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June 24 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, SITUATION AND PLANNING BRANCH:

Subject: Information from Radio Sources Other Than
the Federal Communications.

EASTERN EUROPE

Russia

The German military now occupying the Russian city of Kerch appear to be operating the former Russian wireless channels of that city under their original calls, UKG-2 and UKG-3, both of which have been observed calling DLS, Berlin. UKG-3 was heard transmitting five-letter groups.

Times and frequencies have been recorded on both. The German operators were inexperienced, and the signal tone very rough, indicating that the original transmitter was probably destroyed by the Russians.

Finland

Last week direct radio traffic between Italy and Finland were heard, much of it in the clear in German and Italian. From both the increase and nature of the traffic and some of the content in the clear text, it would appear that some Italian troops are operating in Finland.

SOUTHERN EUROPE

Turkey

The German Gestapo circuits from Turkey to Hamburg have been terrifically active. The frequency of two main circuits are recorded, together with one rather permanent time schedule.

FAR EAST

Japan

Frequencies, hours, dates, call letters, etc., have been noted with regard to the various Japanese traffic, particularly that from Station CEA2, Santiago, Chile. Generally, this traffic is Japanese diplomatic going to and from the Foreign Office and the Embassies, Japanese military (War Department and Attaches) and Japanese Naval (Navy Department and Attaches). Consular and other types of messages have been heard clearly on many frequencies and times from some one hundred points in Japan, China and the Dutch East Indies. Most of the traffic has been in five Roman letter groups and in numeral groups sent in Japanese short signals. Some Japanese front line messages in Kana have been heard and their frequencies and hours, etc., noted.

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INDIA

Afghanistan

Considerable increase in traffic has been observed between Station DFC, Berlin and TAX, Kabul, Afghanistan, with "rush" traffick. It would seem worth while under the circumstances to watch well be connected with possible impending thrusts of the Axis in Egypt and beyond and the prospect of some future possible drives of the Japanese India-ward.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

South America

At the moment there is a great amount of caution by Gestapo agents in the Western Hemisphere. However, some twelve Gestapo circuits have been heard, most of them with changing calls but with MNT, JOH, and BA7 frequently occurring. Frequencies have been recorded, but there is considerable change as to time schedules.

Chile

Since the entrance of the United States into the war, Santiago, Chile, appears to have become the channel through which the bulk of communications from the Western Hemisphere has been and is being transmitted to Japan. On the day we declared war, a message was intercepted going from Mexico City to Tokio, a message in Spanish from the Japanese Ambassador to the Japanese Foreign Office, in which the Ambassador stated that the Mexican Government would permit the transmission of radiograms only in the clear - in Spanish or English. This situation would appear to have caused the Japanese Government to turn elsewhere for an outlet unrestricted in this regard.

Within a few days, Santiago, Chile became very active on its short-wave circuits linking Tokio.

This development was reported by the radio source involved to a government official presumably competent to initiate the necessary action.

The Atlantic and the Caribbean

The German Transoceanic News Service's daily transmission over short-wave wireless telegraph station DLF, Berlin, has made a significant departure from its routine by interspersing Nazi government secret messages, comprised of five-number groups.

The press sequence is interrupted by a call WESER/DONAU WESER/DonAU WESER/DONAU and then messages of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty groups are sent. It has been learned from a reliable source that these words were used by the German Government in 1917 and 1918 to designate encoded and enciphered messages transmitted to German submarines. It will be recalled as having been noted in the FCC reports that directions and information have been broadcast on "voice" radio, apparently intended for submarines in the Atlantic and Caribbean. It would also appear likely that the cryptograms hidden in press traffic are also intended for submarines.