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3 May 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, U.S.-U.K. CONFERENCE ON THE SECURITY OF
FRENCH COMMUNICATIONSSUBJECT: Immediate Conclusion and Recommendation Presented by the
Subcommittee on Security

It is recommended that, as a matter of urgency, the following conclusion and recommendations which have been reached by the Security Subcommittee be approved and implemented:

CONCLUSION

Due to (a) the absence of specific information regarding the security of the French Cryptographic Services and (b) the relevance of this knowledge to determination of means of approaching the French successfully with regard to their communications security, it is advisable that an immediate, limited effort be made to elicit this information in Paris through the medium of the Tripartite Security Group, now in London, which has been charged with surveying the general security of U.S., U.K. and French governmental activities. To this end it will be necessary that, prior to discussions in Paris, the U.S. and U.K. teams be authorized to discuss this matter with the French in London.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The U.S. and U.K. teams of the Tripartite Security Group be authorized to discuss and undertake suitable demonstrations of:
 - a. The existence and nature of special screening procedures for cryptographic personnel; and
 - b. Special provisions for the physical security of premises on which cryptographic activities are conducted.
2. These discussions and demonstrations be undertaken immediately in London so as to prepare a basis for inquiry in Paris.
3. These discussions and demonstrations not include:
 - a. Physical security procedures for the handling of cryptographic materials; or
 - b. Any aspects of the security of codes or ciphers or the transmission of messages.

Winston M. Scott
 WINSTON M. SCOTT
 Chairman,
 Subcommittee on Security

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(1) Whether an approach to the French should be made and (2) if it is decided to make an approach, the best.