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COPY NO. 20

NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

SGM-136-52

18 January 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Member Nations (except Iceland)
Supreme Allied Commander Europe

SUBJECT: Agreement on Methods of Synchronising Time

1. On 17 January 1952 the Standing Group approved a report by the Communications-Electronics Coordination Section (at Enclosure).

2. It is requested that all Member Nations will signify to the Standing Group their acceptance or otherwise of the contents of the Enclosure as soon as possible, and indicate an early date by which the provisions contained therein may be implemented.

FOR THE STANDING GROUP:

[Signature]
E. B. W. CARDIFF
Colonel, British Army
Secretary

509/311
June 8

VCID

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ENCLOSURE

METHODS OF SYNCHRONISING TIME

The methods of synchronising time in the various telegraph, telephone and visual procedures shall be as follows:

a. Telegraph, Radio Telegraph and Flashing Light Procedure

Request INT ZUA * "Request a time signal now (or at _____)"

Reply ZUA 1500 "Time signal will be transmitting at 1500". The numerals indicating the time will be followed by a 5-second dash, terminating exactly at the time indicated.

* ZUA is the appropriate operating signal which it is intended to include in ACP 131 (Communication Instructions - Operating Signals), to be published shortly.

b. Telephone and Radio Telephone Procedure

Request "Request time signal now" or "Request time signal at _____."

Reply "When I say 'Time' it will be exactly 1500. 15 seconds, 10 seconds, 5-4-3-2-1 Time 1500."

c. Teletypewriter (Teleprinter) Procedure

Request INT ZUA "Request time signal now (or at _____)"

Reply ZUA 1500, 5-4-3-2-1-0.

Due to the fact that different types of machines are used by the Member Nations, the time will be indicated by the printing

- of the figures "zero" on machines printing each character as the appropriate key is pressed,
- of the figure "one" on machines printing one character in arrear of the key being pressed.

d. Flag Hoists and Time Balls

The time signal indicated is at the instant of execution or commencement of hauling down of the hoists or shape.

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Enclosure

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30 January 1952

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIES

to the

HOLDERS OF SGM-136-52

CORRIGENDUM

Holders of SGM-136-52 (Agreement on Methods of Synchronising Time) are requested to replace page 1 of the SGM with the enclosed page 1 and to destroy the removed page by burning.

C. H. DONNELLY

E. B. W. CARDIFF

P. L. de MONTJAMONT

Secretaries

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Corrig. to SGM-136-52

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