

WASHINGTON, D. C.
OFFICE OF SURVEILLANCE SERVICES

CENSORSHIP
Roll #31

CENSORSHIP
Roll #31

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF SECURITY

WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF SPECIAL AGENTS

CENSORSHIP
Roll #31

Date 30 Nov. 1945

GENERAL HUXTON

The attached letter from Mr. Byron Price would not seem to call for an answer, since it is an acknowledgement of our letter of November 24, a copy of which is attached.

C. A. Bane
C. A. Bane

Director of the Secretariat

OSS FORM 4001a

Date 19 NOV 43

To: Colonel Forster

permitted to examine the files of the department before he was given permission to examine the files."

I think what Mr. Price is driving at is that even though we confine our facilities to approved departments, we should only make them available to those in that department for whom a responsible official, designated for the purpose, is willing to vouch. It is not enough that we identify the man, and check to see that he is actually with an approved agency.

From our point of view, the device Mr. Price suggests would be useful, since it places part of the responsibility where it belongs and assures that the men who look at our files have a legitimate interest.

RT
Robert Thrun

Classified by 12910
CONFIDENTIAL

X *by*
v *...*
November 24, 1943
(Resub)

Mr. Byron Price
Director, Office of Censorship
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

Referring to your letter of October 23, 1943, to General Donovan regarding the use of the censorship material in the OSS Index, I appreciate the points which concern you but feel that the way in which it is operated and the controls which are placed about its use are adequate.

In the first place, I can reassure you on one point, that is, that the special counter-captions material which OSS is authorized to receive is handled entirely separately from the material which enters into the Index and is only handled by the limited number of people who are engaged in work of that nature.

Representatives of the following agencies are at present consulting the Index:

- War Department
- Justice Department
- Office of War Information
- Office of Economic Warfare

It appears likely that the Treasury Department, State Department and Commerce Department will also begin to consult it shortly. These agencies originally approached us with regard to using the Index at the suggestion of the Office of Censorship. I believe that all these agencies are authorized to receive censorship material.

The Army and Navy Munitions Board has consulted the Index. It is of course not specifically authorized to receive censorship material, being a joint board belonging to both Services. It does, however, receive censorship material through the Army and Navy. This is the only agency using the Index which did not come to us at the suggestion of your office, but as a result of contact with some of the officers here.

The representatives of these various agencies come adequately identified and proper steps are taken to confirm

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CONFIDENTIAL

their connection with these agencies.

Representatives of the agencies consult the material in the Index but do not receive any copies from this office. They may, however, take note of the numbers of certain submissions in which they are interested and request them from your Office in the usual manner. We of course do not control what use is made of such censorship material by these agencies.

Mr. Chapman of your staff has made a careful survey of our present operation and is familiar with the procedure in existence which I have outlined above. I hope that this explanation will resolve any doubts which you may have regarding this operation. Unless you have views to the contrary we will continue along present lines. Please let me know how you feel about this.

Sincerely,

G. Edward Buxton
Acting Director

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Lt. Comdr. Morgan

Mrs. Tchitcherine

JMF

November 12, 1945

1. During the course of a meeting held at the Office of Censorship yesterday, at which the heads of examination sections of all stations and heads of training were present, Lieut. Koop, assistant to Mr. Byron Price, Director of Censorship, took the opportunity to explain to the group the subject matter file, kept by OSS, of censorship material and further stated that, some months back, Censorship themselves had considered maintaining such a file but had decided that OSS was doing such a magnificent job that it would be unnecessary for them to do it and that, therefore, they had recommended and would recommend to certain agencies that they should make use of the OSS subject matter censorship file. Since there has been some controversy about the use of censorship material on file in OSS on the part of Mr. Price's office, the foregoing report is submitted for the record.

FHT/so

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Censorship, office 12, 910

DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON - 25

*x Index
x distribution
x Intercept*

October 23, 1943.

Stam prof. reply

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director, Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

I have been somewhat dubious about the wisdom of making the OSS Censorship Index so freely available to governmental departments. It is axiomatic that the oftener confidential information is passed along, the less confidential it becomes. I am sorry to say that at the present moment we are investigating three cases where copies of intercepts unquestionably were shown to private citizens by Government officials in absolute disregard of their responsibilities. I hasten to add that your agency was no way involved in any of these discretions, but just the same such developments compel me to look with special skepticism upon any plan for widening access to Censorship material.

Commander Morgan has had several discussions of your present operation with Lieutenant Koop, Mr. Chapman and others of our staff. On the basis of the assurances he has given, I am willing to go along with your arrangement although I do so somewhat hesitantly. I do suggest that the greatest care be taken not to include counter-espionage information in the material thus made available and that the most rigid system of control be set up under which any representative of another department would have to be certified to you by some particular official of that department before he was given permission to examine the files. In other words, I believe it is to your interest as well as my own to see that departmental personnel is not given the run of this material generally or promiscuously.

May I hear from you on this subject?

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OSS FORM

Date 30 Nov. 1943

To: LT. COMDR. MORGAN

*HSM, per
S.E.*

You will be interested in the attached reply from Mr. Byron Price to our letter of November 24 on the security of censorship material. This letter of November 27, 1943 does not seem to call for a further reply.

Will you return the letter to me for our files when you have finished with it?

C. A. Bane

C. A. Bane

*1.1.1.1
1.1.1.1*

Office of the Secretariat

(9139)

Recording Office of P. 910

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON - 25

*J. [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]*

November 27, 1943.

Mr. G. Edward Burton,
Acting Director,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Burton:

I appreciate your letter of November 24 outlining the precautions taken to safeguard the security of censorship material in the Office of Strategic Services Index.

May I suggest that at intervals you have the operations of this unit checked to make sure that the natural tendency toward laxity does not develop.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price

Byron Price,
Director.

12, 7, 41

Censor, Bureau

X Post War X Activities

SECRETARIAT

22 August 1945

1945 AUG 22 PM 6 12

4.
OSS

Mr. Byron Price, Director
U. S. Office of Censorship
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

In your letter of 17 August addressed to General Donovan, you expressed the hope that the censor materials in the files of this Agency can be destroyed.

As you know, the material which they have received from you is arranged in an index, controlled by punch cards, and the back files are in active use by various Branches of the organization. Furthermore, additional material is still being received and presumably will be for some time to come, whether from your office or from the War Department or some other agency. It would be a serious loss to destroy this collection at the present time, and of course it's impossible to make any promises as to the future.

There is, however, one aspect of this index which you may wish to consider. You will remember that with your permission certain of the agencies of the Government have had access to this index. It occurs to me that you may wish to withdraw that permission in view of the winding up of your office. From our point of view these other agencies who use the material can easily be taken care of, so that it is entirely a question of what instructions you wish to give us on this point.

Yours very truly,

H. S. Morgan
Commander, U.S.N.R.

cc: Lt. Putzell ✓

→
RS

12,741
Gen. William J. Donovan
x Post war x October

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON 25

August 22, 1945.

BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR



Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan,
Director of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

Your good words mean a great deal to me and I want to thank you sincerely for the personal note of August 20. So many people helped, including you, that I don't think any one person is entitled to the credit. Just the same it is nice having such expressions from old friends.

Let me take this occasion to do what I certainly would not have left Washington without doing, that is, express personal thanks and appreciation to you for your many kindnesses. You made the going much easier.

With regards and best wishes always,

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

12.741

Censorship Bur.
x Post War
x activities

20 August 1945

Mr. Byron Price, Director
The Office of Censorship
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Price:

I have your letter of August 26th and I am preparing a report to send to you on the results which have been obtained through the use of your material.

This is a personal note to you, however, to tell you how greatly I appreciate the attitude of helpfulness that you and your group have always had toward our requests. It has been a very heartening thing to work with you and your associates. I am sure that it has resulted in a benefit to our country.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

copy to Ed. Hogan

12, 1945

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON - 25

August 17, 1945.

William F. Donovan,

Services,

William F. Donovan:

With the capitulation of Japan, the mission of the Office has been completed and this Agency is being demobilized as swiftly as possible. We have ceased our censoring operations, by authorization of the War Department. This of course means that we are no longer reporting intercepted

I cannot say precisely how long other United Nations censorship groups will continue in operation, but we will pass on to you any intercepted information from such censorship groups for the next 30 days, when that information appears of interest to your Agency. At the end of the 30-day period, our whole allocation machinery will be disbanded. I have asked the War Department to allocate directly to your Agency any intercepted information developed by their censorship groups in occupied territory abroad, and the War Department is now considering whether it can also allocate to other agencies information developed by whatever civilian censorship groups are operating a month from now.

I believe that some of the material you have been getting from us has materially helped in the prosecution of the war, and for historical purposes I should appreciate it if you would send me a brief report of any outstanding results which have been obtained through the use of this material.

We soon will send to the Archives a microfilm of the censorship submissions which we have prepared. The file of course will have a confidential classification, and I am anxious that all possible additional copies of submissions be destroyed. Will you please have the files of your Agency checked and let me know whether the censorship material in your possession can be destroyed or returned to us for destruction?

You and your staff have been most cooperative, and I want to express the thanks of all those in this Office with whom you have dealt.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

Censorship, Office of 12. 741
 x Post War -
 x Activities

November 19, 1944

Mr. Byron Price
 Director, Office of Censorship
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

With reference to your letter of October 8 and General Donovan's reply of October 14 regarding the further activities of Censorship after one or both of our enemies surrenders, Lt. Comdr. Morgan has reported his conversation with Lt. Col. Harold R. Shaw, regarding your views on the matter.

I understand that there is to be a meeting of the Censorship Policy Board on Saturday and that you asked Col. Shaw to convey to us the broad outlines of your plans which you anticipate presenting to the Board, so that we would fully understand your views and that we should have an opportunity to give you whatever comment we might wish to before the meeting.

The first phase you are contemplating would be after hostilities have ceased in Europe but while they are still continuing in the Far East. In that event you contemplate a relaxation of the press and radio broadcasting controls within adequate limitations of security. On this point I do not believe we have any helpful comment. Your next plan is to reduce the scope of Censorship in the area surrounding the Atlantic Ocean, having due regard for a maintenance of adequate security control, but greatly reducing or eliminating entirely the providing of the other types of information which Censorship is now giving to the various Agencies of Government.

