





RESTRICTED

*Signal Officer*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
Office of the Signal Officer

STAFF SERVICE MESSAGE

23 January 1951

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Major General Courtney Whitney

The following Staff Service message for you was received from the Signal Officer, Washington, D. C., at 231212I.

"Informatively I have discovered that General Marshall, Secretary Pace and General Collins have been caught surprised when queried about statements sent by radio direct to newspapermen stateside. It appears these radiograms going through Signal Center as service messages are relayed direct to First Army for delivery to media representatives in New York. While there is absolutely no displeasure and no idea even suggested around here that it is not absolutely satisfactory to answer queries by this method, however, when the Secretaries and Chief of Staff are queried they are caught flatfooted sometimes for a statement. They would like to have a chance to look at the statements first and then be prepared to support General MacArthur's position.

"I find here throughout the entire Defense setup an extremely strong desire on everyone's part to support the Far East Command. I would suggest in the case of these radios that they be sent through CINFO for relay to the news media representatives so that important statements could be furnished Marshall, Pace and Collins so that they would be prepared to support MacArthur when queried by the press after publication. This would be done personally by Parks, who assured there would be no delay or premature disclosure. Signed Echols."

s/ William M. Thames, Col.  
for  
GEORGE I. BACK  
Brigadier General, USA  
Signal Officer

RESTRICTED

"THIS IS NOT A COMMAND CHANNEL MESSAGE"  
"NO REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE TO THIS MESSAGE IN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS"

"PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. CONSULT CRYPTOCENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING."

*(Gen. said to file w/ no action.)*



**GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND**

*Signal  
Corps*

**CHECK SHEET**

(Do not remove from attached sheets)

File No: GIB/njc

Excessive Transit Time of Air Mail to and from  
Subject: the Republic of the Philippines

Note  
No.

From: Sig

To: Gen Courtney Whitney  
Chief, Gov't Sec

Date: 29 April 1949

1

1. Referring to our conversation some time ago on the above subject, your attention is invited to the attached memorandum which sets forth the result of an investigation conducted by CCS with a view to determining the reasons for excessive delays and ascertaining what action might be taken to expedite service.

2. It appears that the poor service is attributable to delays in the Philippine Republic postal service. It will be noted in the last paragraph of the attached memorandum that the matter is being brought to the attention of the Philippine Republic through diplomatic channels.

1 Incl  
Memo

*G.I.B.*



GIB/njo

Excessive Transit Time of Air Mail to and from  
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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
Civil Communications Section  
Postal Affairs Divisions  
APO 500

28 April 1949

SUBJECT: Excessive Transit Time of Air Mail to and from the  
Republic of the Philippines

MEMORANDUM TO: General G. I. Back, Chief, CCS

1. General Whitney's complaint that air mail between Tokyo and the Philippines requires 7 to 9 days has been made the subject of an inquiry in coordination with the AG Postal Officer for FEC (Major C. H. Cundiff and Capt. C. E. Bannon). The material information developed is as follows:

a. All mail to civilian addresses in the Philippines deposited in APO's here is sent by APO facilities to the 22nd Base Post Office in Manila where it is transferred to the Philippines Postal Service.

b. Usually mail for military personnel in Tokyo deposited in a Philippines post office is transferred to the 22nd Base Post Office in Manila and transmitted through APO facilities to destination. Some, however, goes by commercial aircraft in the international mail facilities to Tokyo and there is transferred to APO 500 for further handling and delivery.

c. Daily air mail dispatches and receipts are scheduled between the 22nd Base Post Office in Manila and Tokyo.

d. Although four flights weekly by commercial aircraft are available for dispatch by the Philippines Postal Service at Manila, the Philippines Bureau of Post made only nine dispatches in January, six in February and nine in March. During the same period, the Japanese Postal Service in Tokyo made 59 dispatches to Manila.

e. Post marks on mail from the Philippines indicate letters are mailed 5 to 13 days before being turned over to the 22nd Base Post Office, according to report of the Postal Officer at that point.

f. Examination of letters from the Philippines in the Tokyo Central Post Office shows a lapse of from 3 to 7 days between the time of post mark and the time of dispatch by the Exchange Office in Manila.

2. Observation and inquiry in Tokyo -- the APO 500 and Tokyo Central Post Office -- indicate letters to and from the Philippines are handled expeditiously.

3. The difficulties complained of apparently result from failure to transfer mail promptly from the Philippines Service to the 22nd Base Post Office in Manila, and/or failure of the Philippines Postal Service to send mail by all dispatches available by commercial aircraft.



