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~~TENTATIVE~~

FINAL

SUBJECT NUMBER

USCIB: 13.5/65      Item 6 of the Agenda for the Fourteenth Meeting of USCIBEC, held on 29 April 1954.

Subject:            Violation of USCIB Policy Re Classification of Subject Matter Related to COMINT (USCIB 13.5/54).

THE CHAIRMAN stated that he felt the report contained in USCIB 13.5/54 dated 20 April 1954 spoke for itself and further exploration was unnecessary.

CAPTAIN McCORMICK said that he had recently been on Capitol Hill reviewing certain material and had been assured that matter which is known to be classified is handled accordingly. He concluded by asking if a solution might not be in advising the Congressional Committees of desired handling.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that he felt it could be done on a cooperative basis. However, he continued, the provisions of Public Law 513 carefully state "Nothing in this section shall prohibit the furnishing, upon lawful demand, of information to any regularly constituted committee of the Senate or House of Representatives of the United States of America, or Joint Committee thereof."

With regard to the Pearl Harbor investigation, CAPTAIN AGNEW stated that the Military Departments could, within the military including those on the retired list, circulate a ban against such public utterances.

THE CHAIRMAN expressed his opinion that steps should have been taken at the time of the investigation to ensure that such information was kept secret. He then asked if there was anything that could be done in the way of a declaration of a policy that could be implemented?

The members discussed possible administrative steps that could be taken to enforce advanced review of public statements and publications by individuals who are under the control of USCIB member departments and agencies. The consensus was that present directives and regulations on this subject should be reviewed for possible revision. The discussion concluded with acceptance of the Chairman's report (USCIB 13.5/54) and a suggestion that the Security Committee study ways and means of alerting key congressional individuals when sensitive information is involved.

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CAPTAIN AGNEW then pointed out a minor inaccuracy. The NSA portion of the report referring to wartime US-UK COMINT collaboration citing the US grant of a "Purple Machine" should apply, he said, only to prewar.

THE CHAIRMAN's suggestion that the word "wartime" be deleted was accepted.

DECISION: (29 April 1954) USCIBEC agreed:

(1) To accept the report and recommendations contained in USCIB 13.5/54 dated 20 April 1954.

(2) To request the Security Committee to recommend a method of alerting key congressional individuals when classified COMINT is involved.

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