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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
Washington 25, D. C.

2 March 1953

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY DIRECTIVE NO. 2

1. This Directive established machinery within NSA for the planning of intercept and processing priorities and provides for participation therin by representatives of the Departments and Agencies eligible to receive COMINT products in those offices of the National Security Agency (NSA) where priorities of intercept and processing are finally planned.

2. Section I states applicable general principles. Section II establishes three priorities committees, the charters of which are made Appendices to this Directive.

3. Copies or excerpts of this Directive as appropriate may be further disseminated at the discretion of the addresses.

RALPH J. CANINE
Major General, US Army
Director

Special Distribution

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SECTION I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The Director, NSA is specifically charged (1) with formulating necessary operational plans for the conduct of COMINT activities and (2) with conducting such activities as necessary to meet the needs of the departments and agencies authorized to receive the products thereof. Except on matters which have been voted on by USCIB, the Director, NSA, is required to discharge his responsibilities according to his own judgment, subject to the direction of the Secretary of Defense. The Director, NSA, is also required to make provision for participation by representatives of each of the departments and agencies eligible to receive COMINT products in those offices of NSA where priorities of intercept and processing are finally planned. The arrangements set forth herein are for the purpose of enabling these representatives to participate in those activites of NSA that assist the Director in the discharge of his responsibilities for planning these priorities. These representatives have final recourse to USCIB, through their principals on the Board, for review of priorities decisions. However, it is expected that before an appeal is made to USCIB, the Board members concerned will consult with the Director, NSA.

2. The resources of NSA and the other COMINT collection and production resources subject to the operational and technical control of the Director, NSA, are now inadequate to exploit completely all foreign communications. COMINT operations are, therefore, conducted basically in accordance with the priorities of the National Intelligence requirements for COMINT information as established by the United States Communications Intelligence Board (USCIB).

3. The fundamental allocations of COMINT resources to satisfy the requirements in accordance with these priorities are necessarily influenced by the complexities of the technical processes involved. Within broad allocations based upon these intelligence requirements and technical considerations, operational emphasis is adjusted in accordance with priorities of short term current requirements for COMINT information on specific subjects.

4. In addition to allocations as above to meet intelligence requirements, a portion of the available resources must be assigned to the analysis of currently unexploitable cryptographic systems, research into new techniques, and training of personnel at all levels, in order to develop increased COMINT potential for possible future emergencies and to satisfy more fully the National Intelligence requirements.

5. Because of the necessity of taking into full account both the intelligence requirements and the technical considerations, decisions on recommendations relative to allocation of resources or emphasis of effort will be based upon a majority view of the consumer representatives. Where a difference arises in which technical considerations are not a deciding factor, the majority view of the consumer representatives will normally be accepted. However, where technical or operational considerations apply, these will, of course, have to be given due weight.

SECTION II

ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES COMMITTEES

1. There is hereby established within NSA a General Priorities Committee, an Intercept Priorities Committee and a Processing Priorities Committee. Within their respective fields, these committees, after considering intelligence requirements and production complexities, will formulate and recommend to the Director, NSA, plans concerning allocations of the COMINT resources available.

2. The charters under which these committees will function are attached as Appendices A, B and C of this Directive.

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

GENERAL PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

APPENDIX "A"

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I. PURPOSE

The General Priorities Committee (GPC) of the National Security Agency (NSA) is established to advise and assist the Director, NSA, in the interpretation of the long term intelligence requirements promulgated by the United States Communications Intelligence Board (USCIB), the formulation of plans to implement COMINT objectives in terms of fundamental allocations of the COMINT resources available to NSA, and the consideration of such other matters pertaining to implementation of priorities as may be referred to the committee.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The General Priorities Committee shall consist of:

a. Representatives from NSA:

1. Deputy Chief of the Office of Production. Wright

2. The Technical Director, Office of Production. Sinkov

3. The Chiefs of the Offices of Collection, Analysis, Machine Processing and Exploitation. 60 70 80 90

4. The Chief, Plans and Policy Division.

b. Representatives from other Member Agencies of USCIB:

Each other Member Agency of USCIB, namely, CIA, FBI, and the Departments of State, Defense, Navy, Army, and Air Force, shall appoint one representative, preferably from its permanent staff at NSA Headquarters.

c. An alternate with plenary powers shall be designated to serve in the absence of each representative. All representatives and alternates must be cleared and indoctrinated in accordance with appropriate USCIB standards.

