

W. B. BYERMAN

August 16, 1968

MEMORANDUM TO (COLONEL DIETRICH)

SUBJECT: Encryption Devices

Reference my memorandum to you, subject as above, dated August 12, 1968. My search for a DOD policy on satellite encryption has uncovered the attached document consisting of a Memorandum for Members of the U. S. Communications Security Board on the subject of Proposed National Policy on the Security of Meteorological Satellite Information (S), dated 5 September 1967 and a draft national policy which is limited entirely to meteorological satellite information. From what I can determine, this activity has fallen by the wayside.

The main usefulness of these papers to you may be to give you a feel for the thinking at the time they were prepared. You will note in the draft policy statement there is a certain amount of latitude provided as to whether or not encryption is used versus positive and selective control. I would assume that this latitude was designed as an escape clause because of a realization of the cost, complexity and difficulty of real world encryption.

If I am able to uncover any further useful information on this subject, I will forward it to you.

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