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WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington 25, D. C.

AG 322 (4 Sep 45)OB-S-B-M

CJM/sj 2B-939 Pentagon

6 September 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

SUBJECT: Establishment of the Army Security Agency

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Auth: T. A. G.

Initials

DATE: 6 SEP 45

TO: Commanding Generals

Army Air Forces

Army Ground Forces

Army Service Forces

Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Army Forces, Pacific

Commanding Generals, Theaters of Operations

~~SECRET~~ Defense Commands

Alaskan Department

Military District of Washington

Independent Commands under War Department

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DB.

1. The Army Security Agency is established with headquarters in Washington, D. C., effective 15 September 1945. It will operate under the direct command of the War Department.

2. The Army Security Agency will comprise all signal intelligence and communications security establishments, units and personnel of the Army. Such establishments, units and personnel now assigned or attached to major forces, commands and departments or subordinate elements thereof will be transferred to the Army Security Agency upon receipt of orders from the War Department. No change is contemplated for the present in the location of units or personnel affected by this letter. These instructions apply to such units and personnel as Signal Security Agency, Second Signal Service Battalion, personnel engaged in signal intelligence activities organized under bulk allotment of Theaters, Departments, or Commands; Signal Radio Intelligence Companies, T/O & E 11-77, dated 1 April 1942, Signal Service Companies (Radio Intelligence) T/O & E 11-500, dated 15 September 1944, Signal Intelligence Service Detachment, Types A, B, C, D, E, under T/O & E's 11-657S, 11-667S, 11-677S, 11-687S, 11-697S respectively, dated 18 December 1943, personnel of Radio Intelligence Platoons of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Signal Battalion, T/O and E 11-16, dated 10 December 1943; Army Air Forces Radio Squadrons Mobile, T/O & E 1-1027, dated 19 January 1945; personnel of Radio Intelligence Platoons of Signal Companies Aviation T/O & E 11-217, dated 19 May 1942, and all other units and activities organized to perform signal intelligence functions. Specific orders for the transfer of the above units and personnel will be issued progressively and as expeditiously as practicable.

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Item 2 of Encl 1 to TAB A

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3. Personnel will not be transferred to or from any Army Security Organization or Unit without prior concurrence of the Chief, Army Security Agency, except in accordance with established procedures for demobilization of military personnel.

4. Signal Intelligence and Communications Security Units and personnel of the Army Security Agency will be allocated to major forces and commands as needed to meet local tactical or security requirements of such forces and commands. Headquarters, Army Security Agency, Washington, D. C. will be notified of the disposition made by the major forces or command of such units or personnel and advised of all subsequent changes or reassignment. When so allocated such units and personnel will be administered by the major force or command but will operate in accordance with directive issued by the Chief, Army Security Agency. In addition to the units mentioned above which are allocated for the purpose of meeting such local requirements, other Signal Intelligence units and personnel of the Army Security Agency may be placed in the territory assigned to a major force or command in order to meet other than local tactical or security requirements. In such cases those units and personnel will be administered by the major force or command but will operate under direct command of the War Department, through the Chief, Army Security Agency. Major force commanders will be informed of contemplated changes in allocation of Army Security Agency units which he is administering.

5. The Chief, Army Security Agency, will be responsible for the following signal intelligence and communications security activities:

(a) The interception of radio and wire traffic, the location and identification of radio stations by electrical means, the analysis of radio and wire traffic, the solution of code and cipher messages and the laboratory arrangements for the employment and detection of secret inks.

(b) The organization, employment and operation of communications intelligence and communications security establishments, procedures and equipment within the Army, exclusive of Message Centers.

(c) Research and development of all items of equipment of peculiar interest to the Army Security Agency.

(d) Determination of the military characteristics of and the requirements for items of equipment peculiar to Army Security Agency.

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(e) Research, development, preparation, publication, revision, storage and distribution of all cryptographic equipment and material (including codes, ciphers and secret inks) required by the Army; the establishment of procurement requirements and accounting for such equipment; and the maintenance of liaison with other agencies in connection therewith. The Army Security Agency may delegate such of these duties and responsibilities as appropriate to its field units or to major forces or commands.

(f) Cryptographic and transmission (radio, wire and courier) security.

(g) Organization and training of all units, detachments and teams, and the training of all individual specialists assigned or attached to the Army Security Agency.

(h) Determination of doctrines, techniques and the preparation of field manuals and training literature.

(i) Preparation of tables of organization and equipment, allowances and distribution; expendable items, lists, and military occupational specialties required by the Army Security Agency.

(j) Establishment of requirements for personnel and the assignment, transfer and promotion of such personnel in accordance with established War Department policies.

(k) Review of program of instruction in service schools training clerks, technicians and other specialists engaged in all phases of cryptographic work and for appropriate recommendations to the War Department.

6. The Chief Signal Officer of the Army will be responsible for providing communication facilities required by the Army Security Agency to and between forces and commands overseas. Major force commanders overseas will provide adequate communication facilities to the Army Security Agency within their respective commands.

7. The Troop Basis of major forces and commands will be adjusted to reflect the transfers effected under the provisions of paragraph 2 and to accommodate the Army Security Agency in their respective areas.

8. All facilities, equipment and records used in the operations of the units and personnel referred to in Paragraph 2 above, and all funds appropriated therefor, will be transferred to the Army Security Agency.

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9. Pertinent regulations, Tables of Organization and Equipment, field manuals, directives and instruction material, will be amended as necessary to conform herewith.

10. It is desired that strict compliance be made with the provisions of Paragraph 11, AR 380-5, 15 March 1944, to the end that dissemination of the above information is confined to only those individuals whose official duties require such knowledge or possession.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/s/ Edward F. Witsell

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Secretary of War

Under Secretary of War

Divisions of the War Department General Staff

Divisions of the War Department Special Staff

EDWARD F. WITSELL

Major General

Acting the Adjutant General

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