

CIA 1970

SECRET

ITALY

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I. PRELIMINARY NOTE

There follows herein a first revision on a rough draft of an organized approach to the participation of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in a campaign of psychological warfare aimed at Italy. This estimate as of December 29, 1942, envisages an undertaking to be carried forward in unison with other appropriate agencies or instrumentalities, particularly with reference to the synchronization of such a task with military action by the armed forces of the United States.

II. ITALIAN VIGNETTE

A. Political Structure.

1. Fascist Dictatorship.

Italy is a single-party, political dictatorship. The present regime came to power in 1922, favored by the reaction against post-war economic confusion. It was the first Fascist state. In theory, the King is head of the state. Actually at the top is Il Duce, Mussolini.

2. Puppet Council and Chamber.

Under Mussolini comes the Grand Council of Fascism, a party organization, the Secretary being the Secretary of the Fascist Party. The Senate is a purely honorary body. There is no Chamber of Deputies. It was abolished in December, 1938. As the Chamber of Deputies was a symbol of the liberal revolution of 1848 and the whole Risorgimento which led to the unification of Italy, its disappearance meant much to Italians opposing Mussolini, even though he had reduced it to a rubber stamp years before.

In March, 1939, the Chamber of Deputies was replaced by the Chamber of Fasci and Corporazioni, that is, of party members and guild representatives. Of 650 members, 150 belong to the National Council of the Fascist Party, and 500 belong to the National Council of Corporations, a body of 22 government controlled trade, industrial and economic groups.

3. Theory of "Corporative State".

Fascist Italy calls itself a "corporative state" because of a facade of representation by trades and professions rather than by geographical areas of population.

(N.B. - This is essentially the same setup as in Brazil, where the Chamber of Deputies is suspended, and in Spain and Portugal as well. Therefore, care must be taken not to denounce the "corporative state", par 19.)

Labor and employers are grouped in so-called Syndical Associations, i.e. trade unions, under general Federations representing Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, Credit and Insurance, and Arts and Liberal Professions.

There is a Fascist Charter for Labor, providing a measure of social security, paid vacations, etc. It reads very well, but benefits under it are of course conditioned by the political attitude of the citizen involved.

Note carefully in all this, that the THEORY of the Corporative State has aroused considerable enthusiasm all through the Latin world, both in Europe and in the Americas, as a practical alternative, in their view, to uncontrolled Capitalism and Communism. Our condemnation therefore at this time should be limited to Mussolini and the Fascist Party as it exists today in Italy. Otherwise, we should give offense in Spain, Portugal, Brazil and among Latin-American groups in other countries.

4. Makeup of the Fascist Party.

a. Size

In a total population of about 45,000,000, the Fascist party counts:

Adult members ----- 5,500,000

Youth groups ----- 7,900,000

The adult members are about equally divided between men and women, city and country.

It is the compulsory membership in youth groups that has aroused the fears of the Catholic Church, which always fights for its right to educate children.

b. Sources of support.

Roughly speaking, the Fascists draw their support from the middle classes, who still remember with fear the disturbances of 1920 and 1921, the sitdown strikes, and street fighting, the confused parliamentary situation, the lack of authority in the government. Fascists themselves are often, like Mussolini himself, and like many Nazis in Germany, ex-Socialists.

c. Absence of opposition.

After so long a time (20 years) during which they have been slowly stifled, opposition parties are disorganized and scattered far underground. Their voices are scarcely heard in the outside world, and it is extremely difficult, therefore, to estimate the appeal inside Italy of any so-called Free Italy groups in other countries.

She has very little coal and no oil. Both these have to be supplied at the present time from Germany or from German-occupied countries.

Steel production, considered a prime index of war potential, is about 2,300,000 tons, only about one-eighth of Germany's for one-half of Germany's population.

Italy's single basic resource is water-power in the north, which furnishes electricity to industrial plants in that area.

The country is without any considerable mineral assets, except iron ore, and even this corresponds in no way to the size or needs of the nation

b. Lack of outside aid.

Even in ordinary times, Italy's trade balances are consistently unfavorable. Three things, however, classed as invisible exports, make up most of the deficit in peace years. They are: tourist expenditures, shipping freights and emigrant remittances.

Obviously, the declaration of war cut off tourist spending (mostly from the U.S. and Britain) entirely, ended shipping revenues, and modern financial controls dried up the source of emigrant money orders.

The income sent home by Italian workers in Nazi Germany can hardly make up for these necessary payments, especially as the wages are paid in marks of dubious value.

This is a point that may well be developed in any prop-

aganda appeals to the Italian people, contrasting the blessings of peace with the sufferings of war under Hitler.

2. Italy is Ill-Fed.

The food situation in Italy must be very bad at present. Even under normal conditions, the country cannot feed itself. A large part of the national territory has been under cultivation for three thousand years, and the soil, although carefully tended, is not productive.

It will be noted that Mussolini, in his recent speech, spoke longingly of the wheat fields of the Ukraine. Italy, always an importer of wheat, and a great consumer of bread and pastes like macaroni, is suffering severe shortages.

Clearly, the thought should be built up in the Italian mind that Germany is keeping her on short rations, while doing rather well by her own people. Comparatively, this is true, and the Italians know it. They should not be allowed to forget it.

3. Economic Madness of Mussolini.

From the whole economic picture, this thought can be drawn, for use in psychological attacks on Italian morale: Mussolini knew the weakness of his country in all the essentials of modern warfare. Therefore, he must have been mad to engage in any such enterprise.

As for any reward to be expected from Germany, let Italians ask themselves what they have gained so far, and then consider how improbable it is that Hitler would ever give up

anything of value to anybody else.

C. Social-Religious Aspects

1. Relations with the Catholic Church.

a. Rapprochement of 1929.

On the religious front, Mussolini scored a diplomatic triumph in 1929, when he settled the long dispute with the Papacy, over the temporal power of the Pope. Successive pontiffs had considered themselves prisoners of the Vatican ever since 1870 and the unification of Italy.

By the treaty of 1929, the Pope maintains his independence in a tiny state called Vatican City, within Rome.

At the same time, the Catholic religion was recognized as the only religion of the State, although other creeds are allowed free exercise of their worship, and their marriages are legally recognized.

This situation corresponds to the situation in almost all Latin-American nations.

b. Primary considerations.

Relations between Italy and the Vatican City have been satisfactory on the whole for the Italians. One point of difference has been the tendency of Fascism, like Nazism, to overemphasize the indoctrination of youth. This is a point at which the Church did not yield, but it may be said that Mussolini did yield, just as he yielded to the principle of non-interference.

in the early days of his political career, for reasons of expediency. There has been no history of religious persecution, as there has been in Germany, except for lip-service paid since 1938 to anti-Semitism, strongly condemned by Pope Pius XI.

c. Special position of His Holiness.

It would be advantageous for us to show as much consideration of the Pope's special position in Italy as Mussolini professes.

✓ Certainly Rome as a religious center means a great deal to the whole Christian world.

3. Geographical Areas and Social Classes.

a. The present outlook.

Generally speaking, Italians still, despite the unification of the country politically, feel more as Sicilians, or Venetians or Florentines than as Italians. But as professing Catholics, Rome does unite them. Note, however, that political regionalism is a dead issue, not to be revived.

There is little available evidence to show any division by social classes which would be helpful in splitting the ranks of Fascism, or in splitting Fascist party members from the rest of the population.

b. Resentment against graft.

