

*Afsa Central 3635*

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ARMED FORCES SECURITY AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25 D C

EPL REFER TO

AFSA-00T/ef

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12 Oct 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR Col H L Whitten Adjutant General  
Headquarters Army Security Agency  
Arlington Hall Station

SUBJECT Recission of G-2 Policy on Release of Cryptographic Principles

Enclosure (A) Copy of subject policy

1 Enclosure (A) deals with a policy established by the AC of S G-2 War Department on 29 April 1946

2 As I told you on the telephone this morning in a 2d Ind dated 9 Oct 1950 addressed to Director Armed Forces Security Agency and marked for my attention Col John W Middleton GSC Chief of Security and Training Division Office of Assistant Chief of Staff G-2 Intelligence Department of the Army states that the policy set forth in Enclosure (A) was rescinded by Assistant Chief of Staff G-2, on 7 July 1950 but gives no further information in this regard

3 If the ASA already has or can obtain any information dealing with the background and/or reasons for the 7 July 1950 recission of the policy established on 26 April 1946 I would be most appreciative if you would supply me therewith as this is a matter of interest not only to me as a former employee of ASA but also to many other former employees of ASA now with AFSA

*William F Friedman*

William F Friedman  
AFSA-00T

*The only answer received  
consulted of attached  
#1st Ind added 27 Oct 50  
13 Mar 52 J*

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C O P Y

29 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, ARMY SECURITY AGENCY.

SUBJECT: Release of Cryptographic Principles.

1. The following policy is announced to be effective immediately.

a. Cryptographic principles or devices developed by officers, enlisted men, or civilians employed in any War Department Agency, or patents or patent applications on such principles or devices which are owned by, assigned to, or licensed for use of the War Department will not be released for use of foreign governments or for foreign or domestic commercial or private use until such time as necessary information is available and a procedure established in the Army Security Agency whereby information which is cryptographed by means of such principles or devices can be cryptanalyzed and read under any and all circumstances.

b. Where it is in the interest of the Government of the United States that an employee have no patent rights in cryptographic principles or devices to dispose of, and for the Government to own the entire interest for security reasons throughout any foreseeable future; and where discovery or invention of cryptographic principles or devices has been made by a civilian employee and does not relate to a matter as to which the employee was specifically directed to experiment with a view to suggesting improvements nor was produced as a result of any specific employment or contract to invent a specific device or article, and where an application for patent on such principles or devices has been filed with an assignment-in-trust to the Government for the purpose of maintaining such application in secrecy, the Military Intelligence Division will support, subject to the availability of appropriations, any reasonable request for purchase of all commercially exploitable reversionary rights of the inventor in the patent application.

/s/ CARTER W. CLARKE  
Colonel, GSC

Acting Deputy, A. C. of S., G-2

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C O P Y

Encl. (A)

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AFSA-COT/ef

12 Oct 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: Col. H. L. Whitten, Adjutant General,  
Headquarters, Army Security Agency,  
Arlington Hall Station.

SUBJECT: Recission of G-2 Policy on Release of Cryptographic Principles

Enclosure: (A) Copy of subject policy

1. Enclosure (A) deals with a policy established by the AC of S, G-2, War Department, on 29 April 1946.

2. As I told you on the telephone this morning, in a 2d Ind. dated 9 Oct 1950, addressed to Director, Armed Forces Security Agency, and marked for my attention, Col. John W. Middleton, GSC, Chief of Security and Training Division, Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Intelligence, Department of the Army, states that the policy set forth in Enclosure (A) was rescinded by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, on 7 July 1950, but gives no further information in this regard.

3. If the ASA already has, or can obtain, any information dealing with the background and/or reasons for the 7 July 1950 rescission of the policy established on 26 April 1946, I would be most appreciative if you would supply me therewith, as this is a matter of interest not only to me as a former employee of ASA, but also to many other former employees of ASA now with AFSA.

William F. Friedman  
AFSA-COT

*This letter was never answered in detail - only 1st indy dated 27 Oct 50  
13 Mar 50 J*

Declassified by NSA/CSS

Deputy Associate Director for Policy and Records

On 20130430 by AB

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