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June 17, 1944

To W.H. Shepardson
Director SI Branch
Washington, D.C.

From J.G. O'Connor
Colonel, O.D.

Subject : [REDACTED]

Letter 2A7

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1.- Since my cable of the 28th May and my letter of the 30th, the above has been interviewed on various subjects relating to [REDACTED] Japan and Russia. In addition to being a fruitful source of information [REDACTED] whose opinion is sought by important people here, he has now indicated a willingness to work with us toward establishment of an intelligence service into Tokio. You will also learn of him through the Navy Department to whom Captain Trammell, N.A. here, has cabled report.

2.- [REDACTED] first came to my attention while we were interviewing Petroff Chamakoff, the new Bulgarian Minister enroute to Tokio. By coincidence they arrived in Ankara at the same time, after several interviews we had with Chamakoff in Istanbul. When [REDACTED] arrived Istanbul I arranged for Rose to see him and determine whether he would cooperate. [REDACTED] and Rose were friends for many years [REDACTED] and very favorable contact has been established and is continuing.

3.- Simultaneously I was advised by Paprika that he was interviewing [REDACTED] whom he regards as a person of considerable importance. Paprika and I agreed to continue our contacts with [REDACTED] and to evaluate his reports and his opinions. Several of my conversations with Paprika took place while Trammell and I were visiting him; and during which visits procedure, policy and payment were discussed.

4.- Later, Trammell of his own accord and without informing me asked Rose to introduce him to [REDACTED] Trammell and I agreed with Paprika that we would not see [REDACTED] ourselves as a matter of security, until Paprika had further conversations with [REDACTED]

5.- Trammell yesterday proposed that we combine our efforts, and arrange our interviews and plans jointly so there would be no overlapping nor conflict. He offered to exchange copies of reports covering his interviews with [REDACTED] and I agreed to give him copies of my reports. Liaison here as well as in Washington on such an important project seems most logical in the general interest. Trammell is well established with the T.S.I., in fact better than we are, and is likely to remain here permanently. He is not always discreet. We agree that intelligence here concerning Japan should be known to the fewest people.

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6.- I give you the above background so that you will be au courant if subject is discussed with the Navy. Trammell and I will jointly use the code-name Star, and duplicates of our reports will be sent by the other to avoid false confirmation. I have been financing source and his sub-sources [redacted] and am now arrangeing for despatch of money to his people in Tokyo for future needs. Trammell is not advancing [redacted] any money, and I do not believe he is authorised to spend any funds for intelligence toward Japan.

7.- To establish friendly relations with Trammell, who is an old-school senior naval officer, has required much selling effort on my part. He is very methodical, very determined to accomplish his purpose even to the extend of being overly strong-willed. He is not friendly to our staff here whom he regards as mediocre and indiscreet, and in respect to arrangements concerning Japan he does not wish to liaison with other than me. Trammell wishes to establish himself here and in Washington as a top-level attache, and will even scoop us, or report his side of an arrangement to his own people as being mainly a Navy achievement. He has not always given me the true story of his plans and intentions, However I am disposed to work with him because of the general interest and the importance I attach to this place for promoting Japan intelligence. Whoever eventually takes over this work here must be capable of friendly liaison with Trammell, be of nearly corresponding rank, have knowledge of the Far East, and should have command of French. Trammell was Navy intelligence officer in Japan and China for several years during an earlier tour of sea duty. Generally he and I have about the same qualifications, experience and rank, and are particularly intent on discreet accomplishing ASJAP projects. The chance of doing a good job is 50% dependent on how discreet we maintain our purpose and our operations, as the Japanese staff here are quite formidable. In fact Matsuhara, Jap N.A. is one of their top intelligence officers, and is referred to by TOKYO on all matters pertaining to this part of the world. He is in charge of all intelligence in the Balkans, Turkey, Iran, Iraq and intermediate zones.