Memo to Gen. Back, dtd 28 Apr 49, subj: Excessive Transit Time of Air Mail to and from the Republic of the Philippines

4. Results of the inquiries were discussed informally with Mr. D. M. Bane, Diplomatic Section, SCAP, and later with Mr. B. P. Abrera of the Philippines Diplomatic Mission. Mr. Abrera manifested a keen interest and stated that the matter would be submitted to the Philippines Government with request that investigation be made and action taken to eliminate any faulty handling disclosed.

JOE W. LISMAN  
Deputy Chief for Postal Affairs



**SECRET**

*Signal Section  
file*

**Subversive Activities in Communications Services**

Govt Sec  
General Whitney

Signal Sec  
Attn. General Back

21 Feb. 1949

1. Your attention is invited to the comments on the attached report concerning Communist activities in the communications services, compiled by Mr. Elaine Hoover, Chief, Civil Service Division, and Mr. Frank Rizzo, Special Assistant, in this Section.

**Incl:**

Memorandum, "Subversive Activities  
in Communications Services"

C. W.

Gen. Whitney's file

**SECRET**



CONFIDENTIAL

Signal  
Corps

Illegal Use of Communications Facilities  
By The Labor Union

Brig Gen Geo. I. Back  
Chief, CCS

Brig Gen A. P. Fox,  
Deputy Chief of Staff, SCAP

5 February 1949

1. The matter of illegal use of Japanese communications facilities by the employees labor union has been recently reviewed. It was found that:

a. There has been either a marked decrease in the use of the long distance telephone, or calls are being placed in a manner more difficult to detect.

b. The use of telegraph has been decreased insofar as known messages are concerned. However, based upon information obtained by G-2, there are indications that the use of this type of communication has gone "underground". That is, operators are sending traffic directly from operating positions either with or without written copy, but no records or copies of the transmission are retained.

c. The character of traffic handled has changed. Until about October, most traffic dealt with the Communications Workers' Union's affairs with emphasis on the Communist aspects of the labor movement. However, since October, the traffic has progressively dealt less with the communication union affairs and progressively more with purely Communist party affairs. From the somewhat meager data that is at hand, it is believed that at least 90% of the illegal traffic now being handled has to do directly with affairs of the Communist party or with the affairs of Communist cells within the Communications Workers' Union.

d. There is a rising move to oust radical leadership from the Union. On the other hand, the Communist cells have been very active. In the past the Communist cells had been rather loosely integrated, and acted in general with the remainder of the Union group. During recent months, they have become very rigidly organized and are actively extending these organizations to include all various sub groups within the communications workers, many of which are not openly associated with the Communist cells. This organizational activity has been concentrated within the employees of the telegraph system, and if Tokyo and Osaka are indicative of overall conditions, the telegraph employees are almost completely dominated by Communists or Communist sympathizers. It is known from G-2 censorship information that a program to accomplish Communist control of important telegraph centers including international circuits was announced several months ago, and from all indications, is progressing as planned. This fact makes control of illegal use increasingly difficult.

2. As has been indicated in previous memoranda on this subject, prevention of the illegal use of communications facilities by the employees is extremely difficult, particularly in the case of telegraph. The Ministry of

Copy to Gen Whitney.

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Basic: CheckNote from Gen Back to Gen Fox, subj: "Illegal Use of Communications Facilities by the Labor Union", dtd 5 Feb 49

Communications is actively working on the program and is beginning to obtain some aid from less radical groups. However, so far it has been impossible or impracticable to take concrete action in individual cases.

3. Since action of Communist groups within the Ministry of Communications is closely associated with the National movement, it is not believed practicable to move against this particular group until a solution to the whole Communist problem is suggested. Even so, using information at hand, CCS is now investigating ways and means of taking corrective administrative action since the demarcation between Communist and non-Communist personnel of the Ministry of Communications is becoming more closely defined. This issue is closely related to the illegal use of telecommunications facilities.

4. It is recommended that no direct action be taken by SCAP at this time in connection with the illegal use of communications facilities by the employees of the system. In the meantime CCS will cooperate with the Ministry of Communications officials in the action being taken by them and will coordinate with both the Government Section and Legal Section, if and when a basis for legal action is developed. Again it is emphasized that concerted action at this time against Communist activities within the Ministry of Communications before related action is taken against Communist activities in other fields, is considered to be unwise and detrimental to good relations between GHQ, SCAP and the officials and workers of the Ministry of Communications.

----- G.I.B. -----

CONFIDENTIAL



Signal

2 July 1949

Message from General Back:

The last line center between Washington and Philadelphia is closed for the holidays. Suggest the following alternatives:

(a) Transmit message from Tokyo to addressee via official message in which event I will contact Department of the Army communications center requesting urgently that message be refiled commercially and transmitted without delay to addressee and also request a report of time of delivery and name of person to whom delivered.

