

USCIB: 29.17/17

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

21 February 1955

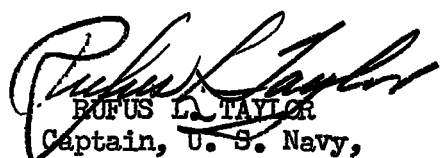
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EO 3.3(h)(2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIBEC:

Subject: COMINT Relations with

1. Circulated herewith are three enclosures stemming from the Special Meeting of USCIBEC held to consider subject problem on Wednesday, 16 February 1955.
2. Enclosure 1 is a draft message to LSIB which the Executive Secretary and the NSA Member feel would best convey our current position to the U.K.
3. Enclosure 2 is a version of enclosure 1 as modified by the Air Force Member to accommodate the views of his department.
4. Enclosure 3 is a draft memorandum to USCIB based on general considerations brought out at the above mentioned Special Meeting of USCIBEC and on the assumption that some combination of enclosures 1 and 2 will be recommended to the Board by USCIBEC.
5. Please inform this office of your views and comment by telephone prior to the USCIBEC meeting scheduled for Friday, 25 February so that such parts of this problem as may remain unresolved at that time can be considered as an extra item of business and an early conclusion reached.


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

Enclosures
a/s

USCIB: 29.17/17

~~TOP SECRET~~

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

FROM: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
TO : SUSLO, LONDON
INFO: DIRNSA

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING TO THE CHAIRMAN, LSIB FROM THE CHAIRMAN, USCIB:

1. USCIB HAS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE LIST OF EQUIPMENTS CONTAINED IN YOUR SECRETARY'S NOTE OF 21 JANUARY 1955 (LSIB/28/55) AND HAS ASKED THAT THE COMMENTS SET FORTH BELOW BE CONVEYED TO YOUR BOARD.
2. USCIB IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE ITEMS 3(B), (D) AND (E) AS LISTED. ITEM 3(E) IS, HOWEVER, NOT CURRENTLY ON HAND. THE DIRECTOR, NSA HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO ARRANGE FOR PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF THESE ITEMS AND WILL, IF IT IS AGREEABLE TO YOU, HANDLE THE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH THE DIRECTOR, GCHQ.
3. ITEM (F), THE SCR-291 HF/DF EQUIPMENTS, IS UNAVAILABLE AND IS, AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, CONSIDERED BY OUR PEOPLE TO BE OBSOLETE. WAS THERE A PARTICULAR REASON WHY [] REQUESTED THIS? WE BELIEVE WE COULD OBTAIN AN/CRD-2A'S FOR THEM IF ACCEPTABLE IN PLACE OF THE SCR-291.
4. ITEMS 3(A) AND 3(C), THE AN/APR 9 RECEIVERS AND THE SIGNAL GENERATORS, ARE IN CRITICAL SHORT SUPPLY AND THEIR USE HAS BEEN FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES PREEMPTED AS A HIGH PRIORITY ITEM FOR CURRENT ELINT REQUIREMENTS. USCIB CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO SUPPLY THOSE ITEMS.
5. WE MUST AGAIN POINT OUT THAT USCIB HAS NO COGNIZANCE IN THE ELINT FIELD AND IS MOST RELUCTANT TO TAKE ANY ACTION THAT WOULD INTERFERE UNNECESSARILY WITH THE DIRECT AND TIMELY PROCUREMENT OF MUCH NEEDED ELINT INFORMATION WHICH IS HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO OUR TACTICAL COMMANDERS. AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, THE U.S. ALREADY HAS A WELL ADVANCED ARRANGEMENT TO SUPPLY ELINT EQUIPMENT TO [] IN RETURN FOR [] ELINT. AT THE SAME TIME WE WISH TO DO ALL POSSIBLE TO PREVENT AN EMBARRASSMENT IN THE COMINT ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE []
6. USCIB IS OF THE OPINION THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO SUCCEED IN YOUR COMINT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE [] WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO BILATERAL ELINT ARRANGEMENTS.
7. TO THE EXTENT THAT ELINT EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR COMINT SEARCH IS INVOLVED IN ITEM 3(A) OF YOUR LIST, USCIB IS PREPARED TO OFFER A LIMITED QUANTITY OF AN/APR-4 EQUIPMENTS (OR ITS U.S. NAVY SHIPBORNE COUNTERPART THE RDO AND SPR-2) AS MORE SUITABLE FOR UHF COMMUNICATIONS SEARCH. EVEN THOSE ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY BUT WE COULD MAKE LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE TO YOU IF YOU FEEL YOUR COMINT NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT OTHERWISE FAIL.
8. YOUR COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

Enclosure 1 with USCIB 29.17/17 dated 21 February 1955.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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

FM: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
TO: SUSLO, LONDON
INFO: DIRNSA

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING TO THE CHAIRMAN, LSIB FROM THE CHAIRMAN, USCIB:

