

USCIB: 13.5/90

24

1 December 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~


MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Compromise of COMINT Codeword.

Reference: USCIB Directive Number 9.

1. The enclosed summary of a compromise of the secret codeword is circulated for information.

2. THE ENCLOSURE WITH THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AND SHALL BE HANDLED ONLY IN CHANNELS PROVIDED EXPRESSLY FOR COMINT.


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

Enclosure
a/s

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COMPROMISE OF COMINT INFORMATION

On 21 August 1954 a physical Compromise of the SECRET CODEWORD occurred at Wildwood Station, APO 728, U. S. Army. On that date a letter, prepared by the Army Security Agency, Alaska, containing the CODEWORD was received at Wildwood Station improperly classified.

The letter, following regular post distribution channels, was unaccountably delayed between its receipt on 21 August and the section for which it was intended on 25 August 1954. Six (6) individuals in the military service, not authorized access to CODEWORD material, handled this letter. Because of their clearance status and the fact that these persons were not immediately sworn to secrecy the SECRET CODEWORD must be considered compromised.

The following actions were taken to preclude a recurrence of this type violation. The form letter used in the subject violation has been revised to reduce the possibility of insertion of CODEWORDS in making entries. An orientation on protecting CODEWORDS and material will be given to all personnel authorized to handle such material. Special orientation for the two persons immediately responsible has been accomplished.

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