As General Donovan pointed out in his letter, we believe that it is important that the full scope of Censorship be maintained at least until all major hostilities have ceased. The relationship between a defeated Germany and a Japan still

at war will be of vital interest to the United Nations. It is obvious that Censorship must adequately perform its function in the security field. Furthermore, it will be essential that the Agencies of Government continue to receive the other categories of information now supplied by Censorship. I believe that any reduction in the scope of Censorship will have to be made in the light of circumstances which will exist at the time and which can not now be clearly foreseen, and I hope that no decisions will be made at this time which will preclude the Agencies from receiving information which they may find it essential to have under the then existing circumstances.

With respect to what the situation will be after the cessation of all hostilities, I understand that you have it in mind, that during the period between the cessation of hostilities and the final conclusion of peace, that Censorship would cease to function entirely. It is almost impossible to comment on this latter eventuality because the circumstances existing during such a period can not now be envisaged. There are many possibilities as to the shape which events may take, and again I believe that careful consideration will have to be given the matter when events can be foreseen to some extent. I do agree, however, that during such a period any functions of Censorship would normally be on the security side and that it will not be logical to expect that the other types of information will be supplied.

As this office is not represented on the Censorship Policy Board, I shall be grateful if you will advise me of any recommendations which the Board may make and of further developments in your planning.

Sincerely,

G. Edward Buxton
Acting Director

Censorship Bureau 9 - - 12, 741
 X Post-War
 X Activities

October 14, 1943

Mr. Byron Price
 Director, Office of Censorship
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

I have read with interest your letter of October 8, 1943. Censorship is one of the important sources of information available to the Intelligence Agencies of the Government. After the cessation of hostilities, such Agencies will have to fall back on their other sources of information, recognizing that Censorship is purely a wartime activity which will presumably terminate at that time. Your letter, however, suggests that the scope of Censorship should be materially reduced in the event that hostilities with Germany terminate before Japan is defeated.

This office believes that it is important that the full scope of Censorship be maintained at least until all major hostilities have ceased. The relationship between a defeated Germany and a Japan still at war will be of vital interest to the United Nations. Furthermore, it is a well-known fact that the Japanese have been depending to a large extent on the existing German intelligence network for a great deal of their information. It is probable that after an armistice with Germany has been signed many of their agents will still continue to operate in the interests of Japan. I hope, therefore, that the Intelligence Agencies will be consulted before any steps are taken to reduce the areas of communications covered by Censorship.

Your letter raises the question of what changes there will be in our requirements from Censorship in the event that hostilities with Germany terminate before the defeat of Japan, on the assumption that the scope of Censorship will be reduced under those circumstances.

It is impossible to answer this question categorically. During such an interim the chain of Censorship stations will presumably be readjusted so as to intercept only communications to or from Japan or Japanese-occupied territory. It does not, however, follow that we shall only be interested in information originating within Japan. Areas if communications which contain other matters of interest to us pass through a Censorship station and are thus picked up and made available.

- 2 -

On October 1st we supplied your office with a Revised Subject Matter Guide of our interests in censorship material. As far as can be foreseen, we shall continue to be interested in material falling within these categories even if the area of communications covered by Censorship is greatly reduced.

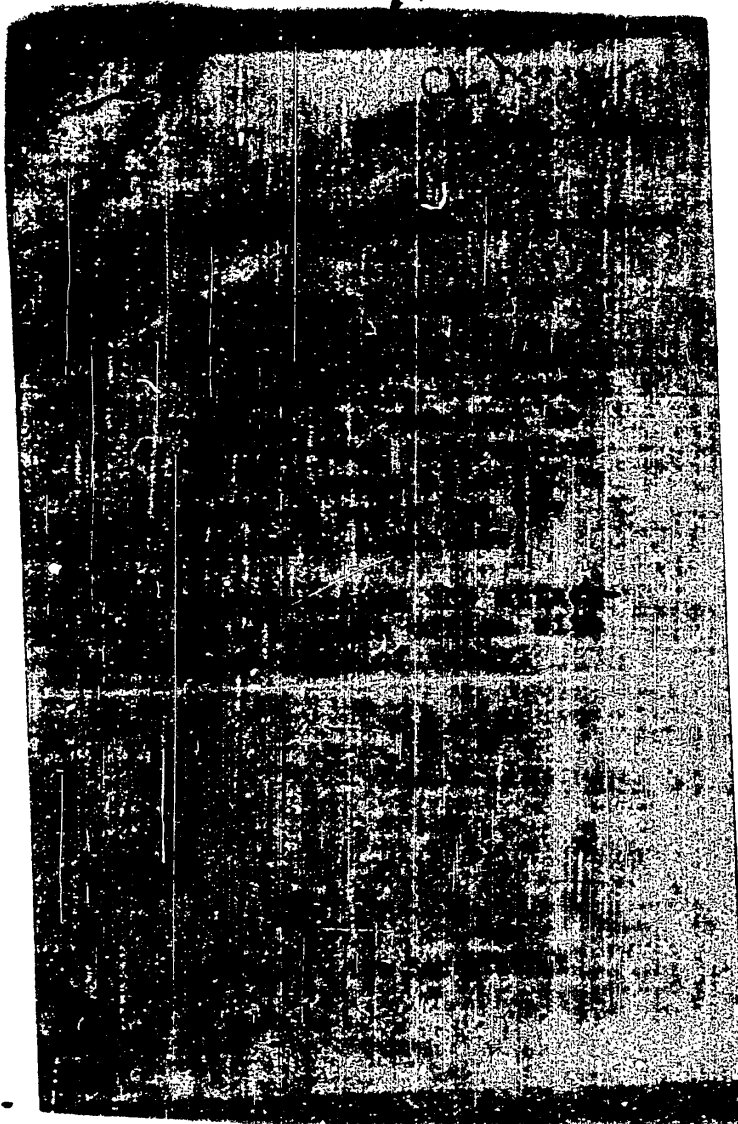
I shall be interested to hear further from you as these questions develop.

Yours sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

Foreign

SECRET



Censorship, Bureau # 12, 741
x Post-War
x Activities

DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON - 25

October 8, 1943.

Chief of Staff General William J. Donovan,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

I am informed that numerous agencies of the Government are making plans not only for the later stages of the war, but for the period following and that in some instances execution of those plans is dependent in some degree upon information provided by Censorship. It is appropriate, therefore, that a clear understanding be established regarding the limitations and future possibilities of Censorship.

The statute authorizing censorship of international communications expires automatically with the end of the war. Technically, it would be necessary to continue censoring these communications until the peace had been made. Actually, however, the entire operation seems likely to lose much of its effectiveness, and perhaps be abandoned, soon after hostilities have ended by an armistice with the last remaining enemy. I think it is doubtful whether Congress would continue to provide funds for censorship on the present scale after the danger to American life had ended. Furthermore, there would be reason to expect that a revulsion of popular sentiment would make effective censorship extremely difficult. I mention this now so that no misunderstanding will arise on the subject hereafter.

Of nearer concern, however, is the status of Censorship during the period after the collapse of Germany and before the defeat of Japan. During that interim our efforts will be concentrated on the blockading of communications to and from Japan and Japanese occupied territory, and it will be necessary to curtail the present supply of world-wide material supplied by this office. Whether the event is near or far, it is not too soon to make preparations.

I ask, therefore, that your staff make a study of the classes of information Censorship now is furnishing you and that you advise me at your earliest convenience what categories of subject matter you can dispense with upon the termination of hostilities with Germany.

Sincerely yours,
Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

Censorship, Bureau of 12, 141
x Post-War
x Anticipation

DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON - 25

October 8, 1943.

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director, Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

I am informed that numerous agencies of the Government are making their plans not only for the later stages of the war, but for the period immediately following and that in some instances execution of those plans would be dependent in some degree upon information provided by Censorship. It seems appropriate, therefore, that a clear understanding be established at this time regarding the limitations and future possibilities of Censorship operations.

The statute authorizing censorship of international communications expires automatically with the end of the war. Technically, it would be possible to continue censoring these communications until the peace had been ratified. Actually, however, the entire operation seems likely to lose much of its effectiveness, and perhaps be abandoned, soon after hostilities have been ended by an armistice with the last remaining enemy. I think it is doubtful whether Congress would continue to provide funds for censorship on the present scale after the danger to American life had ended. Furthermore, there would be reason to expect that a revulsion of popular sentiment would make effective censorship extremely difficult. I mention this now so that no misunderstanding will arise on the subject hereafter.

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I ask, therefore, that your staff make a study of the classes of information Censorship now is furnishing you and that you advise me at your earliest convenience what categories of subject matter you can dispense with upon the termination of hostilities with Germany.

Sincerely yours,



Byron Price,
Director.

OSS FORM 4001a

SECRET

31 March 1944

To: General Donovan

Photostatic copies of the attached
have been sent to Major Pfaff,
Mr. Horace Peters and Commander
William H. Vanderbilt.

W
C. A. Bane

C. A. Bane.

Office of the Secretariat

SECRET

(9139)

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*Censorship Office of 12, 441A
& San Francisco Office*

**THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON - 25**

P. E. out.

**BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR**

March 28, 1944.

**Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director, Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.**

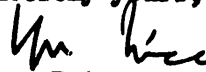
Dear General Donovan:

The San Francisco Conference for Censorship executives, to which you were kind enough to assign several of your officers, has been successfully concluded. I wish to thank you for your aid and cooperation and hope that the results will prove mutually beneficial.

The participation of Major Roger Pfaff in the Conference was most helpful, and the presence of Mr. Horace Peters and Commander Vanderbilt added greatly to the progress of the meetings.

A digest of the proceedings of the Conference is in preparation and will be forwarded for your information within the near future.

Sincerely yours,



**Byron Price,
Director.**

APR 11 1944

SECRET

Censorship Office 7-12, 441

X Miami Conference

CONFIDENTIAL

Sent
August 4, 1943

Mr. Byron Price
Director, Office of Censorship
Apex Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

Thank you for your letter of August 31. The representatives of the Office of Strategic Services who attended the Miami conference expressed themselves on their return in a most enthusiastic manner regarding the importance of the conference and its value to them in their work. I am most appreciative of the opportunity you gave us to attend, and I am sure that one of the results will be an even closer cooperation between our two offices than heretofore.

I look forward with the greatest interest to receiving the digest of the conference which you say will be available shortly.

