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SGM-254-56

29 March 1956

IMS Control N° 239

**MEMORANDUM FOR CENTRAL UNITED STATES REGISTRY****SUBJECT: Missing NATO Documents**

- References:**
- a. CUSR Memorandum, dated 4 January 1956, file ASAO-U, subject: Missing NATO Documents.
  - b. SGM-243-52, dated 6 February 1956

1. In reference to paragraph 6 of reference a, it is unfortunate that no specific NATO-wide security procedure was promulgated prior to the publication of D.C. 2/7 on 8 April 1952. Since the regulations pertaining to the submission and filing of destruction certificates were rather vague prior to that time, and since JAMAS began deactivating a short time thereafter, it is understandable that many destruction certificates can not be located for documents destroyed prior to 1 August 1952. Although these facts do not remove the obligation for adequate protection of all classified information regardless of specific regulations, it does partially explain the fact that certain NATO Material may have been destroyed for which no destruction certificate can be found.

2. Regarding the documents listed in Inclosure 3(a) (Decisions) and those corrigenda and addenda listed in Inclosure 3(c) and marked with "(a)", it is noted that these 39 decisions, addenda, and corrigenda consist of one page and for the most part contained only minor details, the classification of which probably should have been entirely different from that of the basic document.

3. Concerning the 122 corrigenda and addenda listed in Inclosure 3(c) and marked with "(b)", the documents consist of more than one page, and it has long been the standard procedure to remove and destroy superseded pages of NATO documents without rendering destruction certificates.

4. In view of circumstances outlined above, and because of procedures in effect for handling this type of document

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during the period of time in question, if documents listed in Inclosures 3a and 3c, or destruction certificates therefor, can not be located, it would not necessarily result in a breach of security.

5. Concerning enclosure 3b the following information may be of assistance:

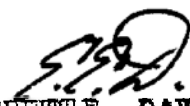
a. The Standing Group has no record of Part II of SG 20/3. SG 20/3 in its entirety comprises Part II of SG 20/2; and all pages of SG 20/2 are noted as Part II\*. It is believed that an understandable bookkeeping error was made in logging this document since the same copy numbers, i.e. 141, 142, and 143 of the complete document are noted as destroyed. This does not appear to be a breach of security.

b. SG 107/1 has been downgraded to NATO Restricted by Reclassification Memo No. 143.

c. SG 134/1 has been downgraded to NATO Confidential by Classification Memo No. 8.

d. SG 136 with Decision has been downgraded to NATO Confidential by Document Reclassification Memo No. 104, copy of which is at Enclosure 6.

FOR THE STANDING GROUP:

  
EVERETT E. DAVIS  
Captain, USA  
Assistant Administrative  
Secretary

6 Enclosures

- A. Ltr EUCOM, 10 Oct 55
- B. Rpt of EUCOM Inventory
- C. Breakdown of Missing Documents
- D. SGM-243-52
- E. Reclass. Memo 151
- F. Reclass. Memo 104

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