The middle classes resent what they believe, probably with good reason, to be the dishonest, grafting character of the regime. Favorite Mussolini anecdotes usually turn on this theme.

Graft is an old story in Italy, but it is a specifically sensitive point when it concerns munitions, food supplies and AIR RAID SHELTERS during an unpopular war.

c. Sources of resentment.

As for labor and the peasants on the land, Mussolini has been less successful, no doubt, but once more it is difficult to judge how strong any underground movement may be, after a lapse of 20 years.

With most able-bodied men either in the armed forces or employed in war industries, it seems probable that any revolt would come through the army and navy rather than from civilian sources.

✓ d. Recognition of social psychology.

We should not forget that, socially, Italians felt and may still feel that the Fascist state did something toward removing their inferiority complex. Italians abroad were pleased to see their great liners made the equal of any afloat, in comparison to the pre-Mussolini sea-going tenements. They were pleased by Balbo's flight, and by any number of other evidences that they belonged to an up and coming country, instead of a down-at-the-heel tourist camp.

This must be remembered in making appeals to the Italian people. We should not recommend that they go back to music when the tone of our voice indicates we really think of them as organ-grinders. Here again it is instructive to notice

that Mussolini used this theme as a means of inciting his people to stiffer resistance.

D. Military Reactions

1. No Victories.

Italians cannot take much pride in the achievements of their armed forces so far in this war. It is in fact difficult to cite a single outstanding victory either on land or sea which can be credited to Italy.

Non-professional opinion in Allied countries has been prone to ascribe the poor record of Italians to inherent defects of character, a fundamental lack of courage and stamina.

Professional observers, knowing what good officers and a sound training system can do with even the most unlikely material, are inclined to place the blame on the military and naval commands.

2. Mussolini Admits Bad Leadership.

It is curious to note that Mussolini, in his recent speech, took up this subject from a point of view which seems surprising. He said:

"Now it may not be permitted, and therefore least of all to the British Prime Minister, to cast the slightest doubt on the valor and heroism of the Italian soldier. Our German comrades are the first to confirm this opinion. ~~They~~

the Italian soldier of land, of the sea or of the sky is well led and well armed, as far as his courage, his endurance, and his intelligence are concerned, he need not fear to be confronted with the best soldiers in the world".

This is probably true. It is almost word for word what we should say ourselves in addressing the Italian soldier, if we were trying to shake his morale. Plainly put, the appeal would run something like this: "Look here, Giuseppe, you're a good fellow personally, strong and brave as a lion. If you had the weapons and the leadership that we have, you'd be a very tough customer. But the grafting Fascists send you shoddy stuff, the Nazis skim the cream of materials, and your generals, from Mussolini down, are mostly political fakers. The good ones are as helpless as you are. No one would blame you for a minute if you just threw away your rifle, and gave yourself up."

The quotation from Mussolini's speech would support this appeal.

3. Shaky Military Morale.

As General Bolivar said, only the best troops can withstand a series of early reverses, and come back to win.

Nothing destroys morale more rapidly than a loss of confidence in the directing heads of operations.

At the present time, the Italian soldier must have serious doubts on the following heads:

(a) The ability of his generals, who have succeeded in getting Italy soundly beaten in Abyssinia, Egypt, Libya and Greece.

(b) The ability of Il Duce, who must assume responsibility for all these reverses.

(c) The loyalty of his German allies, who claim credit for all the victories in North Africa, and in defeat, leave the Italians to shift for themselves. Even now they are spending Italian lives in Russia. Why?

(d) What is it all about? What will Italy get out of this war, even if Hitler should win? Answer - nothing.

4. Through the Eyes of a Private.

Even the lowest Italian private must feel that Italy is on the wrong side in this war, that Il Duce backed the wrong horse. He is open to persuasion that there is still time to hedge the bet.

He looks for some assurance that his country will not suffer in the post-war reconstruction period. The terms of the Atlantic Charter should be made known to him in order to clear this point in his mind.

The strong and honorable position occupied by millions of Italian Americans in the countries of the Western Hemisphere is known to him, and should be a guarantee of fair treatment, should Italy leave the war, as a result of a popular revolt.

His attitude toward Great Britain is conditioned by so many sore spots in recent history that he is likely to have less confidence in British promises than in American pledges. The United States therefore should appear more prominently in the propaganda effort.

5. The Worker vis-a-vis the Military.

Essentially the same appeal will serve to break down the will to resist of Italian labor.

The worker in Italy is proud of his strength, his endurance, his skill, and his brains. He is capable of building, and has in fact built, the finest modern equipment of all kinds in peace time - planes, ships, motors, almost anything you can mention. Italian genius in the electrical field - for example, Marconi - is well-known.

Now all this ability, all this work, is being wasted in a foolish war, which Italy cannot win, because her resources and her equipment are not suitable for mass production on the immense scale required by modern war.

Il Duce should have known this. He must have known it. Yet he led his people into war, at the behest - he admits it himself - of the Fuehrer.

Therefore the title - Il Duce - The Leader - is only a bad joke.

6. Home Front Behind the Fighter.

The modern Italian resents being classed as merely an entertainer. Any invitation on our part for him to return to his guitar, his paint brush and his chisel will antagonize him, rather than please him. Old Italy may have been much more picturesque as a residence for elderly maiden ladies from England or the U.S.A., but Italians resented - and still resent - the superiority complex of English-speaking people. Fascism at its worst does not compare with the 19th century poverty that drove millions of Italians to emigrate.

The Italian will respond much better to appeals which recognize his modern achievements in science and industry, but which point out how they are being wasted in this war.

As for the obvious fact that Italy is dependent for many essential raw materials on foreign nations, note that the Atlantic Charter covers this point explicitly.

III. ITALIANS IN LATIN-AMERICA

A. Distribution of Italian-Americans

1. Where They Came From

For our purposes, it is important to note that the vast majority of Italian emigrants to the Western Hemisphere came from Southern Italy. This is true in the United States and all through Latin America, except in sections of Argentina and Uruguay.

The reason most of them came from Southern Italy was because that part of the peninsula is much poorer than North Italy. Industrial development lagged. It was hard for a peasant to get any land, and what land he did get was impoverished and would not support his family.

As Hendrik Van Loon observes, "Dukes don't emigrate."

Under the present circumstances, the fact that an invasion will strike first at Southern Italy gives us a decided propaganda advantage, since expressions of support for the move by Italian-Americans will come from people who know that part of Italy, and who have, in many cases, relatives still living there.

2. When They Came

In both North and South America, the great tides of Italian immigration began around 1880, just as German immigration slackened off around that date. The movement continued on a large scale for 34 years, up to the outbreak of the World War. It began again in 1920, but was stopped by the quota system adopted by the U.S.A. in 1924. This restriction on immigration was copied immediately by the chief Latin-American nations.

3. Italian-Americans Not Fascists

The importance of the time limits of immigration for our purposes is as follows:

a. It began shortly after the unification of Italy, so that emigrants came here from the first with vivid memories of a struggle for freedom, and independence from Austrian domination, in the North, and from Bourbon misrule in the South.

b. Immigration ended, to all intents and purposes, before Mussolini and the Fascists came to power. Hence Fascist doctrines and propaganda have had only a weak appeal.

