

~~SECRET PIVOT~~

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Defence Signals Branch,  
C/- Defence Registry,  
Victoria Barracks,  
MELBOURNE.

31st October 1958.

Commanding Officer,  
H.M.A. W/T Station,  
Coonawarra,  
DARWIN. N.T.

Dear

Many thanks for your personal note of 16th October. I have scouted around Sections and got the following comments which might be of value.

I. General Search

- (a) There is a tendency for G.S. operators to show bias. This is understandable in view of your tasks but should be discouraged in the interests of "General" Search.
- (b) Marking revision is normally well above average, suggesting that discrimination needs improving.
- (c) One disturbing feature is the apparent inability of some operators to follow up green items correctly. Items logged while "bi-for" a green, sometimes bear no relation whatsoever to the initial intercept.  
Example:-

25/9	Item 6/23
26/9	6/28
29/9	6/33
"	"

The last two were separate items logged as one intercept.

- (d) It would be appreciated if all operators be reminded to place notation in the correct position on message forms - this is not always done at present.

II. [REDACTED]

- (a) Supervision could be improved - wanted material is sometimes dropped for no apparent reason e.g. Position 3 Log 2 [REDACTED] The Operator commented that outstations [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were

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working together, but made no attempt to log the activity. There have been instances when items were dropped because one [redacted] did not appear on [redacted]. [redacted] can only be brought up to date by D.S.B. if operators log such new contacts.

- (b) When activity is particularly heavy some operators seem to miss a number of preambles. If it would assist more complete intercept we would be quite happy for operators to log all preambles on message forms and put the serial number only on log forms in times of stress.

### III. General Comments.

Despite the above, which is intended as advice to improve station effort, we think operating ability is fairly good the T/A standard on [redacted] is high, and Weekly Notes are sound and useful.

[redacted]

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