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Government Communications Office.

GCO/13-1-229

16th May, 1957.

Director,
D.S.B.,
Melbourne.

(Attention of MS)

The Federation authorities have, after all this time and despite my 180700 April, decided to comment on your draft paper on MCP communications. Their comments, which follow below, arrived in this office within a couple of days of the final paper, sent under your 2601/005 of 30th April:

"1. It is agreed that although there is a difference of approach in your paper, the conclusions reached, with regard to M.C.P. capabilities, are the same.

2. Our comments are:

(a) Para. 6

It is not strictly accurate to say that operators are exhorted to memorise the 'Q' code in entirety or necessarily in part. Recovered pamphlets, thought to have been used for jungle training, have in fact contained 'Q' code extracts presumably so that the trainee may use them for reference purposes.

(b) Para. 9

Although knowledge has been passed on with, no doubt, some loss of detail, there have obviously been attempts to improve, supplement or maintain the original standard of theoretical knowledge. This is substantiated by the large quantity of commercial radio manuals, (some new), that have been recovered.

(c) Para. 13

Local sources? There have also been references to transmitters being purchased in . Locally made transmitters have also been recovered. Thus there are more than the three sources you mention.

(d) Para. 15

Traces of acid were found at the place of recovery of "electrolyte type bottles". It is, therefore, possible that the "bottles" contained acid originally and not distilled water. If this is so, then the remark ".....situated beside a waterfall" loses its significance.

(e) Para. 16

If the reference is definitely to a "C.W. signal", then it is agreed that the signal would not normally be audible on a commercial receiver. It is not known, however, whether this refers to C.W. or M.C.W. If the latter, then, providing the

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/receiver



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receiver coverage, etc. was adequate, the signal would be audible.

(f) Para. 21

If reliable communications are established, then it will no doubt be revealed from present sources. The intentions of the C.T.O. were examined in our paper "C.T.O. WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS" (even reference dated 22 October, 1956) at para. 5. It is by no means certain which of the possibilities examined in that paragraph is, in fact, the C.T.O. intention. Hence, it is not possible to say that the establishment of reliable communications "is bound to be revealed by a falling off of courier traffic".

the correct response is "is bound to be revealed either by a falling off of courier traffic or"

I apologise profusely for this muddle, which resulted from the business and reluctance to commit themselves until it was over. I will hold on to the three copies of the final paper in case you want to issue any amendments in the light of the comments.

John M. Beaumont

Does not seem worth sending onto Z 24/11/56