4. Where They Went

The attached table indicates where Italian-Americans are concentrated in Latin-America, and how many are in each country.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Italian Aliens</u>	<u>Italian-Americans</u>	<u>Total</u>
Brazil	1,000,000	3,500,000	4,500,000
Argentina	780,000	2,200,000	2,980,000
Uruguay	100,000	500,000	600,000
Chile	12,000	20,000	32,000
Venezuela	15,000	11,000	26,000
Peru	7,518	7,500	15,118
Paraguay	6,500	2,000	8,500
Mexico	5,600	-	5,600
Ecuador	628	4,000	4,628
Colombia	1,440	1,642	3,082
Cuba	1,302	1,400	2,702
Bolivia	500	300	800
Dom. Rep.	393	400	793
Panama	760	-	760
El Salvador	470	284	754
Costa Rica	700	-	700
Guatemala	420	-	420
Haiti	75	150	225
Honduras	199	-	199
Nicaragua	65	-	65

Grand Total 8,152,244

It will be noted that the great majority of the Italian-Americans in this Hemisphere are concentrated in Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Venezuela and Peru.

Note also that other authorities consider these figures somewhat high. Relative proportions, however, are accurate by countries.

B. Political Characteristics

1. Good Citizens

Italian-Americans in general do not feel any strong ties between themselves and the homeland, politically speaking. There is a sentimental and family bond, of course, but it is fair to say that their memories of Italy, or the stories they heard from their parents and relatives, are not calculated to make them cherish any illusions about the comparative joys of life here and abroad.

As they are rapidly assimilated to the rest of the population, they make good citizens. Because the language barrier is almost non-existent, and other handicaps noticeable in the United States are absent, the Italian-American in Latin America advances much more rapidly than he does in this country.

On the whole, the Latin-American of Italian descent is almost undistinguishable from his fellow-citizens.

The average level of political participation is much higher than in the United States. Cabinet ministers with Italian names, senators, deputies, judges, are common, while still relatively rare here.

Fascist propaganda has made some effort to capture the attention of the Italian-American in Latin-

America, but without conspicuous success. Cases of actual sabotage or other subversive activity are very few.

C. Economic Status

1. Relatively High Level as Compared to the U.S.A.

For the same reasons as we cited in the political field, that is, easy adaptability and ready assimilation to Latin-American culture, the Italian-American is apt to move up more rapidly in the economic field.

Once more it is worth repeating that the Italian-American melts into the background of Latin America so completely that life in every way is much easier for him than for his counterpart in this country.

Because he is on a much higher level, economically, than his relatives in the old country, it was and is difficult for propaganda to reach and convince him that the Fascist regime has anything to offer superior to what the emigrant or emigrant's son already has.

His thinking, therefore, tends to be pro-American. While this in many cases leads to an extreme isolationism, it makes easier the task of inducing him to back the United States effort as an American enterprise.

D. Social-Religious Leanings

Italian-Americans are scattered throughout the social fabric in Latin American countries, so that there is no parti-

cular level to which appeals should be addressed.

Since they left a Catholic country and settled in other Catholic countries, their religious leanings have been unchanged. They are solidly Catholic, only infinitesimal losses being registered as a result of the labors of Protestant missionaries in South America.

Many of the missionaries sent out by the Catholic orders (Franciscans, etc.) are Italian. This helps to maintain their fidelity to the Church.

Many priests in Argentina and Uruguay, as well as Brazil, are Italians or Italian-Americans. There has been no serious evidence of pro-Fascist leanings discovered in these groups. A moment's reflection will show that there is not any reason why they should favor Mussolini. They are obedient to the Rome of the Pope.

How the Italian-American would react to news of mass bombing in Southern Italy will depend on how it is presented. If any attempt is made to justify "terror raids," the reaction in Latin America would be bad.

If damage to churches, schools, convents and civilian houses is represented as a deplorable but unavoidable accident, Italian-Americans would see the point and accept it.

It would be especially helpful if an authoritative statement disclaimed any intention of bombing Vatican City or of harming the monuments of ancient Rome. Pointing to

London as a justification is not an adequate answer for people of Latin blood, particularly as very few genuinely interesting monuments or churches were hit by the Nazis. It is true the Fascists refused to bomb London, but the use of this argument should be reserved pending further official statements from Washington.

IV. PROVISIONAL C.I.A.A. PATTERN

A. Objectives

1. Successful military action to liberate Italy and accelerate a United Nations victory.
 - a. Disrupt any will to fight among Italian armed forces.
 - b. Develop and sustain resistance within Italy to Fascist and German leadership.
 - c. Foster trust in the justice of a United Nations peace.

- a. The rising momentum of the arms and men of the United Nations brings closer a day of reckoning.
- b. Mussolini's mad dreams are completely bankrupt.
- c. Corrupt Fascist party hacks and greedy Germans have failed to equip or sustain Italy.

of Military Operations.

that admitted German defeat of Italian troops at new evidence of German weakness. Furthermore, Germany now is employing them as "mercenaries" against Russia. Italy has continuously been Germany's vassal and tool. Italian workmen have been abused within Germany, sweating there to forge weapons denied Italian soldiers.

b. Fascists and Nazis have shamefully betrayed Italian interests. Mussolini's Fascist Party deliberately took Italy into an unequal bargain with Hitler's Nazis. In Churchill's words, "What have Italians to show for it? A brief proembrace by German persecution along the Riviera, a flying visit to Corfu, a bloody struggle with the heroic patriots of Yugoslavia, a deed of undying shame in Greece, the ruins of Genoa, Turin, Milan. And this is only a foretaste." Italy has received no lasting reward for connivance with Germany; will receive none. In the Libya Italians liked to call their own domain,

B. Types of Operations

1. Field activity within the bounds of established primary themes:

- a. Stimulation of statements by statesmen of Italian extraction, i.e., Guani, Rossetti, Ghilardi, Bravo, Repetto, Solari, etc.
 - b. Inspired messages and memorials from Italian-Americans in the other American republics to communities of their ancestry.
 - c. Favorable utterances of church leaders where feasible.
 - d. Prearranged explanatory articles, editorial endorsements and sympathetic radio commentaries.
2. Materials, programs and film prepared and distributed directly from Washington and New York production centers.
3. Collection of reactions and reflections of favorable activity within the other American republics for re-use from Washington by appropriate agencies dealing directly with Italy proper.

file

date given [unclear] 7-27-42
[unclear]
[unclear]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C

July 25, 1942

Copy to [unclear]

Dear Bill:

Thanks very much for your recent letter concerning the invitation from the Odontological Association of Argentina to the American Association of Orthodontists to send representatives to the convention which will be held at Buenos Aires in October.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in calling this matter to my attention and am referring the correspondence to Miss Mary de Groat who is in charge of the Exchange and Consultant Section of our Basic Economy Program with the request that she get in touch with Dr. Claude Wood directly.

Regards,

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan
Office of Strategic Services
Washington, D. C.

*In the file 7/12/43
1. State Department
1. Rockefeller
7/12/43 (approx)*

Mr. Nelson Rockefeller,
Coordinator of Inter American Affairs
Washington, D. C.

Dear Nelson:

I attach herewith the translation of a letter which has recently been given to a member of our staff, Dr. Penrose, in the hope that it might be forwarded to the agency which would be most interested. It seems obvious that the letter should be brought to your attention.

As you will see from the translation, this is an invitation from the Odontological Association of Argentina for a mission of American dentists to attend a dental congress in Buenos Aires at the beginning of October. This would seem to present a valuable opportunity for the further development of inter-American good will. I believe, however, that the Dental Associations involved would be unable to support the entire expense of such a mission, and I feel sure that they would welcome any assistance they might get from your office.