1. USCIB HAS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE LIST OF EQUIPMENTS CONTAINED IN YOUR SECRETARY'S NOTE OF 21 JANUARY 1955 (LSIB/28/55) AND HAS ASKED THAT THE COMMENTS SET FORTH BELOW BE CONVEYED TO YOUR BOARD.
2. USCIB IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE ITEMS 3(B), (D) AND (E) AS LISTED. ITEM 3(E) IS, HOWEVER, NOT CURRENTLY ON HAND. THE DIRECTOR, NSA HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO ARRANGE FOR PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF THESE ITEMS AND WILL, IF IT IS AGREEABLE TO YOU, HANDLE THE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH THE DIRECTOR, GCHQ.
3. ITEM (F), THE SCR-291 HF/DF EQUIPMENTS, IS UNAVAILABLE AND IS, AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, CONSIDERED BY OUR PEOPLE TO BE OBSOLETE. WAS THERE A PARTICULAR REASON WHY [] REQUESTED THIS? WE BELIEVE WE COULD OBTAIN AN/CRD-2A'S FOR THEM IF ACCEPTABLE IN PLACE OF THE SCR-291.
4. ITEMS 3(A) AND 3(C), THE AN/APR 9 RECEIVERS AND THE SIGNAL GENERATORS, ARE IN CRITICAL SHORT SUPPLY AND THEIR USE HAS BEEN FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES PREEMPTED AS A HIGH PRIORITY ITEM FOR CURRENT ELINT REQUIREMENTS. USCIB CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO SUPPLY THOSE ITEMS.
5. WE MUST AGAIN POINT OUT THAT USCIB HAS NO COGNIZANCE IN THE ELINT FIELD. FURTHER USCIB IS OF THE OPINION THAT YOUR COMINT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE [] WILL NOT BE PREJUDICED BY THE EXCLUSION OF ELINT EQUIPMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS.
6. TO THE EXTENT THAT ELINT EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR COMINT SEARCH IS INVOLVED IN ITEM 3(A) OF YOUR LIST, USCIB IS PREPARED TO OFFER A LIMITED QUANTITY OF AN/APR-4 EQUIPMENTS (OR ITS U.S. NAVY SHIPBORNE COUNTERPART THE RDO AND SPR-2) AS MORE SUITABLE FOR UHF COMMUNICATIONS SEARCH. EVEN THOSE ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY BUT WE COULD MAKE LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE TO YOU IF YOU FEEL YOUR COMINT NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT OTHERWISE FAIL.
7. YOUR COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

Enclosure 2 with USCIB 29.17/17 dated 21 February 1955.

D R A F T

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: COMINT Relations with

References: (a) USCIB 29.17/13 of 31 January 1955.
(b) USCIB 29.17/15 of 14 February 1955.
(c) USCIB 29.17/16 of 15 February 1955.

1. Further to the decision of USCIB at its 112th meeting with regard to reference (a), USCIBEC has considered the matter in the light of the discussion at the 112th meeting of USCIB and other available factors.

2. USCIBEC has also taken note of the below stated unanimous technical opinion on the material listed in reference (a) and of the U.K. views received in answer to reference (b) as set forth in reference (c).

3. Referring to the enclosure with reference (a) it is the unanimous opinion of the technical advisors available to USCIBEC through the Army, Navy, Air Force, NSA and CIA and of the members of USCIBEC themselves that:

a. The AN/APR 9 equipments listed in item 3(a) of reference (a) are primarily ELINT but do have limited COMINT uses. They are currently in critical short supply in the U.S. and those that are available are being monopolized as a high priority item in the ELINT effort.

b. The SKL chain amplifiers listed in item 3(b) of reference (a) may be used for either ELINT or COMINT, principally the latter. They are an unclassified item available commercially.

c. The Signal Generators listed in item 3(c) fall in the same category as the AN/APR 9 Receivers listed in item 3(a). They are in fact test devices for maintenance of the AN/APR 9 Receiver.

d. The Kay Sonograph (item 3(d)) is a commercial item used extensively for either ELINT or COMINT purposes.

e. The Clark VHF Receivers listed in item 3(e) are used extensively for both ELINT and COMINT. They can be made available, but not immediately.

f. The SCR-291 HF/DF equipments listed in item 3(f) are solely COMINT items and are now considered obsolete in the U.S. They are also unavailable. More modern equipment, such as the AN/CRD-2A, is understood to be available. It is considered appropriate to offer a substitute under the circumstances and the AN/CRD-2A is considered suitable for that purpose.

Enclosure 3 with USCIB 29.17/17 dtd 21 Feb 1955.

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Subject: COMINT Relations with [redacted]

4. From the evidence available it appears to USCIBEC that those of the equipments listed which are primarily of an ELINT nature (items 3(a) and 3(c)) but do have limited COMINT uses are, in the first place, probably not intended by the [redacted] for COMINT use and, in the second place, are not the best equipments to satisfy the COMINT uses to which they might be put. Further these equipments are in critical short supply in the U.S. In this connection, USCIBEC is advised that the AN/APR 4 or its Navy shipborne counterpart the RDO and SPR-2 is a better equipment for decimetric communications search and could be more easily made available though probably not in the quantity requested.

5. USCIBEC is therefore of the opinion that USCIB should not undertake to try to supply any of the items listed in paragraphs 3(a) and 3(c) of the enclosure with reference (a).

6. USCIBEC feels that USCIB should be as frank as possible with LSIB on this matter.

7. It is therefore recommended that a message as set forth in the enclosure herewith be sent to SUSLO, London for delivery to the Chairman, LSIB from the Chairman, USCIB in reply to the enclosure with reference (a).

DRAFT