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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
Washington 25, D. C.

MR. FRIEDMAN

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16 May 1955

NSA REGULATION  
NUMBER 90-2 (Change 1)

CANCELLED WHEN CHANGE IS ENTERED IN BASIC REGULATION

NOMENCLATURE FOR COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY MATERIALS

In NSA Regulation Number 90-2, dated 24 November 1954, make the following changes:

a. Remove pages 3 and 4 and insert the revised pages 3 and 4 attached hereto. This revision incorporates:

- (1) Deletion of the old sub-paragraph 3 c and re-designation and correction of sub-paragraph 3 d under Section III.
- (2) Changes in the context of paragraph 4, Section III, entitled "Development Model Identification."
- (3) Renumbering of "Modification Identification paragraph under Section III.

b. Remove the Appendix and insert the revised Appendix attached hereto. This revision incorporates:

- (1) Addition of a new category, "L - Miscellaneous" in Column 4, under "COMSEC AIDS."
- (2) Changes under "Examples," making them compatible with the revisions indicated in a (1) and (2), above.

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 11-15-2013 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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c. By pen and ink correction in Section III, paragraph 5 a (1), delete the numeral "2" appearing at the end of the short title "KLB-3C/TSEC."

d. Change Section VIII to read:

"Staff supervision of the policy established herein is the responsibility of the Deputy Director, Communications Security."

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL CANINE:

JOHN B ACKERMAN  
Major General, US Air Force  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:



GEO. E. CAMPBELL  
Colonel, AGC  
Adjutant General

Incls:

Pages 3 & 4, and Appendix  
(Revised) to NSA Regulation  
90-2 dtd 24 November 1954

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(b) Short titles for COMSEC aids will be derived as explained in SECTION IV.

d. "TSEC" nomenclature will not be assigned to parts, sub-assemblies, sub-units or similar items that will otherwise be subject to parts cataloging under other systems.

SECTION III - SHORT TITLES FOR COMSEC EQUIPMENT

1. Definitions: For the purpose of assignment of short titles to equipments and components, the following definitions will apply:

a. Equipment: A single equipment, or a group of two (2) or more components which is capable of operating independently to perform all the functions required to fulfill an intended COMSEC purpose. (Examples: literal cipher machine, teletypewriter security equipment, key tape production equipment, tape checker.)

b. Component:

(1) A group of parts assembled together as a unit to perform a definite and complete function necessary to the operation of the equipment of which it is a part. (Examples: cipher unit, key generator, alarm unit, stepping unit), or

(2) A group of parts assembled together as a separately removable and replaceable (and accountable, as appropriate) unit, although the group may not, in itself, perform a complete function necessary to the operation of the equipment of which it is a part. (Examples: drawer, cabinet, keyer assembly, tube chassis.)

2. Equipment Short Titles: Equipment short titles will contain the following elements, arranged in the order listed:

a. The system designator "TSEC", followed by a slant line.

b. A type number consisting of a descriptive digraph, a dash and an equipment number.

(1) Descriptive digraphs will be selected from the Table of Indicators: each will include:

(a) A "Function" indicator, to indicate the basic, or general function which the equipment performs.

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(b) A "Type" indicator, to indicate the general type of the equipment.

(2) Equipment numbers will be selected consecutively beginning with 1 for the first of each series of identical descriptive digraphs.

c. Examples: TSEC/KW-1, TSEC/HY-3, TSEC/MP-7.

3. Component Short Titles: Component short titles will contain the following elements, arranged in the order listed:

a. A type number consisting of a descriptive trigraph, a dash and a component number.

(1) Descriptive trigraphs will be selected from the Table of Indicators; each will include:

(a) The "Function" and "Type" indicators of the equipment of which the component is a part.

(b) A "Component" indicator, to indicate the specific type or function of the component.

(2) Component numbers will be selected consecutively beginning with 1 for the first of each series of identical trigraphs.

b. The system designator "TSEC" preceded by a slant line.

c. Examples: KYC-3/TSEC, HWH-3/TSEC, MTE-7/TSEC.

4. Development Model Identification:

The letter "D" and a number inclosed in parentheses following the basic short title will identify an equipment or component that is in research or development. Beginning with 1 for the first model, succeeding models will bear consecutive numbers. When the final model goes into production, this element of the short title will be dropped.

Examples: TSEC/KL-4(D-1), KYG-3(D-5)/TSEC

5. Modification Identification:

a. Each significant modification to an equipment or component that results in the loss of interchangeability of its

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~NOMENCLATURE SYSTEM FOR U.S. COMSEC MATERIALS  
("TSEC" SYSTEM)

TABLE OF INDICATORS

EQUIPMENT INDICATORS		COMPONENT INDICATORS	
FUNCTION	TYPE	EQUIPMENT COMPONENTS	COMSEC AIDS
K - Cryptographic H - Ancillary M - Manufacturing S - Special purpose	A - COMSEC aid G - Key generation I - Data transmission (Citrol) L - Literal conversion (Cipher) O - Multi-purpose P - Materials production S - Special purpose T - Testing, checking U - Television (Civision) W - Teletypewriter (Cipher) X - Facsimile (Cifax) Y - Speech (Ciphony)	A - Keying element advancing unit B - Basic unit, base, cabinet C - Combining unit D - Drawer, panel E - Strip, chassis F - Frame, rack G - Key generator H - Keyboard I - Translator, reader K - Keying element or unit L - Repeater M - Memory or storage unit O - Observation unit P - Power supply or unit R - Receiver S - Synchronizing unit T - Transmitter U - Printer X - Special purpose unit	A - Authentication system B - Modification instructions C - Code system D - Keying disk G - General publication I - Recognition and/or identification system K - Key list L - Miscellaneous M - Maintenance manual O - Operating manual R - Rotor S - Strip P - One-time pad T - One-time tape
<b>Examples:</b> TSEC/KY-1 - Speech security equipment, No. 1 TSEC/HW-3 - Teletype ancillary equipment, No. 3 TSEC/MT-5 - Production testing equipment, No. 5 TSEC/KL-4A - First modification of literal cipher machine, No. 4 TSEC/KX-2(D-1) - Facsimile security equipment, No. 2, first in development model KYC-4/TSEC - Combining unit, No. 4 (KY series), for general use with speech security equipments KXD-7/TSEC - Drawer, No. 7 (KX series), part of facsimile security equipment, No. 2 HWR-3(D-2)/TSEC - Receive terminal, No. 3 (HW series), for general use with teletype ancillary equipments, second in development model MPK-4A/TSEC - First modification of keying unit, No. 4 (MP series), part of production equipment, No. 3		<b>Note:</b> The table of equipment component indicators may be expanded, as required, to include a complete alphabet for each Function or for each Category.	

Appendix to NSA Regulation  
 No. 90-2, 24 November 1954  
 (Revised 16 May 1955)