With renewed thanks, I am

Yours very truly,

William J. Donovan
Director

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON - 25

*1943
Censorship Office
Miami Conference*

August 31, 1943.

*To Gen. Maguire
Has your
preparation on
anonym D*

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

It was a particular pleasure for me to welcome the representatives of your office who attended the Miami Conference from the 16th through the 24th of August. Their contributions to the program and participation in the discussions were constructive and most helpful to us.

Your representatives no doubt have advised you of the general progress and scope of the sessions. In addition, we plan to send you in the near future copies of a short digest of each subject discussed for such distribution within your organization as you may wish to make. No stenographic transcription of the proceedings was made, and the distribution of the digests will be limited under a careful security control.

The chief accomplishment of the Conference, to my mind, was in the opportunity for leaders and technicians in the field of counter-espionage to compare their problems and to consider plans for unified progress toward a common goal. We appreciated also an opportunity to present various means by which Censorship is able and eager to be of service to your organization.

I hope strongly that the Miami Conference will prove to be a keystone in building a closer relationship between our organizations and in improving the contribution which the Office of Censorship desires to make in this field.

Thank you for the very great help which you and your office have given us.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price

Byron Price,
Director.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL*Censorship Dept*
x intercepts
*x allocation***DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON - 25**

August 26, 1943.

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

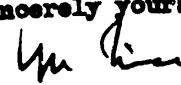
I am fully in accord with the statements in your letter of August 23 that more Censorship intercepts from Allied nations would be valuable. I am glad to tell you that we have recently taken steps to increase the flow of submissions, and I believe the results will soon become evident.

As you know we have augmented our staff in London, with the result that we are obtaining faster and more thorough allocation of submissions passing through British Censorship there. Negotiations are under way whereby South African Censorship will send submissions directly to Washington and we are endeavoring to obtain similar service from Australia. In answer to our inquiry I received a letter yesterday from our London office saying that there is hope of receiving more material from India although it is probable that this information will have to come by way of London. Our liaison officer with French Censorship in North Africa will reach his post this week. United States Military Censorship in the Middle East is proving of tremendous help in furnishing detailed submissions from that area.

I cite these instances to show you that we are constantly seeking to broaden our sources of information. If you have any further suggestions I shall be delighted to receive them for I know that the Office of Strategic Services makes good use of the intercepts which we furnish. I should like to tell you also that your staff is providing us with valuable reports and other material which greatly facilitate the work of our censors.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,


Byron Price,
Director.**CONFIDENTIAL**

12,345

August 23, 1943

Mr. Byron Price
Director, Office of Censorship
Apex Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Byron:

Our censorship staff, which endeavors to keep abreast of the world-wide picture insofar as American and Allied censorships are concerned, has invited my attention to the steady development of closer liaison between the Office of Censorship and various Allied censorships. We have particularly noted the increase in the flow of intercepts from Latin American countries which have instituted censorship.

We are even more keenly interested in the further flow of material from Allied censorship stations in Europe, Africa and Asia. Although our London office maintains excellent relations with Imperial Censorship at London, the purpose of such liaison is to satisfy local Office of Strategic Services needs, and we in Washington are dependent upon the Office of Censorship for the bulk of material developed by British sources. We are now wondering if there might not be advantages in increasing this flow of information from British sources. The Office of Strategic Services in Washington would welcome additional material from Imperial Censorship headquarters in London as well as from the various Allied stations in the Middle East, South Africa and India.

Should ways and means of increasing this flow of information be devised, may we suggest that consideration be given to the question of direct allocation from the field to the Office of Censorship in Washington wherever possible. Except in cases where indirect routing, via London is necessary because of inadequate processing facilities, the advantages of direct allocation would appear to be tremendous.

Let me reiterate the appreciation of our censorship

CONFIDENTIAL

staff for the cooperation given to the Office of Strategic Services by your organization. The importance of censorship material is fully recognized here, and the wealth of censorship information made available to us through the Office of Censorship is of real assistance in the conduct of our mission.

With every good wish, I remain

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

Handwritten notes:
has been by
of all
of the

CONFIDENTIAL

Censorship Office
x Daily Report
x Forgan

June 19, 1943

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Byron Price
Director
The Office of Censorship
Washington, D. C.

My dear Byron:

✓
Thank you very much for your letter of June 17 enclosing copy of Censorship Report No. 7000. I am very glad to have this.

I want to thank you also for your whole spirit of helpfulness. With only a few more fellows like you we could win this war pretty easily.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

CONFIDENTIAL

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON - 25

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION

June 17, 1941.

~~STRICTLY PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.~~

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

I am glad to enclose, in response to your letter of June 10, a copy of General's Daily Reports No. 7000. I know you understand that this is one of a very small number of copies we have ever permitted to go outside Censorship.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

Enclosure.

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: _____

This report has been seen by Col. Forgan. It has a very limited dissemination. It has to do with various illegal and subversive activities of groups attempting to bring refugees into this country. It contains the case history of certain individuals which would be helpful to us.

EP

Director's Office

(3308)

Censorship, Off
x Daily Report No
x Forgan, R. C.

June 10, 1948

Mr. Byron Price, Director
Office of Censorship
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Price:

If possible, I would like very much to receive a copy of your Daily Report No. 7000. The subject matter of this document is of a keen interest to this office.

We are making progress in setting up an organization to handle Censorship material, and I feel confident that the arrangements we have made with your staff will be of great value to us.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

JRP:mm

June 10, 1943

Mr. Byron Price, Director
Office of Censorship
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Price:

If possible, I would like very much to receive a copy of your Daily Report No. 7000. The subject matter of this document is of a keen interest to this office.

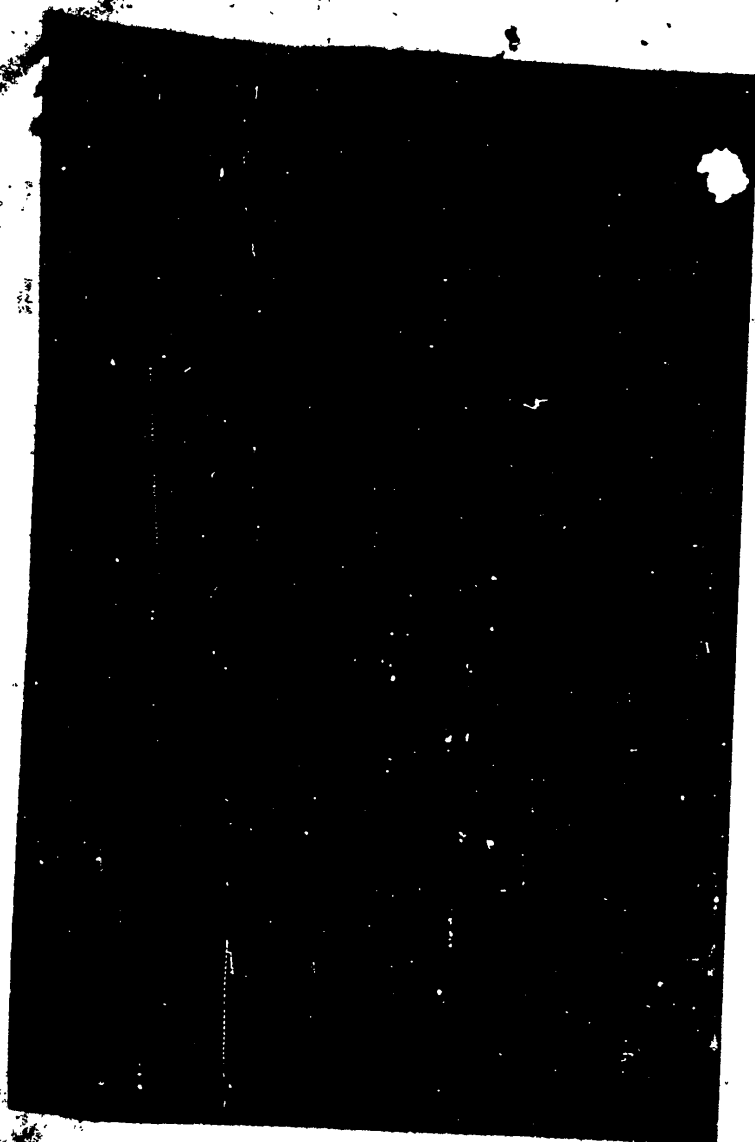
We are making progress in setting up an organization to handle censorship material, and I feel confident that the arrangements we have made with your staff will be of great value to us.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

JWP:mas

OFFICE THE STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.



OFFICE OF STATISTICAL SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

11,559

Telephone conversation today, Aug. 4th,
with Capt. Fenn, Censorship

Executive 3800 - Extension 200

Captain Fenn stated that an arrangement
had been made between General Donovan
and Captain Fenn to supply certain
uncoded traffic received over their
facilities.

If our office has no use for it he
would like to discontinue sending it.

If it is being used he is perfectly
agreeable to send it along.

Colonel Buxton said he would discuss
it with General Donovan on his return
and advise Captain Fenn accordingly.

8/7 Col.

*Give to Major Doring
to take care of*

*8/7 called Capt Fenn - not in
office today*

Censorship Office 112539
17.16
11/17/43
Co. 112539

CONFIDENTIAL

May 25, 1943

Captain H. K. Fenn
The Office of Censorship
The Chief Cable Center
Washington, D. C.

My dear Captain Fenn:

I enclose copy of a letter I received
from General Deane together with a memorandum
from General Smith, Chief of Staff, Allied
Force, bearing upon your memorandum to me
concerning censorship in Africa.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON


THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

22 May 1943.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bill,

I missed seeing you or hearing from you during the past week. I assume it is because you realize that I am in a continuous tailspin during this conference and have therefore kindly refrained from sending over any O.S.S. problems. I can't tell you how grateful I am for your thoughtfulness.



DEANE

CONFIDENTIAL

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

Censorship, Off of 11,559
X - Feun, Capt - H. L.
X - Africa
X - State Dep
X - Control

22 May 1943.

CONFIDENTIAL

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director of Strategic Services,
2211 and E Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

I referred your memorandum of 19 May, regarding the Office of Censorship, to General Smith who was here at the time. Attached hereto are his comments on the letter which you received from Mr. Feun.

