

USCIB: 13.2/57

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22 April 1955

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Indoctrination for Access to COMINT (Director, ARFCOS).

1. Approval is requested for the "need to know" of the incumbent Director, Armed Forces Courier Service (ARFCOS), Lt. Colonel Robert P. Muhlback, USAF. ARFCOS is a joint agency of the Army, Navy and Air Force operating under the Chiefs of Staff of the three departments concerned. Direction is vested alternately within these departments. The Air Force has recently acquired directorship and it is expected that the incumbent will remain in that position for the normal two year tour.

2. Contacts with the previous Director of ARFCOS (Captain J. A. Morrison, USN) involving COMINT (air crashes, pouch service, etc.) did not entail any difficulty because the then incumbent and his principal assistant were familiar with the workings of USCIB and its membership by virtue of their primary duties in the Naval Security Group. Conversations with the present incumbent have been hampered by the necessity for "double-talk". The opportunities for misunderstanding are considerably multiplied under such conditions. The Executive Secretary believes that clearance of the Director, ARFCOS may become even more desirable due to his active interest in certain projects similar to some now under consideration by USCIB. It would be helpful to discuss with him USCIB's related doings. Examples of such projects are:

- a. development of a secure carrier for classified material,
- b. development of a non-floating courier pouch, and
- c. development of a more efficient reporting system for courier material involved in air crashes.

3. If Lt. Colonel Muhlback is indoctrinated, it is anticipated that he will be furnished mainly "information about COMINT". However, discussion of matters involving control of Category III and II COMINT while in transit in pouches handled by ARFCOS couriers may become necessary in the future. Such instances will probably be extremely rare, but, if they should arise, full freedom of discussion would be most helpful. A requirement to provide COMINT codeword or related information by means other than verbal discussion is not envisaged although it also may arise.

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4. The Executive Secretary recommends the following:
 - a. approval of the potential "need to know" of the Director, ARFCOS,
 - b. authorize the Air Force to conduct his investigation and indoctrination now leaving the question of if and when he will be given COMINT to the discretion of those members of USCIB and those of this office who will have business with him,
 - c. charge the Air Force with the responsibility for handling and security control of any COMINT documents it may become necessary to show to him.

5. Accordingly, it is requested that your concurrence in or comments on the above recommendations be noted on the attached vote sheet and forwarded to this office by 1600, 4 May 1955.


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

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