

~~SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~FINALSUBJECT NUMBER

USCIB: 12./19 Item 1 of the Agenda for the 116th Meeting of USCIB, held on 10 June 1955.

Subject: Cryptographic Assistance to []

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (General Cabell) noted that this item had been placed on the agenda as a result of the vote sheet position taken by the Army member, and invited comments by General Schow.

GENERAL SCHOW recalled the basic JUSMAG request (USCIB 12./10) and said that based upon his further investigation of it he felt that any assistance which could be given the Thais would improve their communications security. Noting the opinion of a majority of the members that the provision of assistance to [] would be premature at this time, he expressed his belief that it is not too early to begin research on the problem so as not to be caught in the position in which we found ourselves when NATO was organized.

EO 3.3(h) (2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

MR. ARMSTRONG said that it is his understanding that this subject is before USCIB for the purpose of obtaining an intelligence point of view. Indicating that his position now might be even more in favor of giving assistance than his position as stated in USCIB 12./17, he said that certain unclassified material and material of low classification is being provided to the [] now and that, as the provisions of the Manila Pact are implemented, further quasi-military, or actual military, and planning-type information may be provided in the not distant future. In view of these developments it may be easier to begin now to improve Thai COMSEC. He added his belief, however, that the kind of assistance to be rendered will require careful examination.

The CHAIR asked if Mr. Armstrong would care to suggest an upper limit on assistance to raise the level of [] COMSEC.

MR. ARMSTRONG replied that the level of assistance should be governed by the course of events in the area, and should be consistent with the lowest common denominator for assistance to all Pact members. In reply to a query by the Chair he expressed his opinion that if the

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MR. GODEL suggested that USCSB be given some indication of whether [] would result in serious political ramifications.

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GENERAL CANINE, noting that the Board has, in the past, been pretty hard-boiled in such matters and prone to use a dollars-and-cents yardstick, made a strong plea that the members agree to help the [] for altruistic, if for no other, reasons. He commented upon the friendliness and sincerity of the [] and expressed his belief that they are worthy of favorable consideration.

After a brief further discussion the CHAIRMAN asked if there was objection to the views presented by Mr. Armstrong, and endorsed by General Canine, that the requested assistance, designed to improve the communications security of the []

[]
There was no objection.

EO 3.3(h)(2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

The CHAIR then asked if this agreed principle should serve as the Board's decision in the matter, or did the members prefer to go a step further and recommend that USCSB give sympathetic consideration to the [] request.

The members agreed to recommend sympathetic consideration.

DECISION: (10 June 1955) USCIB considered the problem referred to it by USCSB in USCIB 12./15, including supplementary comments submitted by the Director, NSA (USCIB 12./16) and the Department of State member (USCIB 12./17) and agreed to inform USCSB that:

a. USCIB is of the opinion that the requested assistance, designed to improve the communications security of the [], would result [] and that

b. USCIB recommends sympathetic consideration of the request by USCSB.

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