, IBT, APO 885)

062(Sig)(16 Mar 45)

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FRANK MILANI,  
Colonel, A.G.D.  
Adjutant General

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