(b) Transmit message via service message channels and ask that message be refiled commercially with charges to be paid from my account (General Back's account) in Washington, in which event charges for commercial refiling would not be paid for by the Government.

I am at 26-8000 and have alerted "eyes-only officer" at GHQ Communications Center of the situation. If you desire I will be very glad to handle the matter personally. In any event I would appreciate your telephoning me at 26-8000 when convenient to you.

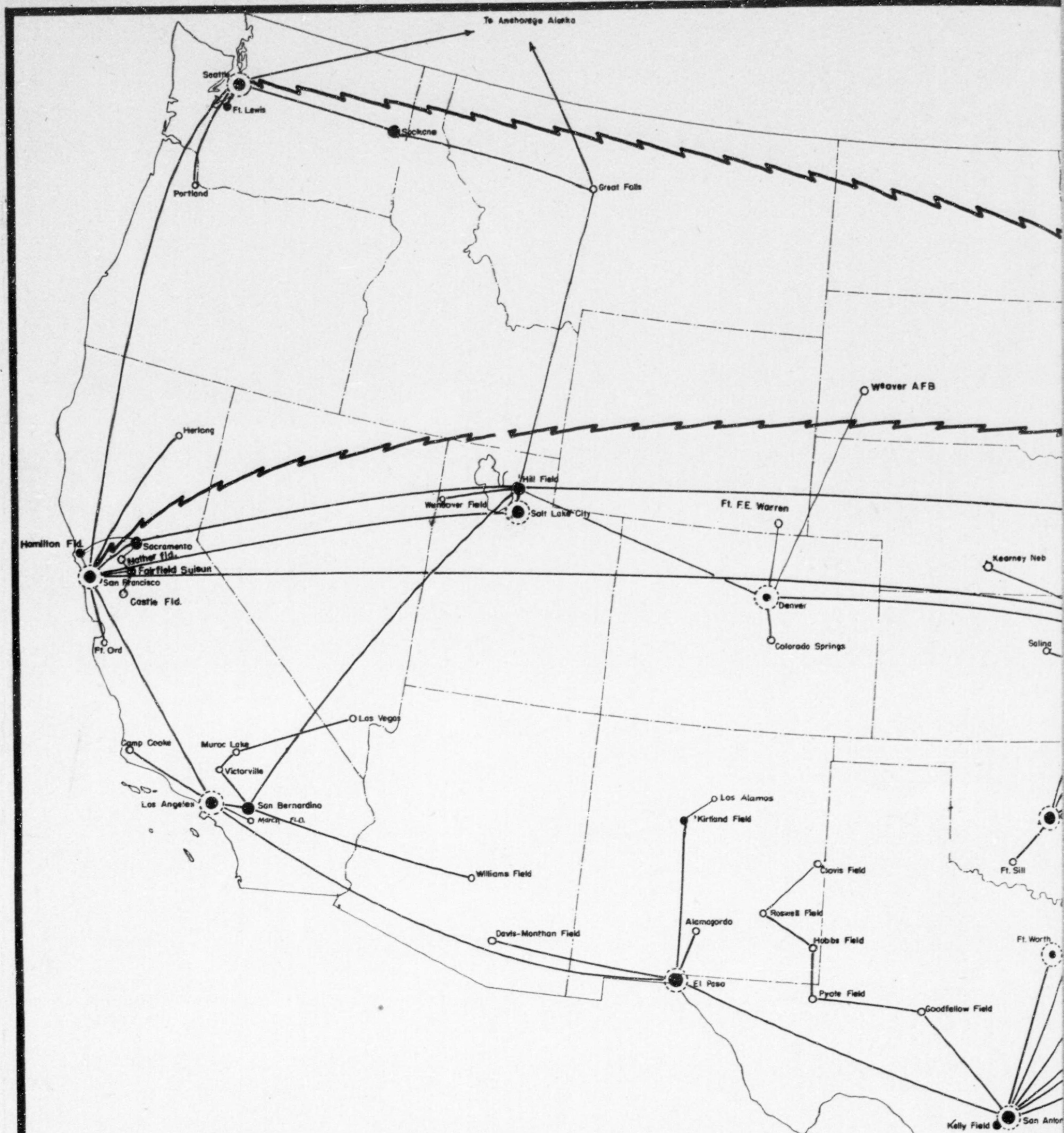
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Our file  
C.W.

