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MINUTE BY THE DEFENCE COMMITTEE AT MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER, 1963.

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#### PRESENT

Air Marshal Sir Frederick Scherger, KBE CB DSO AFC Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee. (Acting Chairman)

Air Marshal Sir Valston Hancock, KBE CB DFC Chief of the Air Staff.

Lieutenant General J.G.N. Wilton, CB CBE DSO Chief of the General Staff.

Rear Admiral T.K. Morrison, CBE DSC Representing Chief of the Naval Staff. S. Landau, OBE Acting Secretary, Department of Defence.

C.L.S. Hewitt, OBE Representing Secretary to the Treasury.

J.K. Waller, CBE Representing Secretary, Department of External Affairs.

R.N. Thompson, MBE, Director Signals Branch was also present.

AGENDUM NO. 3(S)/1963 NO. 4(S)/1963 : TACTICAL 'Y' SUPPORT IN THE BORNEO TERRITORIES.

### MATTER REFERRED

4.34

- (a) Note from the British High Commissioner containing proposals on the above.
- (b) J.I.C. observations on (a).

#### CONSIDERATION

- 2. The Committee noted that the British proposals under reference are in the nature of a contingency plan for the despatch of Tactical Sigint resources to Borneo, and seek Australian assistance against the possible need.
- 3. The Committee noted that the British authorities are responsible for the provision in Borneo of any Sigint resources needed for 'Y' purposes and, as existing resources are clearly deficient, the British authorities should be encouraged to augment them as necessary. It was agreed that a self-contained AMF unit could be provided only at the expense of

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2.

## CONCLUSIONS

4. The Defence Committee recommended that the British authorities should be informed that:-

(a) because of other existing and planned commitments, including SEATO contingency plans,

we are not able to undertake to divert Australian Sigint resources to Borneo for field or tactical operations;

- (b) the full technical support of the D.S.B. organisation will continue to be provided through existing facilities to assist any British field level activities in Borneo;
- (c) two or three linguists, trained in Indonesian, could be provided on a temporary basis should the British contingency plan be put into effect; care must be taken to ensure that these linguists are not readily identifiable as Australian.

(J.J. CORRIGAN)
Secretary
DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

26.9.1963.

#### DISTRIBUTION

Copy No. 1 : Secretary, Defence Committee.

2 : Mr. E.W. Hicks.

3 : Air Marshal Scherger.

4 : Air Marshal Hancock.

5 : General Wilton.

6 : Admiral Morrison.

7 : Sir Arthur Tange.

8 : Mr. E.J. Bunting.

9 : Mr. C.L.S. Hewitt.

10 : Mr. R.N. Thoppson.

11 : Defence Dept. File.

12 : Joint Secretaries, J.I.C. (S/C).

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