It is my personal opinion that at the time Amisla or other parts of Africa are returned to full control of the civil authorities the State Department will have the guiding hand in determining how censorship should be handled.

Sincerely yours,

W. R. Deane
JOHN R. DEANE,
Secretary.

enc 1.
To Gen. Donovan, W. J. Donovan
To Gen. Deane, 21 May 1943.



CONFIDENTIAL

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

21 May 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL DEANE:

Subject: Censorship.

Enclosure: Memo from Director of Strategic Services
to Joint Chiefs of Staff.

My comments on a memorandum from the Office of Censorship are as follows:

Reference paragraph 2.

It is General Eisenhower's policy to turn over to the civil authorities as rapidly as possible the responsibility for all non-military activities in the North African Theater. Certainly French sovereignty will be maintained there. At present some civilian control is already being exercised by Messrs. Murphy and McMillan, operating through the Political and Economic Council of Allied Force Headquarters, over which the undersigned presides as General Eisenhower's representative. I am under the impression that plans are being drawn up for a Joint U.S.-British censorship control and, of course, this control must be made joint so long as forces operating in North Africa are British-American.

Reference paragraph 3.

I can not see how the U.S. Office of Censorship could take over the responsibility for censorship which now rests in Allied Force Headquarters but see the preceding paragraph. American censorship would certainly have a joint responsibility.

The questions proposed by the Office of Censorship should be referred for comment to General McClure, of Allied Force Headquarters, and if you like, I will take the attached correspondence to Algiers with me and submit an unofficial comment from A.F.H.Q. at the earliest possible moment.



/s/ W. B. SMITH,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff, Allied Force.

CONFIDENTIAL

Censorship, Of d 11,559

x Tenn, H. x

x Africa

x State

x Control

May 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN R. DEANE

I am enclosing a photostatic copy of a memorandum received from the Office of Censorship.

As you can readily understand, the Office of Censorship is of great value to all intelligence services. I hope something can be done in Africa to make use of its facilities.

William J. Donovan
Director

CONFIDENTIAL

Censorship office 11, 559
x *Henn, N.K.*
x *Africa*
x *State*
v *Combat*

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
THE CHIEF CABLE CENSOR
WASHINGTON

CCC/3814

CONFIDENTIAL

May 17, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL DONGVAN

Subject: Censorship in Africa.

1. I am very sorry that I neglected to forward to you a copy of my memorandum of April 15 to Mr. Gordon of the State Department, as I had promised to in our recent conversation. However, that memorandum treated of two things: (a) Censorship of commercial cablegrams to and from that area; and (b) the request for a decision concerning the control of censorship in Africa if and when the armed forces advance out of that area. Inasmuch as (a) does not particularly concern your department at present, and inasmuch as (b) has become urgent in view of recent developments in Tunisia, I shall not trouble you by enclosing my memorandum of April 15 at this time.
2. Anticipating the cessation of hostilities in Tunisia, I sought a decision from the State Department as to what the future job of the Office of Censorship would be in Africa. At present it is of course clear that the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces has the responsibility in that combat area, and in view of that responsibility, I merely made a few suggestions to General McClure on my recent trip. However, as our forces advance, it seems quite reasonable to suppose that North Africa will not be a combat area in its complete sense, but that it will take on the nature of a base, reverting perhaps to control by civilian agencies. We assume that French sovereignty will be maintained there, but that some civilian control, possibly exercised by Mr. Murphy from the State Department, will continue to guide the policies of the local administration in order to keep that area in line with the Allied war effort.
3. The question naturally follows whether the Office of Censorship will be called upon to take on the responsibility for censorship which now rests in the American Headquarters. We are naturally very anxious to get an authoritative answer to this question. If we are to have no authority in that area, then we need not worry any more about it, but if we are to participate in any way in the administration of that area, we should certainly be making plans at once looking toward the accomplishment of our mission.
4. I have as yet received no reply from Mr. Gordon of the State Department to my memorandum of April 15, but he has on various

CCC/3814 - (2)

occasions telephoned me that the memorandum is being circulated in the State Department for the purpose of formulating an answer. It occurred to me also that you might be interested in this matter, and that you might desire to mention it to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

5. We are also interested in the matter of censorship coverage in new areas taken over by the armed forces. Martinique is an example. It would seem axiomatic that any task force commander assigned the duty of taking over a new area would desire to establish communications security at once. If lessons are to be learned from the African show, it would seem that censorship should be established at once when American troops take over. I believe I am correct in assuming that the present government policy gives the Office of Censorship no specific task in such an operation, but since the matter of censorship is something new to most of our armed forces, it is believed possible that the Office of Censorship could be of assistance in training personnel for such a task. We would be only too glad to do anything we can to assist in this matter.



H. K. Fenn

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON

Clm of the King - M 335
X Invitation

April 19, 1943

✓
Mr. Byron Price,
Director, Office of Censorship,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Price:

I should like very much if you would lunch
with me and a few members of my staff at the F Street
Club, 1925 F Street, N.W., at 1 o'clock PM, on Thursday,
April 22nd.

I have also invited Captain Fenn, Commander
Creech, Colonel Carlson and Nathaniel Howard.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

April 19, 1943

Colonel M. V. Carlson,
Office of Censorship,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Colonel Carlson:

✓
I should like very much if you would lunch
with me and a few members of my staff at the F Street
Club, 1925 F Street, N.W., at 1 o'clock P.M. on Thursday,
April 22nd.

I have also invited Mr. Byron Price, Captain
Fenn, Commander Creech and Nathaniel Howard.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

April 19, 1943

Commander F.H. Creech,
Office of Censorship,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Commander Creech:

I should like very much if you would lunch
with me and a few members of my staff at the F Street
Club, 1925 F Street, N.W., at 1 o'clock P.M. on Thursday,
April 22nd.

I have also invited Mr. Byron Price, Captain
Fenn, Colonel Carlson and Nathaniel Howard.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

Censorship Division
X Reg. for Material
X F. N. B.

March 27, 1943

Mr. Byron Price
Director
Office of Censorship
New Building
4300 and Pennsylvania Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

With regard to your letter of March 23, it will be a pleasure to have sent to the Division of Reports of the Office of Censorship reports of the Foreign Nationalities Branch which would be of interest there.

The handbook of foreign nationality groups to which you refer is still in a very early stage. I shall have your interest in mind whenever the handbook may become a reality.

From the Foreign Nationalities Branch I hear that your staff has been most helpful to them in their work and I am pleased if you feel that we in turn help you, not only in that sector but all along the line.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Donovan

*Censorship, Office 11,010
+ Req. for Material
A-T-W. B.*

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON

BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR

March 23, 1943.

Colonel William J. Donovan,
Office of Strategic Services,
Administrations Building,
25th and E Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Donovan:

Would you be good enough to put the Division of Reports of the Office of Censorship on your mailing list for reports on foreign nationality groups, which, I understand, you issue from time to time?

We would also like forty copies of your contemplated handbook of foreign nationality groups in the United States, soon to be published by the Foreign Nationality Groups Branch of the Office of Strategic Services.

Might I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the splendid cooperation and pleasant liaison existing between the Office of Strategic Services and the Office of Censorship?

Sincerely yours,
Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

Cops to Poole: 3/24

CONFIDENTIAL

Mameyeff, VSE Volod 12, 084
x Off. of Economic Warfare
x Joint Chiefs of Staff

(25)

26 July 1943

Joint War Plans Committee
The Joint Chiefs of Staff
Washington (25), D. C.

Attention: Mr. C. E. Miller
Mr. D. M. Gribbon
Secretariat

Dear Sirs:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21 July 1943 addressed to General Donovan. In his absence, your recommendation has been referred to Dr. Morrison of the U.S.S.R. Division, Research and Analysis Branch, who has talked with Mr. Mameyeff.

Unfortunately, at present the U.S.S.R. Division has no position available for a person of Mr. Mameyeff's particular qualifications. However, Dr. Morrison was favorably impressed by his vigor and initiative and his first hand knowledge of certain parts of Siberia. If an occasion should arise whereby we can take advantage of your suggestion, we shall be most happy to do so.

Sincerely yours,

G. Edward Buxton
Acting Director

E.J. Putzell: Birchard

cc: to L...

Classified *Div 9* *10, 9, 10*
** Secret State*

SECRET

** Burton, E. J.*

APRIL 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN B. DEANE

SUBJECT: Censorship Material

1. On February 12th you wrote a letter to Mr. Byron Price asking that we be provided with copies of censorship material bearing the special designation "Secret" which pertains to espionage and counter-espionage material.
2. On February 17th Mr. Price replied, stating in substance that he "was embarrassed by the physical aspects of the case." He pointed out that this material related principally to espionage, counter-espionage and sabotage.
3. I have talked with Mr. Price and he stated that his only concern was to have carried out what he had been endeavoring to have done for the past several months, which was to have the three agencies referred to in his letter agree upon a central clearing house. He stated that he had been unable to do this.

Copies
4/22
Mayarden
Bowden
Secretariat

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4. I have explained to him our needs which arise from the fact that we need access to the material referred to by Price because of the functions specifically assigned to us by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in certain areas outside this hemisphere. Much of the material consists of messages between enemy agents here and enemy agents abroad. This kind of information is very important for us in our service abroad. This fact is pointed up by the request of Colonel Black (who tells us that he is to be G-2 in London) to help him with his long range counter-intelligence.

5. You will recall that G-2 objected to our working arrangement with British SIS whereby we were authorized to study and summarize British decodes of any intelligence message. Later, at my request, General Strong withdrew this protest, saying among other things that "these messages, I agree, may be of considerable benefit to you in counter-espionage work carried on within the scope of your directive." The very same reasons are controlling in the request that we make here because in order to plan and execute our subversive activities we must have knowledge of the enemy's subversive activities.

6. In respect to "secret material" the Censor operates

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SECRET

intelligence agency. It would seem to us that the membership should render the same exchange of information as the JCS requires of other intelligence agencies. Information included in such exchange should be this "secret"

has been made to the Presidential Commission. It is only necessary to point out that this information was obtained before the war and before this office was established. It should have no reference to us. Further, in the order of June 13th, 1942 transmitted in accordance with the instruction of the JCS, he directed

the following missions:

1. Obtain strategic information

2. Report to the United States Joint

3. Advise the services as may

4. Report to the Chief of

5. Report to the

SECRET

-3-

SECRET

as an intelligence agency. It would seem to us that the Office of Censorship should render the same exchange of information with OSS as the JCS requires of other intelligence agencies. Included in such exchange should be this "secret material."

