

~~FINAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~

SUBJECT NUMBER

USCIB: 29.19/5 Item 3 of the Agenda for the 106th Meeting of USCIB, held on 10 September 1954.

Subject: COMINT Arrangements with Third Parties [REDACTED]
(USCIB 29.19/1).

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (General Cabell) invited comment on this item by the Director, NSA, who stated his desire to notify U.K. COMINT authorities of an approach to the U.S. by a member of the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Recalling instances in the past wherein delayed notification to the U.K. of somewhat similar contacts have been a source of embarrassment to us, he suggested that prompt action be taken to obtain LSIB concurrence or comments in the instant case. To accomplish this notification, he proposed the forwarding of an appropriately worded cable and distributed, for discussion and consideration, a draft of such a cable.

MR. ARMSTRONG informed the members that the political implications of the overall proposal concerning [REDACTED] had not yet been coordinated in his Department, and suggested that such coordination be effected before U.K. concurrence is sought.

GENERAL CANINE said that he would agree with this procedure if it would be possible to accomplish such coordination in a reasonably short time.

MR. ARMSTRONG expressed his opinion that an answer could be obtained within the week.

On the subject of the nature and extent of possible dealings with the [REDACTED] GENERAL CANINE recommended that we initially commit ourselves only to the extent of paragraph 4 of Appendix "P" (money and equipment), and postpone consideration of going beyond this point (i.e., providing technical material under paragraph 5, Appendix "P") until the capabilities of the [REDACTED] can be more thoroughly assessed.

The MEMBERS discussed the advisability of approving the basic proposal, subject to Department of State clearance on the political side, and a favorable reply from U.K. authorities. As a result of this discussion it was agreed not to take such action; but, rather, to await the reply from the Department of State and, in the interim, refer the problem to the Executive Committee as a matter of urgency to agree upon appropriate wording of a cable of notification to LSIB, and to examine the entire proposal and submit recommendations with regard thereto.

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MR. ARMSTRONG suggested that the present instance points up the advisability of establishing an SOP for the handling of applications for assistance from Third Parties. He noted that such requests often have not been fully coordinated before reaching the Board and suggested that, as a matter of routine, they be studied in detail by the Executive Committee before presentation for USCIB consideration.

CAPTAIN TAYLOR explained that this is the procedure normally followed in such cases, exceptions arising only as in this instance, when for reasons of urgency or upon specific request by a member the matter is presented directly to the Board.

MR. ARMSTRONG expressed his satisfaction with this explanation, and said that the procedure he had suggested appeared already to exist. He reiterated his recommendation that all possible staff work be accomplished in future cases prior to submission for USCIB consideration.

DECISION: (10 September 1954) USCIB agreed that the Executive Committee would be instructed (1) to consider the proposals in USCIB 29.19/1 with a view to making immediate recommendation as to suitable notification to U.K. authorities, (2) to examine the entire proposal and submit recommendations with regard thereto.

It was further agreed that, in accomplishing (1), above, the Executive Committee will consider the views of the Department of State member and if he interposes no objection the USCIBEC-agreed notification, upon approval by individual USCIB members, will be dispatched to U.K. authorities.

This item to remain on the Agenda.

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