

series VI  
volume 5  
book III

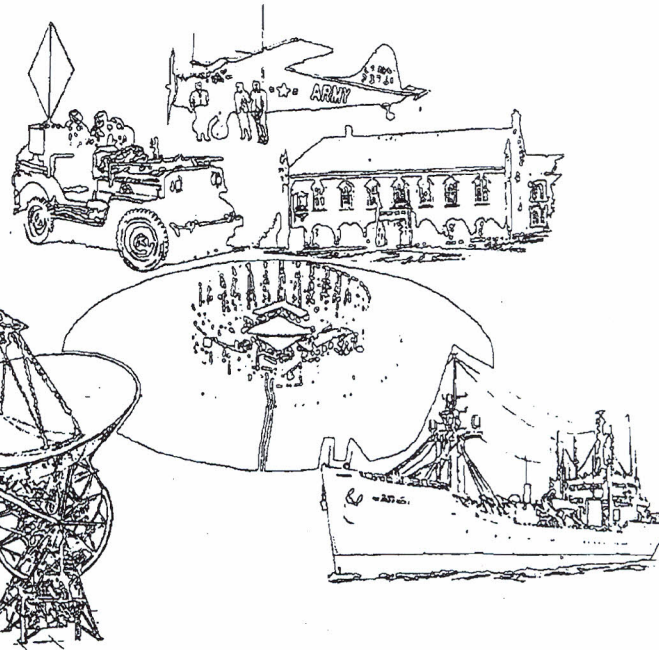
UNITED STATES CRYPTOLOGIC HISTORY

~~TOP SECRET~~

American Cryptology during the Cold War, 1945-1989 - Book III

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national security agency  
central security service



# *(U) American Cryptology during the Cold War, 1945-1989*

*(U) Book III: Retrenchment and Reform, 1972-1980*



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CRYPTOLOGIC QUARTERLY

ciphers which controlled the Vietnamese equipment. Soon after, the *Manchester Guardian* published an article about CIA COMINT operations in Laos.<sup>7</sup> Then in the fall of 1971, in one of his more sensational columns, Anderson stated that the United States had an intercept operation in the American embassy in Moscow that not only intercepted Soviet communications, but was collecting and exploiting the private car phone communications of Politburo leaders.<sup>8</sup>

(U) Anderson, NSA later discovered, had acquired a box of top secret CIA National Intelligence Digests (NIDs), the unwitting courtesy of an NSC staffer who had been in the habit of taking them home for a little bedtime reading. After a marital falling out, his wife took the accumulated NIDs to Anderson, who kept them in his office and used them in his columns over a period of years.<sup>9</sup>

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The previous insider-tells-all account, Herbert Yardley's *The American Black Chamber*, had been written in a fit of greed (Yardley needed money). People like Fellwock could apparently be bought by ideology. It echoed the climate of the 1930s, when the Soviets got their spies for free (or at the very least, for expense money).

(U) Ideology-based public revelations became fashionable with the publication in 1975 of ex-CIA agent Phillip Agee's *Inside the Company - A CIA Diary*. Although Agee's aim was CIA's covert operations organization, he knew much about SIGINT, and he revealed what he knew. He claimed, for instance, that NSA had used close-in techniques to intercept plain text from the UAR embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay. He also claimed that Swiss-built Hagelin machines had vulnerabilities which NSA exploited to obtain plain text.<sup>14</sup>

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