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HQ..1 ATF NUI DAT 3 Jan 67

List A

COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY

General

- 1. In 1 ATF we have been inclined to think that our enemy does not have a radio intercept capability, or that if he does, the language problem would reduce the effectiveness of his intercept resources. There is increasing evidence to show that our enemy has a very high standard of radio technology. This knowledge is used skilfully to maintain his own security and to obtain warning of US/FWMAF future intentions and plans.
- 2. In PHUOC TUY province we have sufficient evidence to show that at least down to VC battalion level the enemy has the ability to intercept our VH, and HF radio transmissions. We must assume therefore that all of our vioce transmissions are heard by the enemy.

Voice Codes

- 3. Operations Code KAC-PJ
 - a. This is a simple but effective code giving a fair degree of security providing it is used correctly.
 - b. This code will be used whenever future intentions are being passed over the radio and for all operational messages prior to contact with the enemy.
 - c. The code is to be used on the Task Force Command Net (Voice). Infantry Battalions Command Nets, Artillery Regimental and Battery Nets and all independent Squadron/Company nets.
 - d. The code is to be changed every 48 hours.

4. Numerical Code - KAC-QJ

- a. This code provides a reasonably secure means of transmitting grid references and will always be used when describing ambush positions or future intentions. The location of troops who are to remain in a position longer than six hours is to be sent in numerical code.
- b. The code is to be used on those nets described in paragraph 3c above.
- c. The side is to be changed every 12 hours. Timings on the code refer to Z time. In other words, the time brackets are as follows:
 - (1) 0000 1159Z is 0800 1959H (2) 1200 - 2359Z is 2000 - 0759H

5. Points of Origin Code

- a. This is a very low level code which should only be used to describe very short term secret grid references.
- b. Because of the short term nature of the code, it is recommended that infantry company nets use the numerical

CONFIDENTIAL

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to describe overnight harbours, ambushes etc.

c. The code is to be changed every 24 hours.

6. Q Hour

a. A low grade code similiar to the point of origin code.

b. Variations exist in the use of this code. The rules are:

If Q hour is 1 0 hrs on D Day and if the code changes at 0800 hrs daily, then:

1200 hrs D-1 is Q-22 0700 hrs D Day is Q-3 1700 hrs D Day is Q+7 0700 hrs D+1 is Q+22 1200 hrs D+3 is Q+74

7. Nicknames

a. A low grade security cover can be obtained using nicknames.

b. If the nickname is to be frequently used, some alternatives should be provided.

8. Telephones

The Ebony switchboard is connected to Vietnamese operated switchboards. Due to crossed lines btc., all ranks must be aware that classified matter should not be discussed on the telephone.

9. Changing Times for Codes

a. Operation Code KAC-PJ

Based on D Day codes are to change as follows:

0800 hrs D + 1)
1959 hrs D + 1)
Day 2
etc...

0800 hrs D Day, then

- c. Point of Origin Code, O Hour Passwords: 0800 hrs daily.
- 10 Frequencies, NIS, callwords are to change at 0800 hrs.

11. Breaches

Typical breaches are:

- a. Prooding prime of content? chomy bone Samps.
- b. Encoding own location and then saying "we are searching a base camp at Grid Reference (given in clear).
- c. Instruction to sub units to move to an ambush position (given in clear) at a time (given in clear).
- 12. There have been many communications breaches and we are undoubtably supplying the enemy with valuable prior intelligence.

CONFIDENTIAL :13 -

CONFIDENTIAL - 3 -

13. Proper use of the codes and an increase in the standard of communication security will deny the enemy this intelligence.

Communication Security Monitoring Team

- 14. This team will be in country from 1 Jan 67. The team will, as directed by Comd 1 ATF, monitor nets for breaches in security.
- 15. Unit CO/OCs may request the services of this team to ascertain the level of communication security in their unit.
- 16. This team is here to help improve our security thereby denying intelligence to the enemy, and should not be regarded as a "hindrance".

Effective

17. This instruction is to be effective from 080800H Jan 67.

Layer Brig Comd

18. After 080 00H Jan 67, 103 Sig Squadron memo dated 27 Dec 66 (1ATF SOI) is cancelled.