Dr. Penrose has talked with Dr. Oren A. Oliver, President of the American Dental Association, on another matter and incidentally discovered that he would be willing to take part in this trip. The subject has probably been discussed with a few other dental men but their reaction is not at present known.

The original of the letter from Dr. Cabrini, in Spanish, is in the hands of Dr. Penrose, who will be glad to produce it at any time if you would care to see it.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan,
Director

Attachment (1)

S.B.L.
S.B.L. Penrose Jr:amy
7-21-42

Donovan

Bruce

Wilson

J. E. O. 4657
Director - American Affairs

March 6, 1942

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
Commerce Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Nelson:

I have had a chance to go through
your printed report on Policy of the Inter-
Departmental Committee on Inter-American
Communications.

I think it is excellent and I
congratulate you on a job well done.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 2, 1942

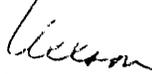
Dear Bill:

The Report and Recommendations of
Policy of the Inter-Departmental Com-
mittee on Inter-American Communications
have now been unanimously adopted by
all the members of the Committee and
are being submitted to the President.

A copy of the printed Report is
enclosed.

With personal regards.

Sincerely,



Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan
Coordinator of Information
Twenty-Fifth and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
Coordinator of Commercial and Cultural Relations
Between the American Republics

FROM Don Francisco
Director ~~Communications~~ Division

TO *Ca. C. Bone* *Jill*

100. 3517
 V. FRANCISCO
 Speech

Address of Mr. Don Francisco, Director of the Communications Division,
 Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, before the Institute
 of Radio Engineers, Commodore Hotel, New York, N. Y., 8:46 P. M., January
 13, 1942.

RADIO'S NEW RESPONSIBILITY

Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests, and members of the Institute
 of Radio Engineers:

I feel somewhat like the young man who sat behind the wheel of an
 automobile for the first time in his life, and immediately proceeded to
 wreck his car by colliding with another after travelling less than a
 block.

The driver of the other car yelled, "Hey, what's the matter...can't
 you blow your horn?" The young man sheepishly replied, "Sure I can blow
 the horn...but I can't drive."

Perhaps I can blow the horn of international broadcasting. But I
 know little of the marvels of radio engineering by which programs reach
 their audience. You engineers are the drivers.

But I can sound this warning. Our broadcasts are colliding
 every hour with the government-controlled distortions of truth that are
 broadcast from Berlin, Rome, and Tokio.

I welcome this occasion as an opportunity to thank the radio indus-
 try for the cooperation it has extended to our office. No reasonable re-

-2-

quest of ours has gone unfulfilled. No practical suggestion has been too much to consider.

Your joint efforts have already given the "Good Neighbor" a voice that has been heard throughout the hemisphere. By donating has become a new arm of national defense. And remember, this is the first war in which radio has had a major role.

Let me take you back over time a bit...to that memorable date in the history of America...December 8th, 1941. The President of the United States steps to the rostrum of the Senate Chamber to ask the Congress for a declaration of war against Japan. The tumultuous greeting finally subsides...the President starts to speak...he begins a graphic report of the infamous attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor...he describes the state of the Union and our relations with the rest of the world...he pleads for unity, fortitude and courage in this gravest of American crises...he asks Congress to declare a state of war. And as he speaks, millions of Americans are bent close to their radio sets. But, skirting the globe...in homes, offices, and public meeting places...there are other millions of people listening, millions of other fellow Americans to the south of us...millions more in Europe, who, at the penalty of death, dare to listen...listen as the truth is being told...because they look to the United States for leadership and hope.

The words of President Roosevelt reverberated around the world as have the words of no other man in all history. No man before him has ever

-3-

commanded so great an audience.

While the Chief Executive is speaking to the world, translations are beamed southward...to Brazil in Portuguese...to the other Americas in Spanish. In the short-wave broadcasting studios of America's great radio nerve-centers, eager hands rip the speech...paragraph by paragraph, from chattering tickers. Heads bend low over typewriters and soon the President's words appear in German, French, Italian, Swedish, Finnish, Turkish and a dozen other languages...transposed by specialists who fashion their words to fit the language pattern of their foreign audiences.

With incredible speed...while the President is still speaking...in English...his words...in many languages are winging their way over directional radio beams to the far corners of the earth. Before the day is out, his voice has rolled over the pampas of the Argentine and across the snowy peaks of the Andes. His words have left their impact in the land of the Kangaroo and the so-called Rising Sun. From the Rio Grande to the Straits of Magellan...into the war-torn capitals of Europe and down into the tiny settlements of the African jungle, men and women have heard the President of the United States speak in accents they can understand.

This was no one-time achievement. The international broadcasting of important speeches and events has now become routine.

Behind this monumental achievement lies the story of short-wave broadcasting which is just beginning to be told. It is a story of humble beginnings...of people engaged in the building and carrying forward of a

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great human service...A democratic service built by the people of all the Americas and held together by the strong ties of friendship...until today it has become the new voice of freedom.

What tasks faced our engineers, our language experts and our program builders? They were many and they were complex. You engineers had to design and construct high-powered and intricate apparatus and great directive beam antenna systems for the flawless transmission of speech and music. You were the task of spreading this transmission to stations thousands of miles across the sea.

Language experts and program builders had to know the preferences, the languages and the language dialects of the peoples they proposed to serve. They had to know their interests and their tastes in literature, in music, in sports and in commerce. They needed translators, announcers, talent for a dozen tongues.

And yet...now is this magic reveal of modern science...that even well-informed Americans are but partly aware of what is being done. Blessed with a free press...free radio...and free speech...Americans do not find it necessary to listen in secret to the muffled whisperings of the short-waves that skirt the globe. They have little knowledge of this new voice of freedom which finds its way into every nook and cranny of the world.

Perhaps this is one reason why our nation has been slow to realize the importance of psychological warfare in which broadcasting is the principal weapon.

-5-

For twenty years Germany has been fertile ground for the development of psychological warfare. After the first World War she was disarmed of tanks, guns, and battleships. But there was no ban on emotions born of bitterness and the humiliation of defeat. Leaders in Germany sought to capitalize on these emotions and eventually turned them to their own purpose. To rebuild the nation's morale, they built a propaganda machine that was later to be turned upon the world.

Economic rearmament began later. Military rearmament, that is munitions production and conscription, came last.

According to the German theory, psychological preparation should start first because it takes the longest time, involving, as it does, new patterns of indoctrination and education.

Broadcasting played a leading role in this psychological campaign. Within Germany, the Nazis whipped up a blind faith in Hitler and Germany's "new order". The population was indoctrinated with the myth of German superiority.

As the time to strike approached, the Nazis had perfected the most highly organized propaganda machine the world has ever known.

It was given a place in warfare, equal in importance to that of the army, navy, air force, and foreign office. German press services, broadcasters, moving picture producers, and other agencies of mass communication were already mobilized and under centralized control. Their personnel was trained. Their fifth-columnists were in every nation. The propaganda

-6-

mechanism was backed with authority, man power, and money. It had experience. It had cunning.

Then they turned this machine on neighboring nations. You have seen the results of the venom it spewed forth to poison the minds of men. You have seen it in France...in Poland...in Denmark...in Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg.

We know that this same poison is being peddled to the New World. But here in the 21 republics of the Western Hemisphere we are fortified against such an attack by a realization of its challenge to our democratic way of life.

