

Serial: N 1250

20 APR 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

ATTN: General G. B. Erskine, USMC-Ret,
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense,
Special Operations)

SUBJECT: Conduct of Direct Support ELINT Activities (C)

1. Reference is made to our memorandum, subject as above, Serial: NO934, dated 16 March 1961, which referenced your earlier memorandum same subject dated 23 February 1961.
2. Inclosed for your information is a copy of the National Security Agency comments on the proposed mission and functions of the PACOM ELINT Center which are being provided to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The CIECPAC views were forwarded to NSA as JCS 2031/152, subject "ELINT Processing Activities." Our comments and the proposed revision of the JCS paper reflect the current concepts of this Agency regarding functions of "Direct Support" ELINT Activities insofar as they relate to the overall ELINT responsibilities of NSA.
3. As the salient feature of our plan to improve the U. S. capability for exploitation of increasingly complex signals, NSA is engaged in discussions with the Service Cryptologic Agencies concerning the establishment of SIGINT field signals analysis activities. These activities which would be formed by consolidating existing and planned cryptologic signals analysis facilities are clearly required to provide effective support of cryptologic technical operations and direct support ELINT activities integral to Commands. They could ultimately replace certain of the existing Theater ELINT signals analysis activities.

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4. As these discussions and as detailed planning and implementation progress, your office will be kept informed. This action, although affecting a major area in the discharge of ELINT responsibilities, is only one of several contemplated to enable NSA more effectively to discharge its responsibilities.

L. H. FROST
Vice Admiral, USN
Director

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N 1250

cc: DIR
AG
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PROD-04
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OPS

M/R: Correspondance is self-explanatory. Because of the urgency required in commenting to the JCS re the proposed missions and functions for the PACOM ELINT Center, NSA has placed emphasis on this aspect of its planned futute cryptologic actions as relatea to "direct support" ELINT activities. By this action NSA has established a position in this matter both as regards further NSA implementation and as regards the similar proposed EUCOM Electronics Intelligence Center. OSO is being provided information copies of the comments to JCS by separate memorandum so as to provide that office with currrnt NSA thinking in this problem area. Formulation, drafting and coordination of this correspondence was accomplished by Mr. Kirby (PROD-04) in collaboration with Mr. Conley (COSA), Mr. Price (OPS) and Mr. Libbert (PROD-04).

O. R. KIRBY/3538s/14 Apr 61/PROD-04/ej

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