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USCIB: 4.2/25

24 September 1954

~~SECRET~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Revision of USCIB Directive No. 9 of 4 February 1954.

1. The enclosed correspondence is circulated for information.
2. In accordance with the views expressed in the enclosures it is recommended that the following changes be made in subject directive:
 - a. SECTION I, paragraph 1c.: add the following: "(See SECTION VI, paragraph 2.)"
 - b. SECTION VI: Add the following: "2. In cases of accidental unauthorized disclosures of classified COMINT information or matter to persons whose official activities are under the control of the member department or agency concerned, such disclosure need not be considered a compromise if, in the opinion of the USCIB member performing the evaluation of the incident, the person to whom the information has been disclosed may reasonably be expected to maintain absolute secrecy concerning it."
3. With regard to the above recommendation it is requested that the attached vote sheet be executed and returned to this office by the close of business Wednesday, 6 October 1954.


 RUFUS L. TAYLOR
 Captain, U. S. Navy
 Executive Secretary, USCIB

Enclosures

1. NSA serial 00230S dtd 7 Sep 54.
2. CIB # 00240 dtd 10 Sep 54.
3. NSA serial 00243S dtd 22 Sep 54.

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~~SECRET~~NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Serial: 002305

7 SEP 1954

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

SUBJECT: Possible Compromises of COMINT

1. When possible compromises of COMINT are reported to the Director, NSA, for evaluation, they occasionally include instances wherein there has been an inadvertent exposure of COMINT to non-indoctrinated U.S. personnel. In these instances, the entire occurrence is witnessed by or reported to local indoctrinated personnel who immediately insure that corrective action is initiated. Typical corrective action would include a prompt security briefing for the non-indoctrinated personnel who would then be sworn to secrecy. It might also be ascertained that, although there may not be a need-to-know, the non-indoctrinated personnel otherwise meet the COMINT clearance criteria.

2. Because of the close control which may be exercised in some cases, accountability of the material is not always lost. This factor, it is believed, should be taken into consideration in the evaluation and declaration of compromises. In general, if COMINT information is inadvertently exposed to individuals who may reasonably be expected to maintain absolute secrecy, it is believed that the director should exercise discretion in the determination of whether a compromise has actually occurred. Your comments on this matter are invited. In this connection, suitable revision of CIBD #9 might be appropriate.

(signed)

D. M. AGNEW
Captain, US Navy
NSA Member, USCIBEC

Enclosure 1 with USCIB 4.2/25 dtd 24 Sep. 54.

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CIB # 00240

10 September 1954

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE NSA MEMBER OF USCIBEC (CAPTAIN D. M. AGNEW):

Subject: Possible Compromises of COMINT.

Reference: NSA Serial 00230 of 7 September 1954.

1. In response to the comments set forth in the reference, I am bound to agree that there can be and have been many instances of inadvertent disclosure which need not be treated as compromises. Broadly speaking, when the loyalty and discretion of an individual are well established, and his official activities are under the control of a USCIB member department or agency, the action described in paragraph 5.e. of USCIB Directive Number 5 should serve to provide the degree of accountability required provided, however, that such action has been taken in time to prevent further accidental revelation through ignorance.

2. Accordingly, so long as the above-mentioned conditions obtain I believe it will be readily agreed that members concerned are justified in exercising their own discretion regarding declarations of compromise in these cases.

3. Perhaps the solution to the problem you have raised can be reached by adding the following statement to paragraph I.l.c. of USCIB Directive Number 9:

"In cases of accidental unauthorized disclosures of classified COMINT information or matter to persons whose official activities are under the control of the member department or agency concerned, such disclosure need not be considered a compromise if, in the opinion of the USCIB member performing the evaluation of the incident, the person to whom the information has been disclosed may reasonably be expected to maintain absolute secrecy concerning it."

4. If you agree, I will circulate copies of this correspondence to the members of USCIBEC suggesting the change mentioned in paragraph 3 above.

Very respectfully,
(Signed)
RUFUS L. TAYLOR
Captain, U. S. Navy
Executive Secretary, USCIB

Enclosure 2 with USCIB 4.2/25 dtd 24 Sep 54.

~~SECRET~~NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Serial: 00243 S

22 SEP 1954

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USCIB

SUBJECT: Possible Compromises of COMINT

1. Reference is made to CIB # 00240, dated 10 September 1954.

2. I concur in the wording of the statement which is quoted in paragraph 3 of the reference. I believe, however, that the statement would be more suitably placed in some portion of CIBD #9 other than Section I, paragraph 1.c. thereof, because the statement does not seem to be a natural part of the definition. The statement, instead, is more in the nature of a general instruction.

3. I suggest, therefore, that you arrange for the following changes to CIBD #9:

a. Section VI: Add, as paragraph 2, the statement mentioned above.

b. Section I, paragraph 1.c.: Add the following:

"(See Section VI, paragraph 2.)"

(Signed)
D. M. AGNEW
Captain, US Navy
NSA Member, USCIBEC

Enclosure 3 with USCIB 4.2/25 dtd 24 Sep 54.

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