In Axis countries psychological warfare means changing men's beliefs. It means the perversion of all sources of spiritual comfort, of creed, of information. It means that truth is suppressed, and that fallacies are dramatized. It means the unworthy exploitation of human emotions -- fear, loyalty, hatred, love.

We want none of that.

Our kind of psychological warfare must be to tell the truth in every possible way to as many people as we can reach. We want no regimentation of the mind. We want no interference with freedom of thought, of speech, or worship.

We want truth and we want the freedom to believe it.

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What forces do we have in our arsenal with which to fight Axis propaganda?

First of all we have the greatest of all forces...that has been built up through the years...confidence. Confidence in the basic ideals of this nation, confidence in the statements of our nation's leaders... confidence in the objective news reporting of our press services and broadcasting stations.

If you wish to get the full impact of this fact, go, as I did last year, to Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, around the Gaspé Peninsula. Go, as I did, to Rio, São Paulo, Buenos Aires and Montevideo. Fly over the Andes to Santiago and up the west coast to Lima, Quito and Bogotá. Get into the back country. Talk to all kinds of people.

You will be thrilled to observe the confidence with which these people look for leadership to this nation and its President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. You will be proud to learn how much they trust and respect our Secretary of State, Mr. Hull, and our Under-Secretary, Mr. Welles. You will learn, as you cannot learn at home, what the far-sighted statesmanship and sincere friendship expressed by the "Good Neighbor Policy" has meant to these nations, and to this hemisphere.

You will find news from Germany, Italy and Japan discounted and read with doubt. You will find broadcasts from Berlin, Rome and Tokio listened to with suspicion.

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But you will see news of our great press associations in most of the newspapers throughout the American Republics. You will find it read with confidence because it is independent, objective and uncontrolled. Among overseas broadcasts, you will find that the ones that enjoy the fullest confidence, are those that come from New York, Schenectady, Boston, Cincinnati, San Francisco...

First, therefore, among our forces is confidence...believability. We must preserve this priceless heritage.

Second we have the incomparable facilities of our great broadcasting companies, our short-wave stations, our press associations and our moving picture industry. Third, we have the expert personnel to man these facilities. We have engineers, writers, psychologists, educators, research experts.

We will meet the axis lies with facts. We have truth on our side and as many people as possible must hear it. For it is not enough to be right; we must also be heard.

Just how, then, does the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs fit into the task before us?

Sixteen months ago, on August 16, 1940, President Roosevelt, by executive order, established what was later to be known as the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

The President's order directed the Coordinator, among other things, to "Formulate and execute programs, in cooperation with the Department of State, which, by effective use of governmental and private facilities, in

-9-

such fields as the arts and sciences, education and travel, the radio, the press, and the cinema, will further the national defense and strengthen the bonds between the nations of the Western Hemisphere."

Nations make friends in much the same way as individuals. The first rule is that to make a friend you must be one. You must do friendly things. You must show a sympathetic interest in the problems of the other fellow. You must try to eliminate the sources of friction and misunderstanding. You must be an agreeable person to have around. You must make an effort to know the other fellow.

Such, it seems to me, must have been the thoughts that inspired the Good Neighbor Policy. We set out to help implement that policy. We interested ourselves in practically every private, individual and governmental activity that in any way affected inter-American friendships. Our activities and responsibilities grew by leaps and bounds.

In the Communications Division "know your neighbor" became our watchword. We joined hands with the radio industry, the publication industry, the motion picture industry, to get the peoples of this hemisphere better acquainted.

For more than a year we have been working closely with the radio industry. Our first consideration was of facilities.

There are, as you know, five possible methods of reaching the radio audiences of the other American Republics.

1. By short-wave broadcasts from the privately owned stations in the United States.

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2. By arrangements whereby local stations in the other American Republics can pick up and rebroadcast the program of our short-wave station.

3. By sending special programs point-to-point for delivery to local stations for re-broadcasting.

4. By preparing transcripts and arranging for their broadcast by local stations.

5. By producing programs locally for broadcast in the several countries.

Our plans, worked out in cooperation with the broadcasting industry, called for the use of all these methods.

In the field of radio, as in other areas, the chief function of the Coordinator's office has been to stimulate, guide and coordinate the efforts of private industry. We have no broadcasting facilities of our own. Our policy is to use existing facilities as far as possible....not to duplicate them. We gather information and place it at the disposition of the broadcasters. We make suggestions which they may adopt or reject. We supply program ideas and material which they may use or discard. Aside from the censorship of all information of possible value to the enemy, each station maintains its freedom of action so far as program content is concerned.

This is the American way.

Has this policy been effective? What has been accomplished? Let us first examine some figures on the short-wave broadcasting activities of our

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eleven United States International stations.

On an average day a year ago our short-wave stations were on the air a combined total of 79 hours. Today their combined time averages 132 hours per day...in 12 languages.

In the last year the total number of short-wave news broadcasts by all stations, on an average day, has increased from 72 to 209 per day. The time utilized by all stations for daily news broadcasts on average days has increased from 17 to 52 hours per day.

A year ago our short-wave stations were operating on from 10 to 65 kilowatts. Today they are all operating on more than 50 kilowatts...one as high as 100 kilowatts.

If the power of all transmitters were averaged it would show an increase during the past year from 31 to 52 kilowatts.

I know one station that has an operating budget for this year which is four times that of last year; another has trebled its personnel during the past year; a third has doubled its staff in less than a year.

To the other American Republics alone there are a combined total from all stations of 54 hours of broadcasts every day. Of these, 15 hours are devoted to news broadcasts. The total number of news programs to South and Central America has been increased from 39 to 63 per day.

These figures reflect the tremendous increase in short-wave activity.

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President Roosevelt, transmitted in this way, have been rebroadcast by as many as 200 local stations in the southern countries.

Through these networks we of the Americas can listen together...to the tangos of Argentina and the rhumbos of Cuba...to educators in Lima and Montevideo...to the stations of Brazil and Mexico...to voices from Washington, Bogotá, Santiago, and a hundred other places.

Good Neighbors are coming to know each other better.

But in addition to the use of short-wave and Inter-American network, other activities are under way.

Our office is producing 52 transcribed programs in Spanish and 52 in Portuguese. These programs range from informative material, such as Ripley's "Believe It or Not" in Spanish and Portuguese, to American Folk Songs and a dramatized series on national defenses. It is expected that hundreds more will be made during the year. These will be sent to the other American Republics for broadcast over local stations.

Special "live talent" programs devoted to Inter-American friendship and understanding are being sponsored by local organizations in several countries and others will follow.

One of the helpful activities of the United States advertisers in the Southern Republics has been the use of news of our great press associations as program material for their sponsored broadcasts. The best answer to Axis propaganda is a wider dissemination of the facts.

We have knowledge of 132 stations carrying such programs and doubtless

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there are many others that do not appear on our records.

So the picture rounds out. Broadcasts by short-wave, broadcasts by networks, broadcasts transmitted by radio telephone, local broadcasts with "live talent", local broadcasts with transcriptions...radio used in all its forms to promote friendship and understanding.

This effort to make broadcasting a greater force for inter-American friendship and understanding would have been impossible but for the sympathetic cooperation and reciprocal action taken by the Governments and radio stations of our sister Republics.

Again there is the expert and progressive nation of Argentina, whose Chief of the Bureau of Radio Communications is your guest tonight. To him, to his Government, and to the broadcasting stations of his country, I express our thanks for their wholehearted cooperation in this broad program.

