

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : AFSA-00T

DATE: 26 April 1951

FROM : DIRAFSA

SUBJECT: U.S./U.K. Conference on French Communication Insecurity.

Please draft brief opening remarks for my use on 1 May 1951 in connection with the opening of subject conference.



EARL E. STONE  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Director, Armed Forces Security Agency

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It is my pleasure to welcome the representatives of the United Kingdom to this U.K.-U.S. Conference. You will observe that I have not specified the kind of a Conference, whether [redacted], because it is somewhat difficult to characterize it as being either one or the other. Perhaps it will be just as well to refer to it simply by the title "U.K.-U.S. Conference on French communications".

There is hardly any need for me to indicate the quite general feeling that times are out of joint. How far they are out of joint is reflected by one feature which makes this Conference unique.

Heretofore, whenever we have assembled to discuss [redacted] matters, the primary purpose of the Conference has been to enhance or to increase our respective or our combined [redacted] potential. We have discussed all sorts of questions dealing with improvements we could make, unilaterally and bilaterally, to make possible or to facilitate the solution or [redacted]

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But such a course of action, if it is agreed upon, is not of our choosing. It is one to which we are committed by a realization and

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acceptance of the fundamental principle that our COMSEC interests are paramount, and over-riding. Wars have been, and can be, fought [redacted]

[redacted] although we all know from experience that attainment of victory is facilitated by the [redacted] but wars have been, and can be, lost by poor COMSEC, and for the attainment of victory, where the forces are equal or nearly so, good COMSEC is indispensable.

So, in entering upon this Conference I hope we will not feel too badly if we go into it even with the certain knowledge that we are going to [redacted]

Let us keep in mind what we hope to gain in COMSEC -- and remember that as the responsible custodians of our cryptologic potential, we must give equal attention to both segments of the field.

I know that the problems which the Conference faces are difficult ones but I feel that they are not insuperable. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to call upon me at any time.

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