III. CHAIRMAN

The Deputy Chief of the Office of Production shall serve as the Permanent Chairman. In the absence of the Deputy Chief of the Office of Production, the Chief of the Office of Analysis shall serve as Chairman.

IV. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

An Executive Secretary, to be appointed by the Assistant Director for Production, shall be responsible for providing the working materials and assistance necessary for the deliberations of the Committee.

V. MEETINGS

The General Priorities Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman and as frequently as he deems necessary, but not less than once a year. The time, date, and place of the meetings will be as designated by the Chairman.

VI. FUNCTIONS

The General Priorities Committee shall be responsible for:

a. Interpreting, for the purpose of determining the fundamental allocations, the long term intelligence requirements promulgated by USCIB.

b. Formulating plans to implement COMINT objectives in terms of fundamental allocation of the collection and production resources available to NSA.

c. Considering such other matters concerning implementation priorities as may be referred to the Committee by the Director, NSA, or the Assistant Director for Production.

d. Submitting to the Director, NSA, recommendations resulting from its deliberations.

VII. PROCEDURES

1. The agenda for the annual meeting, plus the current long term intelligence requirements promulgated by USCIB and the necessary information concerning COMINT objectives, will be distributed at least ten working days in advance of the meeting. The agenda for any other meeting of the GPC shall be distributed at least three working days before the scheduled time of the meeting concerned.

2. When a vote is not unanimous, the members in the minority may submit in writing a minority report stating the reasons for their nonconcurrence and/or an alternate recommendation. These minority reports may be prepared either singly or collectively, as appropriate.

3. If representatives (or their alternates) are not present at a regularly convened meeting, it shall be presumed that they have concurred in the vote of the majority of the members present on each item of the agenda.

4. Reports of the meetings, including recommendations and decisions, will be forwarded by the Chairman to the Director, NSA, via the Assistant Director for Production. The names of the representatives present, the organizations they represent, and a statement of their concurrence or nonconcurrence with the recommendation will be included in the GPC reports. Minority reports if submitted will be attached.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION

If a majority decision of the GPC contains a majority of both NSA and consumer representatives, implementation may be commenced immediately by the Assistant Director for Production. If the majority decision does not contain such a distribution of concurring representatives, implementation will be as decided by the Director, NSA, subject to any action USCIB may take in the premises.

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

INTERCEPT PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

APPENDIX "B"

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I. PURPOSE

The Intercept Priorities Committee (IPC) of the National Security Agency is established to advise and assist the Director, NSA, in planning the effective utilization of the COMINT collection resources available to NSA.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Intercept Priorities Committee shall consist of:

a. Representatives from NSA:

1. The Deputy Chief of the Office of Production.

2. The Technical Director, Office of Production.

3. The Chief of the Office of Collection.

4. The Chief of the Office of Analysis. only not 90

b. Representatives from other Member Agencies of USCIB:

Each other member agency of USCIB, namely CIA, FBI and the Departments of State, Navy, Army and Air Force, shall appoint one representative, preferably from its permanent staff at Headquarters, NSA.

c. An alternate with plenary powers shall be designated to serve in the absence of each representative. All representatives and alternates must be cleared and indoctrinated in accordance with appropriate USCIB standards.

III. CHAIRMAN

The Deputy Chief of the Office of Production shall serve as the permanent Chairman. In the absence of the Deputy Chief of the Office of Production, the Chief of the Office of Analysis shall serve as Chairman.

IV. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Chief, Intercept Control Division, shall serve as Executive Secretary of the Committee and shall be responsible for providing such working materials and assistance as are necessary for the deliberations of the Committee.

V. MEETINGS

The IPC shall meet at the call of the Chairman as frequently as he deems necessary, but not less than once each month. The time, date and place of the meetings will be as designated by the Chairman.

VI. FUNCTIONS

The Intercept Priorities Committee shall be responsible for:

a. Reviewing action taken by Office of Production between IPC meetings to adjust intercept coverage to conform with: (1) minor gains, losses and transfers of available intercept facilities, (2) communications changes of target nations, and (3) spot priorities.

b. Reviewing of intercept requirements prepared monthly by the various Intercept Priorities Panels (IPP's), of the Office of Production.

c. Considering any other matters concerning operations which fall within the purview of this charter.

d. Submitting to the Director, NSA, recommendations resulting from its deliberations.