To Señor Casentini, I would particularly point out that we recognize radio as no one-way street. To take steps to know and understand our neighbors is as important as to help them know and understand us. Sometimes I think it is more important. Until recently the people of Argentina, it seems to me, have shown more interest than our own people in what goes on outside the borders of their own country. The great newspapers of Buenos Aires print more foreign news than any newspapers in the world. They print three times as much about the United States as our leading papers print about Argentina. Their people are better linguists. A visitor from the United States is embarrassed, and then put at his ease, to find so many

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friends in the other Americas who speak our language and how few of our travelers speak any foreign tongue.

For some reason, whether we looked back over history, or looked ahead to the future, we had the habit of thinking in terms of east and west. Today, as never before, we are looking and thinking north and south.

A recent survey disclosed that enrollment in Spanish classes at our leading universities has shown an increase of over 60 per cent during the past year, and that Spanish is the foreign language now being studied. Here is a striking index of North America's increased interest in our southern neighbors.

You may sit by your radio right here in New York and hear in English, over domestic stations, thirty-four programs every week based on Latin American subjects. Seventeen of these programs are carried on the major national networks of this country.

Each week we send a script of informative material concerning one of the other Americas to 880 U. S. long wave stations. An additional weekly bulletin enables them to broadcast special programs for national holidays, special anniversaries and birthdays of famous South Americans.

Five hundred U. S. stations will soon receive transcribed libraries of selected Latin American music.

More and more programs are being picked up in the southern republics and re-broadcast in this country.

We have received splendid cooperation, not only from the stations and networks, but from advertisers, advertising agencies and artists.

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These are but a few of the things that have been done...and being done today...and credit for their accomplishment belongs largely to the radio industry.

We of our office are grateful, now that war has come, that we and you have had at least one crowded year in which to perfect a working technique. We have accomplished a great deal and we have learned a great deal.

But we of the Americas are never satisfied...and never should be. We need even more hours of short-wave broadcasting...even stronger power... better equipment...more programs in foreign languages...more and more programs that promote understanding and friendship...less expensive receiving sets...bigger and bigger audiences.

We need an armistice on commercial competition and rivalry in foreign fields. We need to tie together and make more effective use of our physical equipment at home. We need to mobilize our manpower, pool our ideas, think together...work together.

With America at war, we must do more and more. For today, there is urgent need for a greater and greater exchange of social, commercial and cultural ideas...exchanges between our people and their democratic, freedom loving fellow Americans throughout the western hemisphere.

The people of the Americas are too smart to be fooled by Axis lies. But we want the truth told in the American way. And the facilities and manpower of broadcasting provide one of the important means.

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There are few things more essential to the survival of freedom in the world than mutual understanding between the peoples of this Hemisphere. There are few things more vital to that understanding than radio...as a vital, living medium of communication between the Americas.

During the blackness of war...and in the dawn of peace...your contributions to the technique of international understanding will write a brilliant chapter in the history of freedom.

For without the achievements of you members of the Institute of Radio Engineers, that medium could not have existed. Without your further help it cannot achieve all that it must.

So, gentlemen, to express a message from the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to the Radio Engineers, no phrase could be more fitting than these inspirational words of Winston Churchill... "Give us the tools and we will do the job."

*Int. Aff. Files
P.A. Files
& Tavares*

MEMORANDUM

January 27, 1942

To: Commander W. H. Vanderbilt

From: J. R. Murphy

Here is a copy of Nelson Rockefeller's
reply to your memorandum about
Dr. Hernane Tavares de sa.

J. R. M.

Murphy:Foy

Int. Aff. Office 3725

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 23, 1942

Dear Bill:

Thank for your thoughtful note of the twentieth enclosing Commander Vanderbilt's memorandum concerning Dr. Herrone Tavares de sa.

I have been in correspondence with Dr. Tavares for the past four or five months, and he is up here on a scholarship for which we provided the funds through the Institute of International Education. We are very much aware of the situation which Bill describes in his memorandum; however, the situation has been complicated by a number of factors which make it very difficult to handle. I would be glad to talk to you about it sometime.

In the meantime our people are looking forward to discussions with Dr. Tavares.

With many thanks and personal regards,

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan
Coordinator of Information
Washington, D. C.

I.A.A. 1/26
X South American Base
X Dr. Tavares

January 30, 1942

Mr. Nelson Rockefeller
Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
Department of Commerce Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Nelson:

✓ Here is a memorandum which I have received from Bill Vanderbilt. I thought it might interest you.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

I.A.A.
X South American Base
X Dr. Tavares

31007
San Antonio

January 2, 1942

Mr. Nelson Rockefeller
Coordinator of Latin-American Affairs
Department of Commerce Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

Enclosed is a letter from our New York Office, transmitting a letter from the Latin American Institute.

Mr. Angel's letter has not been acknowledged.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

2 Encl.
Foy

Communications 223

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

N. David

November 10, 1941

NOV 12 1941

Dear Bill:

Thanks very much for your letter of the ninth
appointing Mr. Nathan David to work with our office
with the Interdepartmental Committee on Hemisphere
Communications.

I appreciate very much your cooperation in
this connection.

With personal regards.

Sincerely,

Nelson

Nelson A. Rockefeller

Mr. William J. Donovan
Coordinator of Information
Washington, D. C.

*Committee on Inter-American
Relations*

November 9, 1941

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
Department of Commerce Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Nelson:

Thank you for your letter of the 5th. As you know, it was my intention to attend the meeting. I got tied up with other things and arranged to be represented. Apparently, there was a series of telephone calls, which eventually resulted in some misunderstanding, because of different radio meetings that were going on during the week. In any case, I am sorry that we were not in attendance. Be assured however, that we are anxious to cooperate, and I am asking Nathan David to get in touch with your people to that end.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 9, 1941

Memorandum for Nathan David

Would you follow up the attached and see
what we should do now?

WJD
WJD

November 9, 1941

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
Department of Commerce Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Nelson:

Thank you for your letter of the 5th. As you know, it was my intention to attend the meeting. I got tied up with other things and arranged to be represented. Apparently, there was a series of telephone calls, which eventually resulted in some misunderstanding, because of different radio meetings that were going on during the week. In any case, I am sorry that we were not in attendance. Be assured however, that we are anxious to cooperate, and I am asking Nathan David to get in touch with your people to that end.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

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Colonel (has PC)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 5, 1944

NOV 7 1944

Dear Bill:

I was so sorry that it proved impossible for you or a representative of your office to attend yesterday's meeting of the committee appointed by the President to study Hemisphere communications, as I know how vitally interested you are in these questions as they affect the other parts of the world.

I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of the meeting and would appreciate it very much if you would appoint a permanent liaison on the technical level to facilitate the work of the committee.

You will note that the committee has agreed to give first consideration to the problem of Axis ownership and control of communications systems in this Hemisphere and that a substantial body of material has already been gathered with reference to this vital phase of the Hemisphere defense program.

We will send you an agenda prior to the next meeting, which will probably not be held for two weeks.

