

A-N  
Agre-  
ment  
1941

~~REF ID: A485489~~  
~~TOP SECRET~~

As regards work on diplomatic systems, the division of labor between the Army and the Navy was not made on any well-defined basis until some time in the autumn of 1940. For some time before then the technical people in each service attempted to intercept and process all the material they could intercept and process with their own facilities. On the technical level there were excellent personal relations and a very good exchange of information and technical data, but one could almost say that the two services were on a competitive basis so far as the dissemination of the results of the cryptanalytic processing are concerned, the intelligence people of one service vieing with those of the other service in rushing to provide higher levels with translations of important messages, for the purpose of obtaining credit for their respective services.

Because there was no clear-cut basis for division of interception and cryptanalytic processing, there was bound to be and there was a considerable amount of avoidable duplication of effort; and because there was no good working arrangement with regard to dissemination, there were bound to be and there were embarrassments from time to time to both services.

Both of these disadvantages arising from the foregoing circumstances led to discussions between the two services and as a result of an arrangement suggested by the Chief Signal Officer (Major General Mauborgne) and accepted by the Navy,

~~TOP SECRET~~

after sometime in the autumn of 1940, September, I believe, the division of work was on the basis that the Army would process all messages bearing an even date in the heading, the Navy would process all those bearing an odd date. Later this was clarified to apply to the internal or cryptographic date of the messages. The arrangement also provided that a complete exchange of technical data and translations would be made; and steps were also taken to reduce to a minimum all undesirable duplication in interception. Provision was also made to insure the necessary exchange of raw material so that each service would have all the material for processing the traffic for the dates for which it was responsible.

Dissemination agreements were also made but these are unknown or not clear to me. At one time I think the services alternated on a monthly basis in regard to dissemination to the State Department and to the White House, a G-2 representative carrying the translations to those places one month, and an ONI representative carrying them the next, alternately.

*W.F.F.*

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN  
15 December 1945