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State Dept

SPSIS-8

21 March 1945

MEMORANDUM for File

On 19 March 1945 a conference was held at Signal Security Agency at which there were present Colonel Corderman and Mr. Friedman representing the Army, Commander Smith and Commander Weeks representing the Navy, and Commander Park and Major Moak representing the State Department. The purpose of the conference was to determine what cryptographic plan best suited the needs of the State Department at the present time taking into consideration such matters as the urgency of the requirement and the availability of equipment.

Commander Park requested the concurrence of the Army and Navy representatives in his proposal to procure additional CSP 2200's from the Navy which would, in conjunction with the Navy machines the State Department now has, provide a rapid and secure means of cryptographic communication. He proposed also that the State Department retain its SIGFOY's, and when SIGLASE becomes available, obtain 8 or 10 of them to facilitate communication with holders of SIGFOY.

In view of the fact that the Navy is in a position to make the necessary number of CSP 2200's available very shortly, starting delivery within the next two weeks, whereas the Army will not be able to furnish SIGLASE for approximately six months, and since the State Department is in immediate need of a rapid and secure means of cryptographic communication, it was agreed that the State Department should proceed with the plan proposed by Commander Park.

It was further agreed that at the expiration of the war, or as soon thereafter as conditions warrant, re-survey be conducted to determine what plan would at that time best meet the needs of the Department, bearing in mind the availability of equipment, the advances in cryptologic technique and the urgent need for security of its communications.

JMM
John M. MacDonald
Captain, Signal Corps

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