Signal Section  
file

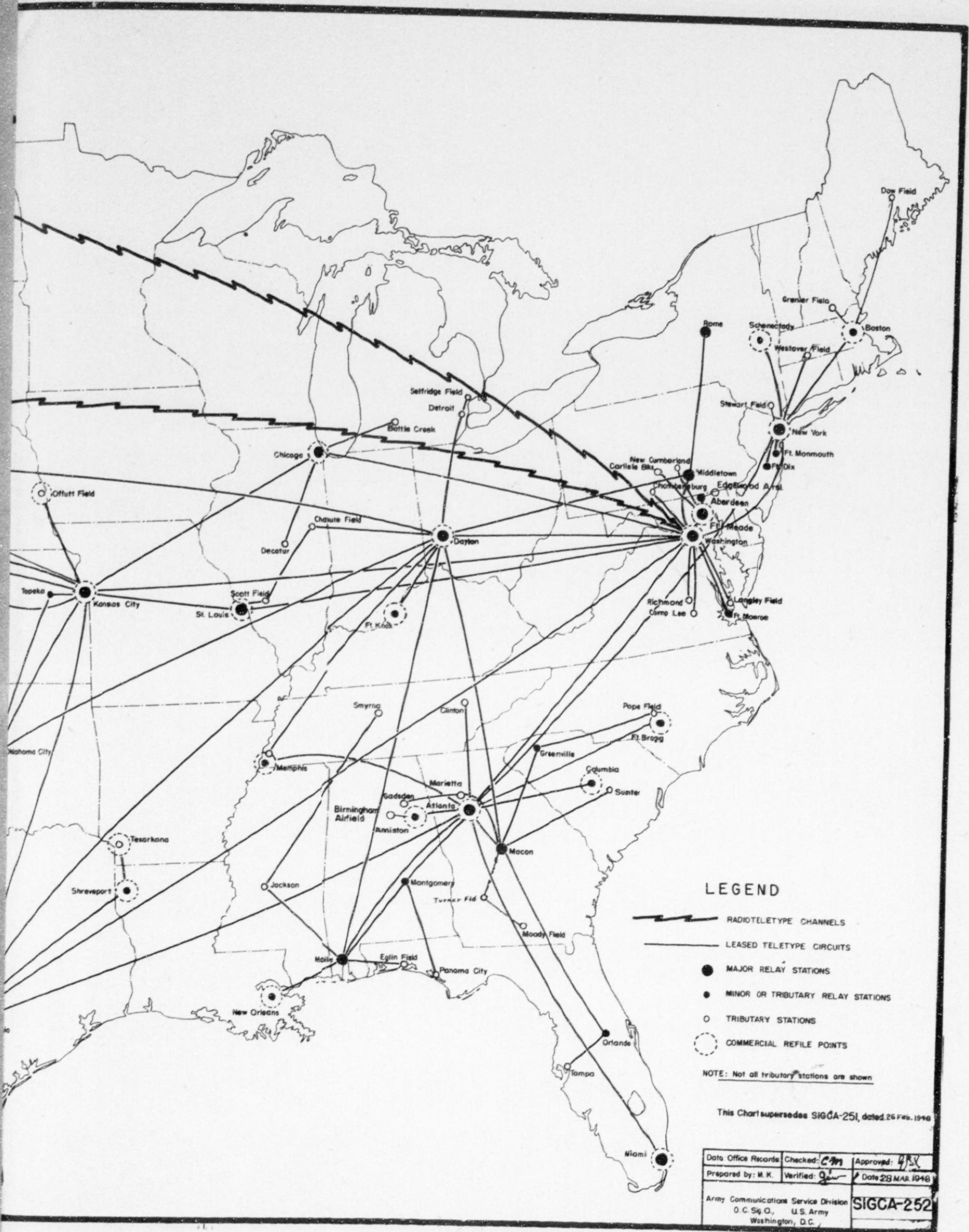





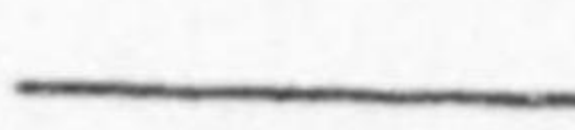




ARMY COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATIVE NETWORK  
DOMESTIC TAPE RELAY SYSTEM

1 APRIL 1948





**LEGEND**

-  RADIOTELETYPE CHANNELS
-  LEASED TELETYPE CIRCUITS
-  MAJOR RELAY STATIONS
-  MINOR OR TRIBUTARY RELAY STATIONS
-  TRIBUTARY STATIONS
-  COMMERCIAL REFUELING POINTS

NOTE: Not all tributary stations are shown

This Chart supersedes SIGCA-251, dated 26 Feb. 1948

Data Office Records	Checked: <i>C.M.</i>	Approved: <i>H.R.</i>
Prepared by: M.K.	Verified: <i>Q</i>	Date 23 MAR 1948
Army Communications Service Division O. C. Sig. O., U.S. Army Washington, D.C.		<b>SIGCA-252</b>