7. Reference has been made to the Presidential directive of 1939. It is only necessary to point out that that directive was issued before the war and before this office was in existence, so it could have no reference to us. Furthermore, when the President in his order of June 15th, 1942 transferred this office to the jurisdiction of the JCS, he directed that we should perform the following missions:

- a) Collect and analyze such electronic information as may be required by the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff;
- b) Plan and operate such special services as may be directed by the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff.

8. It was under this authority that the JCS issued their directive to OSE #155/7/D, pursuant to which we were

SECRET

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obligated to obtain the kind of information within the possession of the Office of Censorship.

William J. Donovan
Director

SECRET

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SECRET

MEMORANDUM

draft

FOR: Brigadier General John R. Deane
FROM: Director of Strategic Services
SUBJECT: Letter from Mr. Byron Price Relative to Censorship Material.

Both Major General Strong and the Director of the Office of Censorship, Mr. Byron Price, have protested to the Joint Chiefs of Staff its request to the Director of the Office of Censorship that OSS be given access to "Secret" intercepts. These consist primarily of decoded messages of enemy intelligence agents.

Recently OSS entered into working arrangements with British SIS whereby OSS was authorized to study and summarize British decodes of enemy intelligence messages. To these arrangements General Strong protested. On March 26, 1943, I wrote General Strong requesting him to reconsider his protest. General Strong replied the same day, withdrawing his protest. (Copies of letters attached) In his letter General Strong stated:

"These messages, I agree, may be of considerable benefit to you in counter-espionage work carried on within the scope of your directive."

As Security Control Officer, General Strong approved of the

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SECRET

security provisions of the SIS-OSS working arrangements.

Under its directive from the Joint Chiefs of Staff OSS is an operational division of the war effort charged with waging psychological warfare. It must send its forces into enemy controlled and occupied territories to supplement orthodox with unorthodox warfare. To conduct its operations efficiently OSS must combat the intelligence of the enemy. It must know who the enemy's agents are and where they are operating. It must protect its own forces at home and in the field from enemy penetration. To plan and execute its subversive activities OSS must have knowledge of enemy subversive activities. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have, accordingly, authorized OSS to carry on the required espionage and counter-espionage and to establish and maintain contacts with underground groups.

In respect of its "secret" material, the Censor operates as an intelligence agency. The Joint Chiefs of Staff, in its directive to OSS, provides for an exchange of information between intelligence agencies as follows:

"The Military Intelligence Service, Office of Naval Intelligence, and Office of Strategic Services will provide for the complete and free interchange of information, evaluated as to credibility of source, required for the execution of their respective missions."

The Office of Censorship should, it seems, render the same exchange of information with OSS as is required of other

SECRET

SECRET

intelligence agencies. Included in such an exchange should be this "secret" material.

William J. Donovan
Director

SECRET

Censorship of 10,424
 x Stop list
 x Secret material
 x Buxton, E.G.

(COPY)

SECRET

March 26, 1943

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
 Director, Office of Strategic Services
 25th and E Streets, N.W.
 Washington, D. C.

My dear General Donovan:

I am in receipt of your letter, dated March 26, 1943, in which you refer to an alleged protest to the British Military Mission in respect to the working arrangement between SIS and OSS of the Abwehr decodes. This report, as made to you, bears a remarkable resemblance to the report of Mark Twain's death, which he was compelled vigorously to deny. I have no interest whatever, from a standpoint of Security Control, to your receiving and summarizing Abwehr decodes received and processed in the British XB. These messages, I agree, may be of considerable benefit to you in counter-espionage work carried out within the scope of your Directive. The arrangements covering your arrangement with SIS, set out in subparagraphs a, b and c of the last paragraph on page 2 of your letter, and in subparagraphs d, e, f and g at the head of page 3 of your letter, appear on the face to be eminently sound and satisfactory. In any event, they do not concern me as senior member of Joint Security Control.

It is to be noted, however, that the competent British authorities in putting the matter up to me as Joint Security Control did not state, and have not as yet stated, that your arrangement covered Abwehr decodes in the XB hut in connection with your counter-espionage work. To the contrary, they referred to the arrangement as covering "clandestine" traffic. I told the British authorities here, and sent word to the CCS, that I opposed any agency, military, naval or civilian, being given access to any clandestine traffic which concerned military or naval operations. When I made that statement I thought and I still think, that it is sound and as such should be enforced. It appears to me that this tempest in a teapot is due to a misinterpretation of the term "military operations", by the use of which I tried to convey to our cousins across the water that I meant information dealing with troop movements or supplies, which has a bearing either upon current or future operations, either tactical or strategic in character. These, I take it, certainly in the narrower sense are of no

concern to you of the activities of OSA. If I am wrong, I should be very glad to discuss it with you. If I am right and it meets with your distinguished approval, I would appreciate your saying so in order that a copy of this letter may be furnished for delivery to OSA.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

GEN. V. SPRENG,
Major General,
A.C. of J. C.

Senior Member, Joint Security Council

SECRET

that you consult him as to security of OSS-CE.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ WILLIAM J. DONOVAN

William J. Donovan,
Director

(C O P Y)

SECRET

March 26, 1943

Major General George Strong
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Subject: SIS-OSS Working Arrangement
on C-E Material.

Dear General Strong:

Reference is made to your protest to the British Military Mission in respect of the working arrangement between SIS and OSS pertaining to Abwehr decodes.

A unit of SIS, known as XB, with offices located in the country near London receives daily and processes certain decodes of Abwehr messages. This is done (a) to identify and locate German intelligence agents and (b) to determine with whom such agents are working and on what missions.

OSS has asked and received SIS approval to obtain counter-espionage information from the aforementioned Abwehr decodes by studying the decodes and the British XB files relating thereto, and to have the benefit of oral conferences and discussions with XB employees in reference to such studies.

No other working arrangement can afford OSS with the facts established by these decodes. The Abwehr messages, even when decoded, are vague, indefinite and misleading. Cover names are used for agents, other persons, places and

things. What the message means is a matter of the analyst's opinion. To interpret a decode often requires the study of one message in conjunction with other Abwehr messages and supplementary field reports of XB agents pertaining to the subject matter of the decode. In addition, there is still involved the weighing of conflicting and circumstantial evidence to determine what ultimate fact, if any, is proved by the message.

Assume SIS informs OSS that X is an Abwehr agent. OSS asks SIS for the basis of the charge. The reply is "ISOS". This reply is a conclusion. It is based on circumstantial evidence and inferences derived from the text of vague, indefinite and misleading decoded Abwehr messages. SIS will not send to OSS the text of those messages. Clearly, then, OSS should, if it may, go to SIS and study there the messages upon which the charge is based. OSS then makes its own decision as to whether the evidence supports the charge that X is a German agent.

SIS has prescribed security regulations pertaining to these working arrangements with OSS. They are as follows:

(a) The limited personnel selected by OSS for this task must be vetted and approved by SIS.

(b) OSS personnel must work in SIS-XB offices under the supervision of SIS.

(c) All OSS notes on the decodes shall be kept in British custody.

(d) Only summaries of decodes prepared by the OSS personnel above referred to are to be communicated to OSS. These summaries are to be approved both as to form and content by SIS and the method of communication employed in transmitting the summaries is to be approved by SIS.

(e) The summaries are not to reveal the source of the material.

(f) The field staff of OSS-CE are not to be informed of the existence of ISOS.

(g) The existence of ISOS is to be made known to a few staff members of OSS as is absolutely necessary in the efficient conduct of CE activities by OSS.

In OSS, counter-espionage activities are the exclusive jurisdiction of a separate unit in OSS. The headquarters of this unit in the United States are located at New York in office adjoining British XB. In England, the headquarters are located in the XB office. In the field OSS-CE operates separately from other OSS units. CE employees are vetted by both American and British intelligence.

Summaries of ISOS, as well as other CE communications, are distributed in OSS only to the Director of OSS and the head of CE. Access to CE files is restricted to CE employees.

British XB have investigated and expressed approval of OSS-CE security. Colonel Wren, in charge of XB in the United States, is thoroughly familiar with CE security. I recommend

Classified Office of 10, 43
15000
X Secret Material
X Buxton, E. G.

February 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brigadier General John R. Deane
FROM: Director of Strategic Services
SUBJECT: Letter from Mr. Byron Price Relative to Censorship Material

Reference to the letter from Mr. Byron Price of February 15, 1943, replying to your request that Censorship Material be furnished the OSS, it is clear that Mr. Price is unaware of the functions and responsibilities of this Office. It is suggested that the following points be brought to his attention.

Mr. Price states that the material relates principally to espionage, counter-espionage, and sabotage. These functions are specifically assigned to the OSS in certain areas outside this hemisphere. The movement of enemy agents to and from these areas is information indispensable to the OSS.

With respect to security, it is true that there is

SECRET

-2-

no central clearing house other than the Office of Censorship itself. That office is the logical source to satisfy the needs of the OSS in its performance of espionage and counter-espionage as proscribed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In the employment of Censorship Material by the OSS the question of security would best be maintained if the information be furnished to the OSS directly rather than through any other agency whose field of activity differs from that of the OSS.

William J. Donovan
Director

March 10, 1943

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Brigadier General John R. Deane
FROM: Director of Strategic Services
SUBJECT: Letter from Mr. Byron Price relative to
Censorship material, dated February 15, 1943

Through inadvertence, Mr. Price's letter was not
returned to you in our letter of February 27th,
and is attached herewith.

DRAFT 2-25-43

TO: Brig. Gen. Dean
FROM: Col. Wm. J. Donovan
SUBJECT: Letter from Mr. Byron Price Relative to
Censorship Material.

Reference to the letter from Mr. Byron Price of February 15, 1943, replying to your request that Censorship Material be furnished the OSS, it is clear that Mr. Price is unaware of the functions and responsibilities of this office. It is suggested that the following points be brought to his attention.

Mr. Price states that the material relates principally to espionage, counter-espionage, and sabotage. These functions are specifically assigned to the OSS in certain areas outside this hemisphere. The movement of enemy agents to and from these areas is information indispensable to the OSS.

