

DCB/P

8 Jan 54

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Release of M-209's to Indo-China

Reference: USCIB 29.14/8 dated 23 December 1953

BACKGROUND

1. In October 1953, the French asked the U.S. Army for 350 M-209's for use in Indo-China. CMC, MAAG, in French Indo-China indicated an urgent need for the machines, and G-4 was disposed to grant the request. The matter was referred to NSA for approval. Although the release of these machines to the French could have been justified on legal grounds, it was believed that a decision should be deferred pending the outcome of certain [redacted]

[redacted] On 14 October 1953, the Director informed General McClure orally that he could not concur in the release of the M-209's at that time.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS

EO 3.3(h)(2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

2. In the recent negotiations [redacted]

[redacted] The Director reported this turn of events at the 97th Meeting of USCIB and stated that he would withdraw his earlier veto in writing.

3. Although it is understood that the Director informed General Trudeau orally that there was no longer any bar to releasing the M-209's to the French, the purpose of the present correspondence is to make the concurrence a matter of record for G-2.

RECOMMENDATION

4. It is recommended that the attached letter be signed.

R.P.L.
JOHN J. DAVIS
Colonel, Arty

col [unclear]
[unclear]
Wm [unclear]
Galt
[unclear]
Jedr [unclear]

TOP SECRET

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