

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS REF ID: A66569

1 NAME OR TITLE	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE	COORDINATION
2		FILE
		INFORMATION
3		NECESSARY ACTION
		NOTE AND RETURN
4		SEE ME
		SIGNATURE

REMARKS

A. Libert - 79284
Mr. Pomeroy
Sp Asst to Robert Ryan
Mr. Byzides
Friedman

3/15
Friedman

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 12-16-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

FROM NAME OR TITLE	DATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	TELEPHONE

~~15 Feb 55~~
March

9 December 1954

1 May

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Inclusion of Commercial Cryptographic Material on the International Embargo List

1. A meeting was held on 3 December 1954 at the Department of State in the office of Mr. T. A. Polyzoides, for purposes of discussing the above subject. The following were present:

- Mr. T. A. Polyzoides, State (SPS)
- Mr. L. H. Pomeroy, State (Office of Munitions Control)
- MA. Col. O. J. Libert, OSD (ISA)
- Mr. W. F. Friedman, NSA
- Mr. J. H. Douglas, NSA

2. Colonel Libert reviewed the situation as it had developed in a recent COCOM meeting in Paris. At that time the various members of COCOM presented their revisions of certain portions of the International Embargo List for consideration. The specific item concerned, i.e., commercial cryptographic equipment, had been retained on the lists presented by some of the nations but the U.K. wished to remove the item. The reasons given were of a general nature, and Colonel Libert believed that the U.K. member was following the usual U.K. policy of removing as many items from the embargo list as possible for purely economic reasons.

3. The U.S. member was unprepared for this item and asked for instructions from Washington.

4. At the moment no real problem exists for ISA, but if there could be a choice, it would be preferable to have no commercially available cryptographic items on the list. Although Mr. Polyzoides could appreciate this position, the real reasons could not be given to Mr. Pomeroy and Colonel Libert. Mr. Friedman pointed out, however, that of the commercial concerns known to him, the two of greater importance were in countries not members of COCOM and, therefore, not subject to any provisions of COCOM. Mr. Friedman stated that there were no manufacturers of commercial cryptographic equipment in the British Commonwealth of Nations, and of other manufacturers known there appeared to be no reason to be concerned about any sales of their equipment to the Soviet Bloc.

5. The meeting ended with agreement on a U.S. position not to press for retention of this sort of item on the International Embargo List.

JAMES H. DOUGLAS
Plans & Policy Division

cc: V/DIR
C/S
EC/S
E/ASST (Mr. Friedman)

DD/PCLD
DD/COMSEC
P/P