The President's direction regarding the investigation of enemy agents to and from these areas the OSS relates only to the movement of enemy agents to and from this area the OSS is not authorized to exercise jurisdiction.

With respect to security clearance procedures there is no central clearing house.

February 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Brigadier General John R. Deane
FROM: Director of Strategic Services
SUBJECT: Letter from Mr. Byron Price Relative to
Censorship Material

Reference to the letter from Mr. Byron Price of February 15, 1943, replying to your request that Censorship Material be furnished the OSS, it is clear that Mr. Price is unaware of the functions and responsibilities of this Office. It is suggested that the following points be brought to his attention.

Mr. Price states that the material relates principally to espionage, counter-espionage, and sabotage. These functions are specifically assigned to the OSS in certain areas outside this hemisphere. The movement of enemy agents to and from these areas is information indispensable to the OSS.

With respect to security, it is true that there is

SECRET

-2-

Office of Censorship itself. That office is the logical source to satisfy the needs of the OSS in its performance of espionage and counter-espionage as prescribed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In the employment of Censorship Material by the OSS the question of security should not be raised. It is believed that security would best be maintained if the information be furnished to the OSS directly rather than through any other agency whose field of activity differs from that of the OSS.

RECEIVED DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
D. G. HOFFMAN

EEB 18 NEED

To: James Maguire

Perhaps you can
find a way
out of the
difficulty.

Director's Office

(10)

Censorship, Office of
** Stop List*
** Secret Material*
** Buxton, E.G.* 10,424

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

February 17, 1943.

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL DONOVAN, DIRECTOR OF
STRATEGIC SERVICES:

Subject: Censorship material bearing
the special designation
"Secret."

Enclosure: Letter from Mr. Byron Price
to Brig. General John R.
Deane, dated Feb. 15, 1943.

On February 12th I wrote a letter to
Mr. Byron Price, at the request of Colonel Buxton,
asking that the Office of Strategic Services be
provided with copies of censorship material bearing
the special designation "Secret" which pertained
to espionage and counter-espionage activities.

Today I received the attached reply from
Mr. Byron Price. He suggests that you obtain the
information either from the MIS or ONI.

I would appreciate your comments on
Mr. Price's letter and also request that you return
his letter to me with your reply.

John R. Deane
JOHN R. DEANE,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Secretary.



SECRET

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON

February 15, 1943

SECRET

Brigadier General John R. Deane, U.S.A.
Secretary, The Joint Chiefs of Staff
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Deane:

This is to acknowledge your letter of February 12 recommending on behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the Office of Strategic Services be provided with copies of the censorship material bearing the special designation of "secret".

I am most anxious of course that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have full information regarding this material, but I am somewhat embarrassed by the physical aspects of the case. The material in question relates principally to espionage, counter-espionage and sabotage. I understand that the President sometime ago directed that investigations in those fields be the responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Military Intelligence, and Naval Intelligence. Since we have been unable to discover that these three agencies have set up any central clearing house, we have been obliged to deliver the secret material in question to each of the three. This is a wider distribution than should be made of such material and I am reluctant to add still another agency unless some solution more in keeping with the requirements of security can be devised.

Can not the needs of the Joint Chiefs of Staff be served through one or all of the three agencies to which this material is already distributed?

I write this in the full confidence that the Joint Chiefs of Staff will understand fully why the distribution of this material should be restricted as far as possible and will give serious thought to some alternative arrangement. I would greatly appreciate hearing from you further.

Sincerely yours,

S/ Byron Price, Director.

Copy

Censorship 10.72
X Top List
X Watch List
X Buxton, Col E. G.

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

February 18, 1945.

SECRET

Mr. Byron Price,
Director of Censorship,
Federal Trade Commission Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

The Office of Strategic Services is an agency of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which is charged with planning and carrying out psychological warfare operations which are to be integrated with military operations. Espionage and counter-espionage in enemy-controlled countries constitute a considerable portion of any psychological warfare plan undertaken.

Secret intercepts and decoded material may be of considerable value to the Office of Strategic Services in carrying out the espionage phases of psychological warfare.

It is requested, therefore, that your office make secret material available to the Office of Strategic Services which is applicable to its assigned responsibilities. You may rest assured that such material can be given to the O.S.S. without imperiling security.

Sincerely yours,

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

JOHN R. DEANE,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Secretary.



Copy for Colonel Buxton, OSS ✓

SECRET
 X Stop List
 X Watch List
 X Buxton, Col. E. G.

February 6, 1949

MEMORANDUM TO: Colonel William J. Donovan
 FROM: G. Edward Buxton

OK
 D

This morning I had a considerable conference with Mr. Bowden, Lt. Commander Ravenel and Mr. Seiferheld. I am in accord with their recommendations and submit the following:

1. It seems logical to divide all censored material into:

- a. Open
- b. Secret or classified

At present we have a satisfactory arrangement with Censorship on the "open" or uncoded material, - letters, cables, telephone communications and radio. Ensign Hall, who is acceptable to Censorship and spends a good deal of time in their office, now obtains three copies and delivers same to Wilmarth Lewis and CID where it is indexed and made available to the censorship editor of SI and SO and to other branches of OSS. This arrangement should not be disturbed and should continue as at present so long as it is satisfactory.

SECRET

Page 2

2. Secret or Classified material consists of all intercepts in code however obtained by the censor and decoded. I assume this work is done by the Army and Navy for Censorship. This material deals with subversive enemy activities of interest to OE or may contain information important to psychological warfare.

It seems desirable that this material should be handled independently of the "open" material now indexed in CID. In fact, I believe we cannot get this material unless we can guarantee a very limited circulation and use by that section of OSS charged with duties affected by such information.

3. There is still undesirable confusion concerning the operation of the Watch List in OSS. ~~The operational watch list in OSS;~~ What justifications must be found for placing names on this list and who shall place them there and with what authority?

When the question arose some weeks ago you directed that no name should be placed on the Watch List except by a recommendation of the Branch Head submitted to us for approval.

SECRET

Page 3

disapproval. Do you wish to continue this arrangement?

It is said that at present there are approximately 450 names on our Watch List and 25,000 to 40,000 on the Censorship Watch List.

While at the present time I presume that Mr. Lewis feels responsible for the Watch List I think this function should be separated from his supervision of the "open" material.

The Branch in OSS most concerned at present with the Watch List appears to be FN which has over 80% of the names.

R. & A. activity on the Watch List appears to be mostly confined to Major James' Division - Latin America.

SI has a limited number of names on this List.

It would seem to me that the Units most likely to use ^{a watch list} ~~secret intercepts~~ would be:

1. OE
2. General purposes of SI

The reasons for any name going on the Watch List should be confined to:

SECRET

Page 4

A. Individuals suspected of enemy activities outside the Hemisphere or people in the Hemisphere having traffic with enemies outside this Hemisphere. All this requires close liaison with FBI.

B. The only other names which should be placed on the OSS Watch List should be the names of people assumed to have important knowledge concerning matters of current interest to us and presumably falling within the general area of psychological warfare.

I do not think names should go on the list because of general curiosity or as part of a "fishing expedition".

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That I prepare a brief note from General Deane to Byron Price stating that we now have a proper interest in this secret material because of our CE and psychological warfare responsibilities.

2. That if General Deane approves, I take the matter up with Price or his operating officer, Mr. Keats, and ask that Comdr. Ravenel be the operating officer for secret material.

*perhaps can
set up a watch
list within OSS
with open
secret censorship
material &
ID can look
in names for
N R & A
requirements
for indexing
this material*

SECRET

Page 5

SI

Censorship and ~~ess~~. Comdr. Ravenel has already begun to act at the request of ONI as liaison on some OE material between Censorship and ~~ess~~. S I

3. That, in addition, I arrange if possible with Mr. Keats to have Mr. Holland, who is on Mr. Seiferheld's staff, permitted the same access to the Office of Censorship on secret material that Lt. Hall has on "open" material.

4. Mr. Seiferheld will continue as intercept editor for SI and SO to process ^{fr S I} material given CID and to be the direct recipient and processor of all secret material received through Comdr. Ravenel. Mr. Holland will assist Comdr. Ravenel.

5. I believe that Mr. Seiferheld should also service FO in exactly the same way he now serves SO and that he and Oechner should now confer on the type of material desired.

Censorship, Office of - 10,119

~~*X Ravenel, Lt. Comdr. Daniel*~~

**THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON**

October 14, 1943

Brigadier General William J. Donovan,
Director, Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Donovan:

Upon your recent change of liaison with this office it seems that I neglected to express to you my appreciation of the very satisfactory manner in which Lt. Comdr. Daniel Ravenel, Jr., USNR, performed his duties as liaison officer from your office.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the services rendered by Commander Ravenel while on duty in this assignment.

Sincerely yours,



Byron Price,
Director.

*copy filed with
Commendation Hqs.*

✓ Censorship Office of 10, 119
Ravenel, Lt. Comdr.

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON

March 17, 1943.

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

Dear Colonel Donovan:

I have your letter of March 13 regarding Lieutenant Commander Daniel Ravenel, Jr., U.S.N.R. We know Commander Ravenel very well, and it is quite agreeable with the Office of Censorship to have him serve as liaison officer between this office and that of the Office of Strategic Services.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

Censorship Office of 10,119
X Ravenel, Lt. Comdr.

March 13, 1943

Mr. Byron Price, Director
Office of Censorship
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

It is requested that, if agreeable to you, Lieut. ~~Commander~~ Daniel Ravenel, Jr., U.S.N.R. be assigned as liaison officer between your office and the Office of Strategic Services.

Lieut. Commander Ravenel is attached to the Office of Naval Intelligence, and has been serving as liaison between that office and two of our branches for the past year.

This officer is well known to Captain H. K. Fenn, Chief Cable Censor, and for some months has been acting as liaison officer between Cable Censorship and this office. I believe Captain Fenn would make the necessary arrangements to have him serve Postal Censorship as well.

Yours very truly,

William J. Donovan
Director

Censorship Office 9300
X Price, Byron
X Arrangement

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON

BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR

file

December 14, 1942.

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

My dear Colonel Donovan:

It is gratifying to know that the Office of Strategic Services is finding Censorship material so valuable, and that you have set up a special unit known as "Censor Materials Unit."

