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2 February 1954

AIDE-MEMOIRE, PARAGRAPH 5

The following sentences are alternate suggestions for the final sentence of the aide-memoire;

1. "The US and UK Governments believe further that the technical discussions among the US, UK and French Governments should result in the assurance that their respective COMSEC practices will be made satisfactory as soon as possible and when measured against the Standing Group Memorandum.

2. "The US and UK Governments believe that it is essential that France, the US and UK assure themselves that their respective communications security practices are satisfactory from the standpoint of the Standing Group Memorandum."

3. "The US and UK Governments believe that as a further object of the technical discussions the US, UK and France should assure themselves that their respective communications security practices are satisfactory from the standpoint of the Standing Group Memorandum."

4. Add "as soon as possible" after the word "themselves" in version #2[?] or #3.

5. "The US and UK Governments believe that it is essential for the US, the UK and France to assure themselves as soon as possible that their respective communications security standards are satisfactory from the standpoint of the agreed Standing Group Memorandum and that these technical discussions should be helpful to this end."

6. "The US and UK Governments believe that there should be no shortcomings in the national communications practices of the Standing Group powers and that France, the US and the UK should assure themselves in these discussions that their own practices meet the standards of the agreed memorandum."

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US PROPOSALS ON DOCUMENTS
OF THE COMSEC APPROACH TO THE FRENCH
(New language is underlined)

- A. Brief for Delegates to the Technical Discussions.
1. Title -- insert US-UK before the word "delegates".
 2. Paragraph 2(d) from the end of the penultimate sentence should read:
"...and in discussion of its appendix: List of Dangerous Practices. French recommendations for modifications, especially amplification, will be encouraged and considered on their own merits. Decisions on these points must necessarily be unanimous."
 3. Delete original Paragraphs 2(e) through (h) as proposed by UK.
 4. A new Paragraph 2(e) should be inserted as proposed by the UK with the deletion of the second sentence of the UK version.
 5. A new Paragraph 2(f) should be inserted as proposed by the UK.

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6. In Paragraph 2(j) [formerly 2(1)] the second sentence should read "If they do not, the US delegates may at an early stage..."
7. In Paragraph 3(a)(2) delete "by the US" after the word "approved".
8. Paragraph 4(b) should read:
"(b) COMSEC - If the French ask pointblank questions about national cipher systems of the US or UK, a frank answer should, wherever permissible, be given. If the reply to such a question should involve revelation of matter not approved ~~by the US or UK~~^{and} for release, the answer should simply be that each country (UK and US) has a national security policy which prohibits revelation of such information except as explicitly approved."

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B. Aide-Memoire.

1. Paragraph 2 should read as proposed by the UK through the word "practices"; the rest of the paragraph should be deleted.
2. The first sentence of Paragraph 5 should read as proposed by the UK. The rest of the paragraph should read:
"The US and UK Governments believe that as a further objective of the technical discussions the US, UK and France should assure themselves that their respective communications security practices are satisfactory from the standpoint of the Standing Group Memorandum."

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