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan,
Coordinator of Information,
Room 158,
Federal Trade Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

Meeting of the Interdepartmental Committee
on Inter-American Communications
November 4, 1941

The meeting was attended by:

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller -- Coordinator of
 Inter-American Affairs
 Mr. Harvey B. Otterman -- Senior Divisional
 Assistant, Division of International Com-
 munications, Department of State
 Mr. James H. Wright -- Foreign Service Officer,
 Department of State
 Mr. James H. Edwards -- Chief, Division of In-
 ternational Economy, Department of Commerce
 Mr. Will L. Clayton -- Deputy Administrator,
 Federal Loan Agency
 Mr. John Tomlinson -- Commodity Officer, Econ-
 omic Defense Board
 Rear Admiral Stanford C. Hooper -- Representing
 the Defense Communications Board
 Mr. E. K. Jett -- Chairman, Coordinating Com-
 mittee, Defense Communications Board
 Mr. Carl B. Spaeth -- Assistant Coordinator of
 Inter-American Affairs

Mr. Rockefeller opened the meeting by outlining the work of the committee as stated in the President's letter of September twenty-fourth. The President directed that consideration be given to:

1. The extent of existing facilities for communication by radio, cable, telephone, telegraph and allied media in the American Republics.
2. The adequacy and the needs for further development of such facilities in order to create a communication system designed to meet most effectively the needs of the Americas.
3. The policy which should govern the relationship of the Government toward a program designed to develop a more extensive communication system among the American Republics.

The President's letter also makes it clear that these matters are to be considered from the standpoint of our Hemisphere defense program and our long-term program for carrying forward the Good Neighbor Policy.

Mr. Rockefeller then stated that, although it was not now possible to blueprint the entire study, it is quite clear that the committee will have to concern itself with such questions as the extent of Axis Com-

- 2 -

ship and control of Hemisphere communications facilities, methods to remove that control, the rate structure for inter-American communications, the desirability of merging and unifying inter-American communications facilities and the possible need for uniform legislation in the several Republics with respect to communications.

In order to do the work, Mr. Rockefeller proposed the following organizational structure:

1. The interdepartmental committee: to consider all reports and make recommendations to the President.
2. Secretariat: to be provided by the Office of the Coordinator under the direction of Mr. Ford Stuebaker and a small staff of engineers, statisticians, and clerks.
3. Cooperation with other departments: to be accomplished by having each agency represented on the committee appoint an operating liaison man, familiar with communications, through whom all information can be secured. In this connection, it was explained that the F.C.C. and the D.C.B. have already designated Mr. Jett, the Navy Department has designated Mr. Wheeler and the War Department has designated Lt. Plummer.
4. Communications industry consulting groups: to secure information from the principal communication companies, each one of which would be asked to designate a representative for consultation. Mr. Rockefeller stated that R C A Communications has indicated that their Mr. Lloyd Briggs will be available for consultation by the committee and that other companies will make their appointments in the near future.

Admiral Hooper then summarized the work that has already been done by the Navy Department on a country-by-country basis and stated that this material is available for the committee. Mr. Edwards described the work that has been done by the Department of Commerce and indicated that the work that his Department will continue to do will, of course, be available to the committee.

Admiral Hooper proposed and the committee agreed that the Coordinator's Office should indicate at an early date precisely what information is to be requested from each agency in order to avoid duplication of effort. Mr. Jett requested that the committee be advised as to the order in which problems would be taken up by the committee. It was agreed that the first task of the committee should be to determine the extent of Axis ownership and control of communication facilities in the Hemisphere and the recommendation of action necessary to remove that ownership.

- 3 -

Mr. Jett suggested that in addition to the problems mentioned by Mr. Rockefeller, the committee should give consideration to the Government's policy with respect to direct communications between the American Republics. He explained, by way of example, that because of the high rates between Havana and Venezuela, consideration was being given in Cuba to the development of direct communication contact between Cuba and Venezuela.

Mr. Jett stated that another problem of immediate importance was presented by the need for priorities on essential equipment for communication systems in the other Republics. He stated that Mr. Donald Nelson had assured Mr. Fly that priority requests of essential equipment would be promptly considered by S.P.A.B.

October 30, 1941

Dear Nelson:

I have your letter of the 15th and will want very much to sit in on the meeting. In the event that I am held up I have asked David Bruce to attend.

Old Doering has been anxious to see you and I promised that I would try to get you for dinner. However, I find that you have been away.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

Mr. Nelson Rockefeller
Coordinator, Inter-American Affairs
Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 28, 1941

Dear Bill:

I have your letter of October eighteenth, stating that you will serve on the interdepartmental committee for the study of Hemisphere communications. I look forward to working with you in this important undertaking.

Since receipt of the President's letter recommending the study, we have investigated the information now available, considered the scope of the work in relation to that of the Defense Communications Board, and have planned a program of operations.

There will be a meeting of the committee in Room 5672 of the Commerce Department Building on Tuesday, November fourth, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be devoted to consideration of the following matters:

1. The purposes and objectives of the study.
2. Methods of operation.

A copy of the President's letter of September twenty-fourth is enclosed herewith.

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan,
Room 158,
Federal Trade Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

COPY

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

September 24, 1961

My dear Mr. Rockefeller:

I have considered carefully your recent proposal for an examination of the problem of communications in relation to our Hemisphere defense program and our long-term plan for carrying forward the Good Neighbor Policy. It is my feeling that this matter can be best handled at this time if you will assume the leadership in calling together representatives of the interested Government agencies to serve as an informal interdepartmental committee in giving joint study to the following:

1. The extent of existing facilities for communication by radio, cable, telephone, telegraph, and allied media in the American Republics.
2. The adequacy and the need for further development of such facilities in order to create a communication system designed to meet most effectively the needs of the Americas.
3. The policies which should govern the relationship of the Government toward a program designed to develop a more effective communication system among the American Republics.

Representation on your committee should be secured from the Department of State, the Department of Commerce, the Economic Defense Board, the Federal Loan Agency, the Defense Communications Board, and the Coordinator of Information. The Federal Communications Commission, which is represented on the Defense Communications Board, has for some time been studying international communication facilities and can undoubtedly provide much of the basic information required for the study. I am addressing a separate letter to Commissioner Fly to inform him of my interest in this matter and to request his cooperation.

I shall be happy to receive whatever recommendations for further action may arise from the deliberations of this committee.

Sincerely yours,

(S) Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable Nelson Rockefeller

Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Handwritten notes in top left corner.

Handwritten notes in top right corner.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 21, 1941

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your letter of the sixteenth concerning the Interdepartmental Committee on Hemisphere Communications. I am very glad indeed that you personally will serve on the committee.

I think the committee has an opportunity to render very valuable service which will not only have an important bearing on the Defense program but on our long term relations with the other American Republics as well.

With personal regards,

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan
Coordinator of Information
Federal Trade Commission
Washington, D. C.

October 18, 1941

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator of Inter-
American Affairs
Commerce Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

I have your letter of October 6, 1941, regarding the formation of an Inter-Departmental Committee to undertake an over-all study of communications with relation to our Hemisphere defense program, and asking us to assist in this work.

I will be most happy to serve upon this committee and will, of course, make available all facilities of this office.

Yours very truly,

William J. Donovan

TWOB/edj

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

To: Colonel Donovan

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 14, 1941

From: Turner McBaine

SUBJECT: The attached

You handed me the attached saying you would go on the committee.

The letter asks that you "name a representative to serve on the committee". I should think one of the radio men would make the best representative.

In view of current relations between you and the author of the letter, would you like to dictate the reply yourself?

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 6, 1941

Dear Colonel Donovan:

In response to a request from the President for an opinion with regard to a proposal affecting telephone and cable facilities, this Office some time ago recommended an overall study of communications in relation to our Hemisphere defense program. I have now received a letter from the President, a copy of which is enclosed, suggesting the formation of an informal interdepartmental committee to undertake a joint study of the questions raised.

