

~~TOP SECRET~~~~TOP SECRET - U.S. EYES ONLY~~FINAL
~~TENTATIVE~~ *can*SUBJECT NUMBER

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Item 2 Considered at the 18th (Special) Meeting of USCIBEC, held on 15 September 1954.

Subject: EO 3.3(h)(2)
PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

The CHAIRMAN (Captain Taylor) introduced this item by recalling the Committee's consideration of the base rights problem last fall. He then stated that within the past few days a message had been received from the U.S. Chargé in (Mr. Durbrow), reflecting discussions with and Coordinator of Intelligence Agencies, in which he, requested a personal briefing by a qualified high level U.S. intelligence representative on present and planned U.S. Joint Intelligence Operations. He asked if Mr. Polyzoides wished to comment in further explanation of the problem.

MR. POLYZOIDES informed the members that an interim reply, acknowledging receipt of the request and advising that it is being considered, has been sent to Mr. Durbrow. He stated further his understanding that the Air Force would have more than a substantive interest in this in that they are the Executive Agent for the Office of the Secretary of Defense for handling base rights problems abroad. He also recognized that CIA has a considerable interest in the intelligence situation, and stated that the matter raised in the Chargé's cable is being presented at this meeting in an effort to determine who is best qualified to carry the ball in an effort to provide assistance to the Chargé.

LT. COLONEL HARROLD raised the question of the possible relation of this problem to SHAPE "Y" planning, and asked if the two could be worked out together.

MR. POLYZOIDES expressed his opinion that they could not, pointing out the advisability of keeping the two problems completely separate. He suggested that the members examine the problem of whether the bases we have requested are really necessary in light of existing circumstances.

LT. COLONEL HARROLD said that his Department felt that the bases are needed.

MR. BUFFHAM suggested that we be forthright with the telling them that we need a secure area such as can provide, that the activity is a peacetime operation for the security of our forces in time of peace, and, while we might be in a position to collaborate to an extent in time of war, it is necessary that we proceed slowly, step by step, at this time.

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CAPTAIN AGNEW, in reply to a question by Mr. Polyzoides, stated that the situation has changed somewhat from NSA's point of view and that the Director has expressed his preference to lose the bases rather than enter into a collaborative arrangement with the [redacted]

MR. BRIGHT referred to the basic request, i.e., that [redacted] receive a personal briefing on the general aspects and scope of the proposed U.S. activities and how they fit in with U.S. intelligence operations. He said that even though we are giving only cash and equipment, it appears that the [redacted] feel that there is a joint U.S. effort and a flat statement to the contrary by the U.S. would no doubt damage existing relations.

The CHAIRMAN asked for comments on broaching the subject of intercept steerage to the [redacted]

CAPTAIN AGNEW replied that his Director would be unalterably opposed to giving the [redacted] steerage.

MR. BATTEY made reference to USCIB 30/33 and suggested that it might now be necessary to reconsider the USCIB decision therein by virtue of which the [redacted] were initially informed that we might consider the release of raw traffic in exchange for base rights. He further pointed out that the USCIB 30/33 decision indicated that the Air Force had a requirement for three sites, whereas their present requirement is for only one site. He continued by suggesting that all current facts be laid before the [redacted] and if they are then unwilling to proceed along lines indicated by us, we could explain that our requirement is not sufficiently urgent for us to press for the base rights, and drop the negotiations.

The members continued to discuss the problem at length along these lines. From the discussion it was evident that the actual requirement for the [redacted] bases has diminished with the establishment of other U.S. facilities in the Mediterranean; however, the bases will still be of considerable value, particularly to the Air Force, if they can be obtained on reasonable terms from the U.S. viewpoint. It was also evident that CIA has a valuable source of information in [redacted] which is subject to loss or impairment if the matter now before the Committee is not carefully handled.

MR. BATTEY explained his understanding of proposed physical and security arrangements for the stations in [redacted], stating that the [redacted] location is expected to be under U.S. command and that the only [redacted] there will be liaison officers. He said that [redacted] on the other hand, is expected to be a so-called joint

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operation which, to the [redacted], means that it will be under [redacted] military control with an understanding that there will be no [redacted] interference with U.S. operations. He added that these arrangements are political window dressing and do not imply free [redacted] access to the stations.

The members were in agreement that the U.S. cannot accept any kind of joint arrangement of the nature described by Mr. Battey.

The CHAIRMAN suggested the possibility of sending an Air Force representative to [redacted] to talk with [redacted] solely on the problem involving military base rights, keeping the discussion completely apart from the CIA involvement. Such action, he said, would jeopardize only the military base rights if the discussions are unsuccessful.

MR. BRIGHT expressed his opinion that [redacted] would be unwilling to go into the matter on this basis, since he himself has lumped the whole problem together in his approach to the Chargé.

The members discussed further the method of approach to [redacted] the composition of the group of conferees, and the nature of a reply to Mr. Durbrow. As a result of this further discussion it was agreed that an NSA representative of flag rank and a CIA representative of comparable status should accompany Mr. Durbrow when discussions with [redacted] are held, and that the NSA and CIA representatives should prepare terms of reference for the discussions for consideration by the Committee. Further, it was agreed that Mr. Durbrow should be informed, for his own information, that the U.S. is unwilling to provide General [redacted] the information he requests, but that U.S. representatives will come to [redacted] to talk with [redacted] in the near future. The members were of the opinion, however, that this message should not be sent until the DCI and the Director, NSA have agreed upon the above plan.

Following the above decision, Mr. Polyzoides commented on the base rights problem in general. He said that he is not at all pleased with the way base rights problems are being handled, and believes we are operating in a most disorderly fashion - each problem of this nature being discussed in an atmosphere of confusion and misunderstanding. He recommended that positive action be taken to insure that the procedure for handling base rights problems follows an orderly course and that there be a single agency or group responsible for processing such matters. He stated that unless corrective action is taken our confusion and ineptitude in dealing with these matters will grow progressively worse.

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The CHAIRMAN stated that these points were well taken and agreed that remedial action is needed. He suggested that the present Executive Agent for base rights matters (the Air Force member) examine existing procedures and inform the Committee of steps now required in base rights negotiations, with a view to having the procedure studied at USCIBEC level, where it is hoped a more efficient and effective procedure can be evolved.

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DECISION: (15 September 1954) As a result of USCIBEC discussion of the above points, it was agreed:

a. That further discussions will be held with [redacted] by U.S. representatives in an effort to resolve the [redacted] rights problem; however, the discussions will not provide [redacted] with the information requested by him.

b. That the NSA provide a military intelligence representative of flag rank and the CIA a representative of comparable status to accompany the Department of State representative (Durbrow) when an audience with [redacted] can be arranged.

c. That the U.S. representatives will work out guide lines for the discussion and present their views to USCIBEC for consideration at its next meeting.

d. That the Department of State member will inform Durbrow, for his own information, that the U.S. is unwilling to provide [redacted] the information he requests, but that U.S. representatives are being designated to come to [redacted] for discussions with [redacted] in the near future.

e. That dispatch of the message mentioned in subparagraph d. above would be contingent upon the concurrence of the DCI and the Director, NSA in the above plan.

f. That the Executive Agent for the Department of Defense for base rights problems will inform the Committee of existing procedure in the handling of base rights matters, with a view to having this procedure studied in an effort to improve its effectiveness.

The meeting adjourned at 1155.

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