The matters mentioned in your letter of December 11 were discussed at length by Colonel Buxton, Mr. Lewis, Dr. Langer and Mr. ~~Seats~~, and I believe that a mutually satisfactory arrangement was agreed thereon.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price

Byron Price,
Director.

1-0 [Signature]

Censorship Office 9208

X Price, Byron
X Arrangement

*Dir. of Sta. & Sig. Intell.
S. K. Bowden + Sig. Intell.
Q. Bldg.*

*Undated
11/28/42*

Mr. Byron Price, Director,
Office of Censorship,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Price:

As you know, this office considers censorship material one of the best sources of strategic intelligence. We recently reorganized and enlarged our facilities for utilizing to the utmost censorship materials obtained from your office and in this connection have set up a unit known as "Censor Materials Unit".

In order that this operation may be properly conducted, we have rewritten the list of censorship materials to be obtained from your office, both categorically and by subject. This revised list supersedes all others and is attached hereto.

To facilitate the indexing and classifying plan we have now set up, it would be very helpful if three copies of all censorship materials could be delivered to us.

We think it might be advantageous to both your office and this office if a man from our Censor Materials Unit could be more or less attached to your office in order to help interpret our needs and to work on special

projects from time to time. If it is agreeable to you we would be very pleased to make this arrangement.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Donovan,
Director

REIFFENBERG:LL

1/28/42

**SECRET MATTER SHEET FOR THE
SECRET OF DEFENSE INFORMATION (SDFI)**

REQUIREMENTS

(Note: It is requested particularly that we receive all reports and surveys compiled by Canadian, British, and American Consular. Especially important to us are all Travelers' Consular Reports and Imported Mail.)

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

I. Western Hemisphere:

North and South America; Latin America

Surveys and over-all reports; sizable trade and financial transactions having social, political, national, or military significance within the Western Hemisphere, or which involve countries in the Eastern Hemisphere (especially enemy or neutral countries)

II. Eastern Hemisphere:

Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia

Agriculture

Planting and harvest reports.
Production or distribution of products affecting industry or standard of living.
Weather factors affecting crops, harvests.

Commerce

Black markets.
Reports and summaries of general nature
Trade treaties or restrictions.
Transactions specifying quantity or nature of materials.

Commodities

Petroleum and its products - oilfields, refineries, transportation, stocks, substitutes, consumption.
Rubber - everything including substitutes.
Strategic materials - mining, metals, critical minerals.

General

Enemy war economy effects on business and living conditions and customs; changes in household affairs, daily routine of the house.

Industry and Public Utilities

Axis influence or control.
Corporate surveys and reports.
Factories and power plants - construction, expansion, location, relocation.
Industrial costs, profits, taxes.
Production and consumption data.
Raw materials - everything.
Trade Unions - Labor groups, their activities and affiliations.

Shipping (Maritime)

Cargoes of possible enemy origin or destination.
Merchant Marine and Naval establishments - size, location, facilities.
Personnel - anything pertaining to crews, stevedores, longshoremen.
Routes and changes thereof.

Transportation (excluding Maritime)

Condition
Efficiency
Location
Organization
Volume of traffic

**MILITARY AFFAIRS (Including American & British Armed Forces)
World Wide.**

Air Raids

Air Raid Precautions
Casualties, damage (inflicted or sustained)

Evacuation or other effects.
Morale as influenced by Air Raids.

Operations and Attacks

FORTIFICATIONS (including anti-aircraft, mines, etc)

MILITARY FORCES (Army Navy, Air and Technicians)

Bases, casualties, damage, location, morale, movements, supplies.

MILITARY OPERATIONS (outside the U.S.)

Information including photos, maps, sketches of air fields, factories, supply depots, canals, harbors, railroads, highways, oil fields, refineries, tanks, power plants, dams, warehouses, water supply.

Military Occupation

Living standards of Axis dominated populations.
Regulations and restrictions imposed by Axis Occupation Authorities.
Techniques and policies of Occupation Forces.
Underground activities or evidence thereof.

Military Personnel

Morale and psychology.
Opinions and attitudes and behavior of troops toward civilians and vice versa.
Training.

WAR POLICY (anywhere)

POLITICAL AFFAIRS INSIDE THE U.S.

Foreign Politics

Everything pertaining to political activity concerning foreign nations or peoples carried on in the U.S. by organizations and persons; political newspapers, broadsides, pamphlets.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AREA. World War.**Health**

Conditions resulting from war (plague, epidemics, illness, malnutrition.)

Public

Attitudes, opinions on political, social, economic, military; on conduct of war; on civilian living conditions; on armed forces of Allies or Axis; on belligerents, neutrals, or minorities; on international relations (especially attitudes of United Nations toward each other).

Conduct indicative of morale (atrocities, official corruption, crimes and misdemeanors, riots, desertion, resistance to government, religious or race persecutions, suicides).

Political

Communications addressed to labor organizations or officials thereof.

Foreign Groups and Minorities - their attitudes, organizations, leaders, treatment.

General conditions reflected in local political activities, movements, organizations, elections, leaders (biographical information) free movements.

Government Agencies, - Civil and Police.

Government Policies - Foreign and Domestic.

Labor groups and their affiliates.

Plans - Post-war and Reconstruction.

Repressive and terroristic measures.

Trends toward or away from Axis by neutrals or others.

Propaganda (everything - including radio)

Methods - enemy and Allied

Results - enemy and Allied.

Social Conditions

Class and Race Relations.

Customs - common phrases and greetings, household routine, current plays, books, movies.

Home life and civilian activities (rationing of food, clothing, fuel - customs - travel regulations -

restrictive measures in general)
Living standards.
Population movements - split families, evacuations, deportations, refugees.
Religious activities - especially of the Vatican and other organized religious groups.
Welfare facilities - recreation, education, child-care, foreign missions and relief societies.

Travel (Eastern Hemisphere only)

References to tickets, visas, passports, rental of rooms abroad, letters of introduction, travel agents.

SECURITY AND COMMUNICATIONS (World Wide)

Communications

Books - current novels.
Censorship operations, postal, radio, telegraph systems (Allied or Axis).
Government control of communications.
Intermediaries and cloaks used in any method of transmitting information, goods, or funds.
Press reports in the rough (postal, radio, or cable) from correspondents to news agencies.
Radio stations - legal or clandestine - equipment, reception, control, broadcasts (especially with propaganda import).
Theatre - including films and newsreels.

Security

Enemy agents, organizers or sympathizers.
Espionage, sabotage or subversive activities.
Foreign-born nationals and their activities.
Prisoners of War.

Dear Head

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

I think this whole subject calls for a longer examination. Will you take it in hand. I suggest you send a meeting of Seiferheld (who has been with me only a short time but who has a good paper) with Prince & Hanger and perhaps Nelson -

TO: Director of Strategic Services

FROM: David Seiferheld

DATE: Dec. 1, 1942

SUBJECT: Censor Materials Problem of OSS

- I. External Relations (Office of Censorship)
- II. Internal Organization

I. Relations with Office of Censorship.

A. Functions of the Office of Censorship: Western Hemisphere headquarters of the United Nations for collection and classification of world-wide censor materials.

1. It controls all U.S. censorship stations.
2. It integrates Army postal censorship with Navy cable censorship.
3. It gathers information from newspapers; trade, press and radio bulletins; relief society reports; newspaper correspondents' messages, and the like.
4. It interchanges all material with British Censorship's Eastern Hemisphere headquarters in London, so that the entire production of both U.S. and British stations comes to Washington.
5. It is a producing and integrating mechanism exclusively. All distributing and editorial

functions are delegated to its subsidiary, Central Division of Reports.

B. Functions of Central Division of Reports: established by Office of Censorship as sole distributor of materials to governmental agencies. All OSS materials come from this department with which it is essential that we maintain a harmonious relationship.

1. It is the sole allocator of material to government agencies.

2. It issues periodic reports and bulletins.

C. Summary and Conclusions.

1. If OSS present representation on the Censorship Board can become a working liaison influencing censorship policy, it should be assigned to a representative familiar with OSS censor requirements and with energy and time for the work.

2. OSS is also represented informally at the Division of Reports by Ensign Hall of the Censor Materials Unit in C.I.D. Hall enjoys excellent relations with Mr. Keats and his staff in the Division of Reports where he spends twelve or more hours a week doing an effective, working liaison job. This assignment would be unsuitable for a busy department head burdened with other

responsibilities.

3. It is desirable:

- (a) To maintain a working liaison to Censorship proper, without disturbing our relations with the Distributing Branch.
- (b) To legitimize Ensign Hall as our own official representative to Mr. Keats at the Division of Reports.
- (c) To avoid any over-lapping or confusion of policy and distribution in our liaison arrangements.

II. Internal Organization

A. Reorganized System for Handling Censor Materials -- Directive of November 4, 1942. Before it can function, it will be necessary:

- 1. To submit newly revised OSS Subject Matter Guide to the Office of Censorship, the Division of Reports, or both.
- 2. To learn whether intercepts will come through in single copies as now, in duplicate, or in triplicate, as requested. The number to be received will govern plans for internal distribution.
- 3. To expand Censor Materials Unit which now daily receives only about 800 submissions of

which it is presently equipped to process but twenty-five percent.

The November 4th directive authorizes adequate expansion. The necessary expansion in intake, personnel, space and equipment has not yet begun.

Censor Materials Unit must achieve far greater volume and flexibility. It is to service all of O-31. Although Censor Materials Unit is within C.I.D., the plan cannot be implemented unless and until its scope embraces the varied requirements of all the interested divisions.

9300

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: Director of Strategic Services DATE: Nov. 4, 1942

FROM: George K. Bowden

SUBJECT: Utilizing Postal, Telegraph and
Cable Censor Materials by
S.I. and S.O.

I. The following plan is subject to the adoption of the general plan submitted this day for the establishment of a Censor Materials Unit for OSS, all Divisions.

II. When a Censor Materials Unit has been established S.I. and S.O. jointly will establish a censor materials editor with two assistant editors. The uniform plan proposes that there will be sent to each Division daily or periodically an accession list of all censor materials received, codified and indexed by the Censor Materials Unit. This accession list in the case of S.I. and S.O. will be delivered to the censor materials editor.