The scope of the assignment has been discussed with Commissioner Fly, and we have been assured of the cooperation of the Federal Communications Commission and the Defense Communications Board.

I hope that the Office of the Coordinator of Information will assist in this work and that you will name a representative to serve on the committee.

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator

Colonel William J. Donovan
Coordinator of Information
Room 158, Federal Trade Commission
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

will go -

COPYTHE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 24, 1941

My dear Mr. Rockefeller:

I have considered carefully your recent proposal for an examination of the problem of communications in relation to our Hemisphere defense program and our long-term plan for carrying forward the Good Neighbor Policy. It is my feeling that this matter can be best handled at this time if you will assume the leadership in calling together representatives of the interested Government agencies to serve as an informal interdepartmental committee in giving joint study to the following:

1. The extent of existing facilities for communication by radio, cable, telephone, telegraph, and allied media in the American Republics.
2. The adequacy and the need for further development of such facilities in order to create a communication system designed to meet most effectively the needs of the Americas.
3. The policies which should govern the relationship of the Government toward a program designed to develop a more effective communication system among the American Republics.

Representation on your committee should be secured from the Department of State, the Department of Commerce, the Economic Defense Board, the Federal Loan Agency, the Defense Communications Board, and the Coordinator of Information. The Federal Communications Commission, which is represented on the Defense Communications Board, has for some time been studying international communication facilities and can undoubtedly provide much of the basic information required for the study. I am addressing a separate letter to Commissioner Fly to inform him of my interest in this matter and to request his cooperation.

I shall be happy to receive whatever recommendations for further action may arise from the deliberations of this committee.

Sincerely yours,

(S) Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable Nelson Rockefeller

Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

October 18, 1941

Dear Jimmy:

I enjoyed very much talking with you yesterday and am sending you herewith a memorandum summarizing the program which we agreed upon yesterday, designed to facilitate the carrying out of the responsibilities of our respective offices as clarified in the President's letter of October 15.

Your cooperation in connection with this situation is greatly appreciated, and I will look forward to meeting with you and Bill the first of next week after you have had a chance to go over the matter with him.

With personal regards,

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October 13, 1941

MEMORANDUM

To: Captain James Roosevelt

From: Nelson A. Rockefeller

Re: Arrangements for liaison between the Office of the Coordinator of Information and the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, as per the President's memorandum of October 15.

I. In order that we may effectively work out a program for the physical arrangements with the radio companies for the use of facilities, we agreed that a joint committee should be set up under the chairmanship of yourself and Wallace K. Harrison, Assistant Coordinator of this office, which would meet regularly once a week at a stated time and which should be presided over alternately by you and Mr. Harrison.

Mr. Don Francisco, Chairman of our Communications Division, and three assistants will represent our office on this committee, and it was your thought that Mr. Poynter and three assistants would represent your office. The committee will agree upon a program for:

- (1) the physical arrangements for the use of facilities
- (2) a time schedule for short-wave broadcasts.

As the plan is agreed upon, joint negotiations will be undertaken and conducted with the companies.

II. It will also be necessary to work out a plan by which our respective offices can exchange information for short-wave broadcasting and other purposes. We are designating Mr. Jamieson of our office to work this out in cooperation with your representatives who I understand will be Mr. Joseph Barnes and Mr. Irving Pflaum.

III. We will establish liaison between our respective strategy committees and between whatever other groups experience indicates is advisable in order to insure most effective implementation of the President's over-all objectives.

I am looking forward to the closest cooperation with Colonel Donovan, you and his entire organization and can assure you that the same applies to the rest of our organization.

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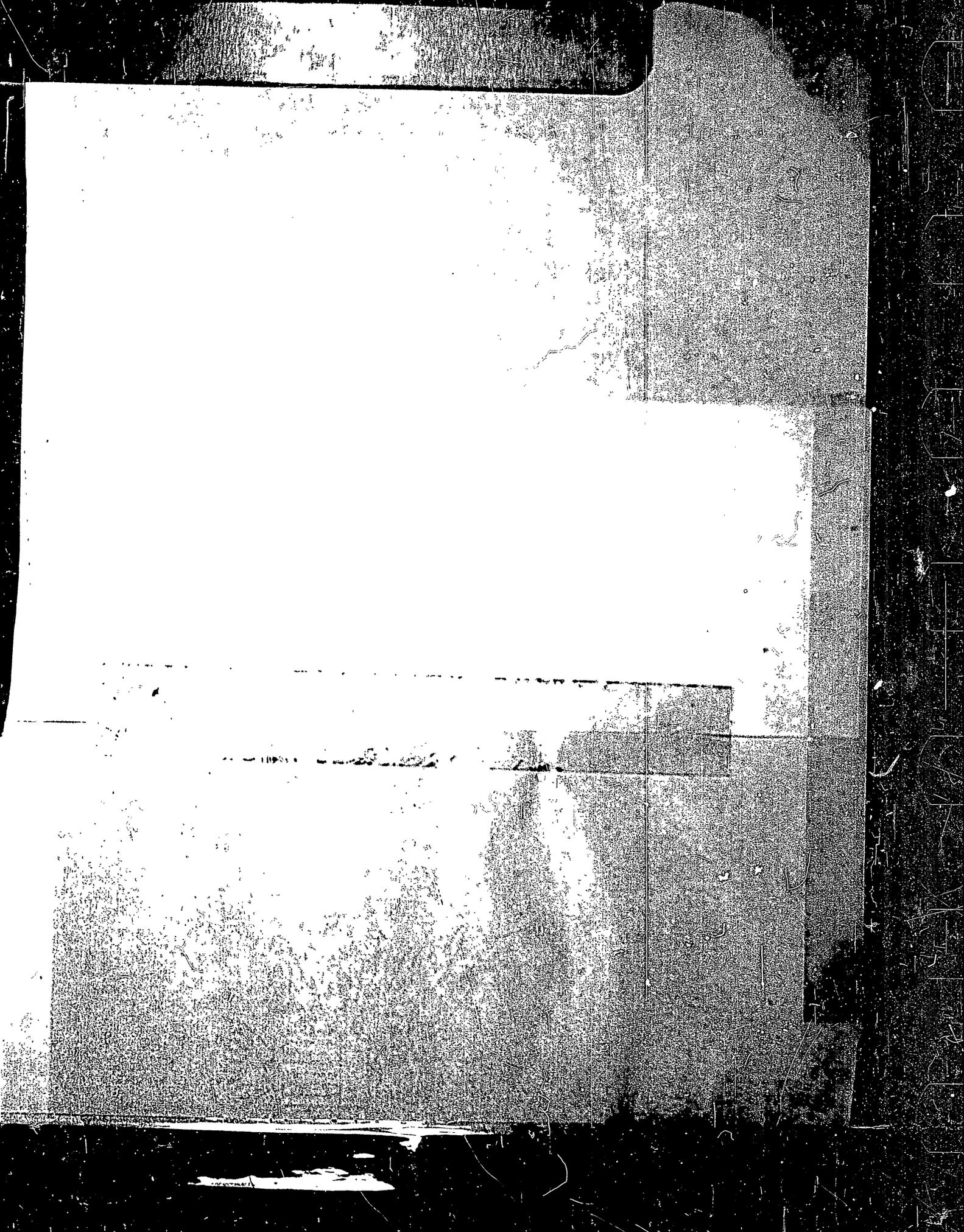
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