VII. PROCEDURE

1. The agenda, and in addition proposals and IPP requests to be acted upon (and necessary information concerning these items), will normally be distributed to members at least three working days prior to the scheduled time of each meeting.

2. When a vote is not unanimous, the members in the minority may submit in writing a minority report of appeal stating the reasons for their nonconcurrence and/or alternate recommendations. These minority reports or appeals may be prepared either singly or collectively, as appropriate.

3. Members not represented at a regularly convened meeting shall be presumed to have no direct concern in the Agenda for that meeting or to have concurred in the vote of the majority of the members present on each item of the agenda.

4. Reports of committee meetings, including recommendations, will be forwarded by the Chairman to the Director, NSA, via the Assistant Director for Production. The names of the members present, the organizations they represent, and a statement of their concurrence or nonconcurrence with the recommendation will be included in the IPC reports. Minority reports and appeals, if submitted, will be attached.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION

Approval by the Director, NSA, of recommendations in which a majority of both NSA and consumer representatives concur may be assumed, pending advice to the contrary. Action may be initiated immediately by the Chief, Intercept Control Division, Office of Collection, and the appropriate IPP's to implement such recommendations.

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

PROCESSING PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

APPENDIX "C"

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I. PURPOSE

The Processing Priorities Committee (PPC) of the National Security Agency is established to recommend to the Director, NSA, adjustments within the fundamental allocation of production resources which are considered necessary or desirable to satisfy minor changes in intelligence requirements, or indicated by changes in processing procedures.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Processing Priorities Committee shall consist of:

a. Representatives from NSA:

1. The Chief of the Office of Analysis. 70

2. The Chief of the Office of Exploitation. 40

3. The Chief of the Office of Machine Processing. 80

4. The Chief, Technical Projects Group, Office of Production. RAVEN

b. Representatives from other Member Agencies of USCIB:

Each other member agency of USCIB, namely CIA, FBI and the Departments of State, Navy, Army and Air Force, shall appoint one representative, preferably from its permanent staff at Headquarters, NSA.

c. An alternate with plenary powers shall be designated to serve in the absence of each representative. All representatives and alternates must be cleared and indoctrinated in accordance with appropriate USCIB standards.

III. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman shall be chosen by and from among the representatives from the Member Agencies of USCIB. An alternate shall be chosen in the same manner to serve as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman.

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IV. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Chief of the Office of Exploitation shall designate an Executive Secretary who shall be responsible for providing the working materials and assistance necessary for the deliberation of the Committee.

V. MEETINGS

The Processing Priorities Committee may meet at the call of any member, but not less than once each month. The time, date and place of the meetings shall be as designated by the Chairman.

VI. FUNCTIONS

The Processing Priorities Committee shall be responsible for:

a. Reviewing the monthly USCIB Current Intelligence Requirements List, as it affects processing priorities, in order to establish relative processing priorities of those monthly requirements which can be satisfies by monor adjustments within the broad framework of the fundamental allocations stemming from the long-term intelligence requirements.

b. Considering any other intelligence requirements which would affect existing allocations, and determing relative processing priorities thereof.

c. Considering adjustments in the allocation of production resources which may be indicated by changes in technical procedures.

d. Considering any other matters concerning operations which fall within the purview of this charter.

e. Submitting to the Director, NSA, recommendations resulting from its deliberations.

VII. PROCEDURES

1. The agenda for the monthly meeting, and in addition proposals and requests to be acted upon (and necessary information concerning these items), will normally be distributed to members at least three working days prior to the scheduled time of each meeting. New or spot requirements may necessitate an emergency meeting on short notice at the request of any member.

2. When a vote is not unanimous, the members in the minority may submit in writing a minority report or appeal stating the reasons for their nonconcurrence and/or any alternate recommendations. These minority reports or appeals may be prepared either singly or collectively, as appropriate.

3. If representatives (or their alternates) are not present at a regularly convened meeting, it shall be presumed that they have concurred in the vote of the majority of the members present on each item of the agenda.

4. Reports of the meetings, including recommendations, will be forwarded by the Chairman to the Director, NSA, via Assistant Director for Production. The names of the representatives present, the organizations they represent, and a statement of their concurrence or nonconcurrence with the recommendation will be included in the PPC reports. Minority reports and appeals, if submitted, will be attached.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION

Approval by the Director, NSA, of recommendations in which a majority of both the consumer and NSA representatives concur may be assumed, pending advice to the contrary. Action may be initiated immediately to implement such recommendations.