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DATE: MAR 2008

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INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

Meeting of  
September 4, 1942

PRESENT:

<u>Office of Strategic Services</u>	Walter Dorn
<u>Office of War Information</u>	Harry Krould
<u>Library of Congress</u>	John Moriarty
<u>Department of State</u>	E. Wilder Spaulding
<u>Department of Agriculture</u>	Ralph Shaw
<u>Department of Commerce</u>	Louis Demeratsky
<u>Board of Economic Warfare</u>	Richard Sanger
<u>Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs</u>	Mr. Dudley Mr. Hastings
<u>Treasury Department</u>	Mr. Wood
<u>War Department</u>	Col. Hohenthal Major Randal
<u>Executive Secretary, Inter-departmental Committee</u>	Frederick G. Kilgour

The Executive Secretary was acting chairman in Dr. Langer's absence.

Colonel Hohenthal from G-2 explained the attitude of G-2 towards the Interdepartmental Committee and its work. Colonel Hohenthal stated that publications from enemy and enemy occupied countries are of real value to G-2 and that the microfilm had already proved to be of value. He added that the material would be of much greater value if it could be made available within a week after the date of publication.

G-2 has an additional interest in the Committee's work in that G-2 could make advantageous use of the Committee's microfilming services established abroad to effect the rapid transmission to Washington of

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secret reports. In connection with this work it would be necessary to maintain absolute security and in the ensuing discussion it appeared that the Committee members were ready to do everything possible to cooperate with military and naval attaches in maintaining and facilitating security.

Since Captain Hinkle had left Washington no regular representative from the Navy had succeeded him on the Committee. Therefore the Committee asked the Executive Secretary to write to General Roger A. Evans, the chief of M.I. 6, to ask him if he would care to appoint a regular committee member from his staff.

The Executive Secretary read a letter from Captain Dudley W. Knox in which Captain Knox had expressed the desire on the part of the Navy to have a secret intelligence organization made up of a small important group of members. The Committee discussed this matter and most of the members stated that such organizations would be of no value to them; a few members felt that they might be of limited value. Dr. Wolf moved that the Committee appoint a sub-committee to investigate the problem of producing such organizations and the use of them and to present its findings to the Committee. This motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The Executive Secretary passed around the arrangements of certain pages which the Committee had asked him to produce. In the discussion of this procedure that followed, it was clear that the Committee felt that the procedure would not be sufficiently worthwhile to pursue the matter further.

The Executive Secretary reported on the status of the foreign parts