

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

3500 (15 Dec 59)

R/K/nph

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED EXCEPT PRIOR TO CATEGORY B ENCRYPTION.
STATIONALLY REMOVE ALL INTERNAL REFERENCES BY DATE TIME GROUP PRIOR TO
DECLASSIFICATION. NO UNCLASSIFIED REFERENCE IF THE DTG IS QUOTED.

USAF
AFSS

FROM OPD 35020.

IN-10 AND AFCIN-10. 4 PART MSG. PART I. REFERENCE PORTION
OF A DAT MSG TO USAFSS, CITE 8936, DTD 9 NOV 59 (NOTAL) WHICH

QUOTE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A COMINT CAPABILITY AND ENCRYPTION
REQUIRING THE ACTION CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE BY THIS HQ AT THIS
TIME. WHEN COMINT AND ENCRYPTION ARE INCLUDED IN SAMOS DEVELOPMENT,
SAC AND AFSS WILL BE NOTIFIED SO REQUIRED PLANNING CAN BE INITIATED.
UNQUOTE. PART II. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUIREMENT FOR
ENCRYPTION OF COMINT OR COMINT - RELATED DATA FROM A SATELLITE BE
MAINTAINED FOR THE INITIAL R&D FLIGHTS OF THE SAMOS VEHICLES. REQUEST

OUR CONCURRENCE. PART III. THIS HQ CONCURS WITH THE
DIRNSA AS OUTLINED IN FOLLOWING EXTRACT FROM HIS OCTOBER 1959 LETTER
TO AF/A, HEDUSAF. QUOTE. I FEEL THAT WE SHOULD NOT REWARD

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SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY

AF 15720 (15 Dec 59)

INTEGRATION OF COMINT INTO SUB-SYSTEM THROUGH ANY INITIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENCRYPTION. ENCRYPTION OF ANY VARIETY OF COMMUNICATIONS SIGNALS WOULD BE DIFFICULT. PARA. IT SEEMS PROBABLE TO ME THAT 117L TRANSMISSIONS INITIALLY WILL BE EITHER DIGITAL PROFORMA MEASUREMENTS OR UNEDITED, UNANNOTATED REPEATS OF PORTIONS OF A VARIETY OF COMMUNICATIONS SIGNALS. SOME SECURITY FROM INTERCEPT WILL BE PROVIDED BY DISCRETE QUOTE DUMPING UNQUOTE. FOR SUCH TRANSMISSIONS AS ARE INTERCEPTED IT WOULD NOT BE CLEAR HOW THE INFORMATION COULD BE EXPLOITED BY US AND CONSEQUENTLY THE STIMULUS FROM THEM TO ENEMY COMSEC WOULD LIKELY BE ABOUT THE SAME ENCRYPTED OR UNENCRYPTED. PARA. WITH RESPECT TO THE AUTHENTICATION OF THE QUOTE DUMPING UNQUOTE SIGNAL I THINK THAT ALL AGREE TO THIS AS NECESSITY. [REDACTED] SHOULD BE CONSIDERED THE NSA PROJECT OFFICER ON THIS MATTER. UNQUOTE, PART IV. A REPRESENTATIVE OF AFBMD STATED INFORMALLY THAT, SO LONG AS THE USAFSS POSITION THAT ALL COMINT-RELATED DATA TRANSMITTED FROM A SATELLITE MUST BE ENCRYPTED REMAINS FIRM, INTEGRATION OF COMINT INTO SAMOS CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. YOUR CONCURRENCE

THE OFFICE OF PRIMARY INTEREST

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
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WITH THE RECOMMENDATION IN PART TWO, THIS MSC, COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE
IN EXPEDITING THE INTEGRATION OF A COMINT CAPABILITY INTO THE SAMOS

SECRET