

~~SECRET~~101st Meeting USCIB~~SECRET~~Item not on  
AgendaDIRECTOR'S REMARKS  
ON  
COMINT SECURITY CONTROLS

I noted the discussion at the Executive Committee's February meeting regarding the need for tightening COMINT security controls within the member agencies of USCIB. The Executive Secretary recommended certain steps be taken in an attempt to reduce the number of COMINT consumer publications in circulation and to limit their distribution; and also to restrict to the minimum the number of COMINT documents distributed by the National Security Agency and other producing agencies.

I want to make it a matter of record that I subscribe fully to the spirit and intent of the Executive Secretary's recommendations. But I invite your attention to the fact that the decision on the matter reached by the Executive Committee represents only a partial, preliminary step towards the solution of a critical security problem. I am willing to undertake the review recommended by the Executive Committee, but it must be understood that this survey, explicitly restricted in its scope to a limited area, will not accomplish much.

During January 1954, I published and distributed to qualified recipients over three million pages of translations and reports. To compound the problem, consumer agencies find it necessary to duplicate portions of this material and to publish these portions in their own COMINT summaries. It becomes difficult even to estimate the aggregate of COMINT documents circulating world-wide among the members of USCIB, our international colleagues, and our associates in the field. It should be abundantly clear that this staggering volume of material presents an almost insuperable problem so far as security control is concerned.

The action of the Executive Committee seems to recognize the existence of the problem. But its action does little more than that. Because of the vital importance of COMINT security control, I would like to have the Board record its support of the Executive Secretary's recommendations, and take action now to establish an ad hoc committee composed of representatives from the Department of Defense and CIA as suggested by the Executive Secretary.

~~SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY RECOMMENDED THAT:

(1) USCIB appoint a committee consisting of a representative of the Department of Defense and a representative of the C.I.A. to make a long term study of ways and means of consolidating the many COMINT publications now in circulation and of further limiting their distribution.

(2) The Director, NSA, be directed by the Board to reexamine independently the number and extent of distribution of COMINT documents originated by him and submit a recommendation to the Board.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT:

(1) The Security Committee be directed to study the matter in order to define the problem more specifically. To that end USCIBFC has agreed to the following course of action:

(a) Each USCIB member other than Director, NSA, be requested to furnish to SECCOM a statement of the nature and extent of all external COMINT distribution made by his Department or Agency in the Washington Area.

(b) Director, NSA, be requested to furnish to SECCOM a statement of the nature and extent of all COMINT distribution made by his National Center in Washington to other member Departments and Agencies of USCIB.

(c) SECCOM be directed to study the data thus acquired and submit to the Executive Secretary a report of the situation in the Washington Area, together with appropriate recommendations.

The Executive Committee expressed its intention of considering whether and to what extent, if any, the scope of this investigation should be expanded further upon receipt of the above-mentioned report of the Security Committee.

~~TOP SECRET~~