III. The censor materials editor shall have knowledge in general of all pending and active projects of the geographic desks and functional desks. He will also have a "name list" including the names of persons, firms and organizations about which information is

desired by S.I. and S.O. Upon receipt of the "Censor Materials Accession Sheet" the censor materials editor will examine it and note all censor materials bearing on any pending or active project or any person, firm, or organization under scrutiny by S.I. and S.O.

If he finds any such censor materials listed he shall then go to the Censor Materials Unit and by use of the code draw out copies and examine them. If the censor materials really contain information concerning any project or person, he shall have it copied and delivered to the officer of S.I. or S.O. in charge of the project or interested in the person, firm, or organization for study and acknowledgement. After an appropriate interval, the censor materials editor shall collect the copy with the notation on the bottom that it has been read by the person to whom it was delivered.

The censor materials editor shall prepare a summary of censor materials information at frequent intervals and cause it to be delivered to those persons listed by the respective heads of S.I. and S.O.

IV. It shall also be the duty of the censor materials editor and his assistants to be constantly on the alert for new items of information contained in censor materials such as the names of ships plying between

ports in America, Europe, Africa, Asia, trading firms engaged in business with neutral and belligerent countries, split families where one or more members is in the United States or a neutral country and the others are in occupied territory or other neutral countries, and similar and related items. These matters of interest shall promptly be called to the attention of the geographic desks and other interested officers.

V. The censor materials editor shall see that the directive to the Censorship Office includes all censor materials of interest to S.I. and S.O. Likewise he shall call to the attention of the head of the Censor Materials Unit the fact that censor materials are being received which are of no interest to S.I. and S.O. so that the directive may be changed to eliminate such material and avoid unnecessary indexing and filing.

VI. It shall be the over all and general duty of the censor materials editor to see that all geographic desks and persons in charge of preparing and carrying out projects receive and use to the fullest extent all relevant information contained in the postal, cable, and telegraph censor materials.

CONCLUSION. The establishment of a Censor Materials Unit and a censor materials editor for S.I. and S.O.

should provide S.I. and S.O. with intercept information of great value. It is therefore recommended that S.I. and S.O. adopt the plan above set forth and that an intercept editor and two assistants be employed.

approved
by DKB

Geo K Bunde

Approved:

W. H. J. Damm
Director of Strategic Services.

7200

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO : Director of Strategic Services

FROM : George K. Bowden

SUBJECT: Recognized System for Handling
Censor Materials

DATE: Nov. 4, 1942

I. OSS HAS NOT BEEN UTILIZING POSTAL CENSOR MATERIALS. Postal telegraph and cable censor materials furnish a valuable source of strategic information. OSS has lacked a coordinated and uniform system for receiving, indexing and analyzing postal, telegraph and cable censor materials. Because of this lack, full utilization of the information contained in such material has not been achieved. It is now proposed to set up for OSS a coordinated, uniform system of obtaining, receiving, indexing, and utilizing censor materials.

II. THE PLAN

A. A unit will be established in OSS to be known as the "Censor Materials Unit". It will be under Central Information Division for all administrative, supervisory, and clerical purposes and under the authority of the Director of Central Information Division. All incoming postal, telegraph and cable censor materials will be delivered to the Censor Materials Unit and will by that

unit be classified, codified, and indexed.

B. All censor materials will be codified and indexed (1) geographically, (2) by subject, (3) by sender and receiver alphabetically and also the name of any individual or place named in the body of the letter. For example: A cable from an American firm to a firm in Lisbon, Portugal, relating to the shipment of certain precision instruments would be classified, codified, and indexed showing (a) the foreign nation, province and city in the foreign nation, (b) that it had to do with a shipment of manufactured goods, (c) the name of the sender, (d) the name of the receiver, and (e) if the particular cable contained the name of a person or firm on a special "watch list", the name of such person or firm.

The coding will be done by the new IBM machine recently acquired by C.I.D. The indexing system will be that system now established and set up by C.I.D. for handling censor materials.

C. Periodically (daily or less often, whichever works out the best) the Censor Materials Unit will prepare an accession list of all censor materials received, coded and indexed during the preceding period. This accession list will classify such materials geographically, give the sender and receiver's names and a very brief

possible with the topical index established by R. & A., S.I., and S.O. If the Office of Censorship follows this directive the Office of Strategic Services should receive all relevant censor materials.

IV. "SPOTTER AND CHECKER"

The Censor Materials Unit will establish and maintain a "spotter and checker" and an assistant at the Office of Censorship. The duties of the "spotter and checker" will be to see that all censor materials received by the Office of Censorship and included under the over all directive given the Censorship Office by OSS are in turn forwarded to the Censor Materials Unit of OSS. An additional duty of the "spotter and checker" will be to check the alphabetical list now maintained by the Office of Censorship relative to censor materials pertaining to any person or firm in which any branch of OSS may from time to time be interested.

V. MICROFILMING CENSOR MATERIALS.

The volume of censor materials will be very large. All censor materials in the files of the Censor Materials Unit will be microfilmed and the accumulated paper copies of the censor materials over six months old will be destroyed periodically.

VI. UTILIZATION OF CENSOR MATERIALS.

It is obvious that censor materials received, codified and indexed by the Censor Materials Unit will be of no value unless utilized. R. & A. has already established a censor materials editor who edits censor materials for the various geographical and functional desks of R. & A. This work will be continued and expanded.

S.I. and S.O. jointly will establish a censor materials editor with two assistants. His duty will be to see that all material and relevant information contained in censorship materials is called to the attention of the various geographic desks and functional heads of S.I. and S.O. and that such information is presented in a usable form. A separate report on a plan of S.I. and S.O. to utilize this information is presented herewith.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the establishment of the uniform system for receiving, indexing, and utilizing postal, telegraph, and cable censor materials will make possible the receipt by OSS of strategic information of great value and it is recommended that the plan described herein be adopted and that the directive

establishing the plan attached hereto be executed by the
Director of Strategic Services.


Geo. K. Bowden

Approved:


Director of Strategic Services.

D.K. Bruce
C.K. Langer
O.K. Lewis
(By direction)

Attachments:

1. Directive to the Office of Censorship
2. Directive establishing system.

Circularize

*Office of Communications 37609
X Belin*

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

file

FROM: F. L. Belin
TO: Mr. James R. Murphy
SUBJECT: S.A. File #8923

DATE: OCT 6 1942

Will you be good enough to bring the
comments of the attached letter to the atten-
tion of those to whom it may apply in O.S.S.?
I am circularizing the letter in SA/B.

F. L. B.

F. L. Belin

Enclosure

RESTRICTED

COPY

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

8923

The Chief Cable and Radio Censor
Washington

AGC/11207

October 5, 1942

Mr. F. L. Belin
Office of Strategic Services
Room 1108 Q Building
26th and Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Belin:

Experience in the censoring of radiotelephone calls has shown their extensive possibilities in endangering security.

It is therefore suggested that you caution all persons within your agency who may be authorized to make such calls to be as careful as possible in their conversations so as not to divulge anything which might be detrimental to our interests.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ H. K. Fenn
H. K. Fenn



RESTRICTED

*Censorship office of 7860
X 11 of ob...
1... ..*

SECRET

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

INTEROFFICE MEMO

F 90

FROM: Silas B. Moore, Commander, U.S.M. **DATE** August 11, 1942

TO: Colonel William J. Donovan

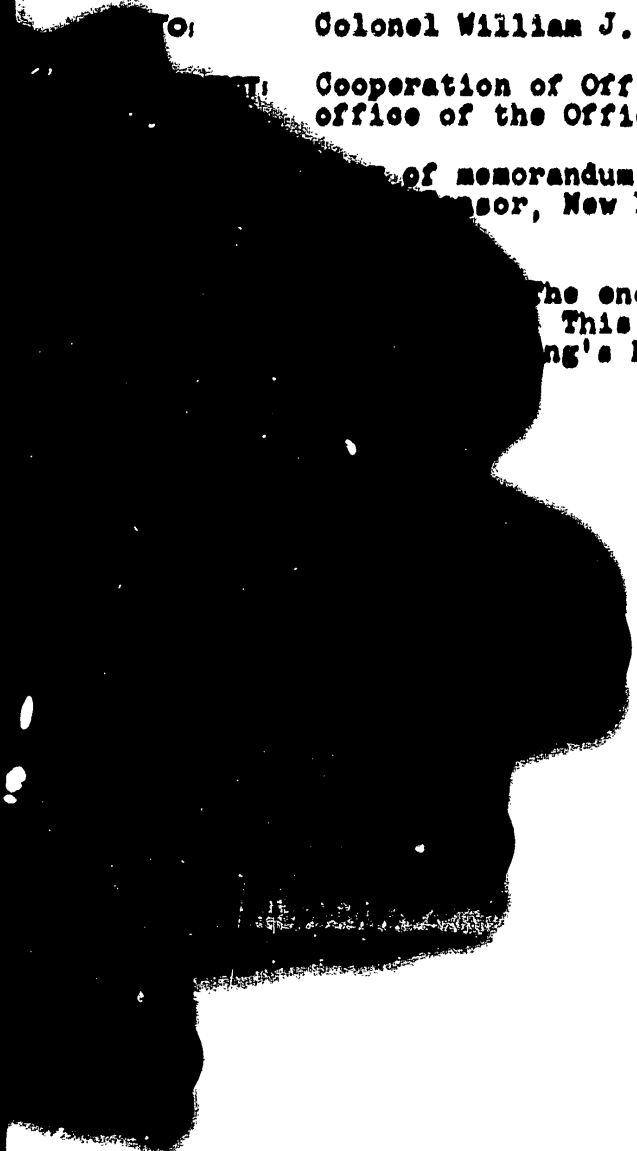
SUBJECT: Cooperation of Office of Censorship with the New York office of the Office of Strategic Services.

of memorandum from Captain H. K. Fenn to the Censor, New York, August 8, 1942.

The enclosure is forwarded for your This will confirm my announcement ng's Branch Heads conference.

Respectfully,

S. B. Moore
Silas B. Moore



000/0100/01 07/8046

C
O
P
Y

SECRET

August 8, 1942

To: Cable Censor, New York.

Subject: Cooperation with the New York office of the Office of Strategic Services.

1. You may expect shortly a visit in person from Mr. Allen Dulles, Mr. Murray I. Gurfein and Mr. Spencer Phenix, of your local office of the Office of Strategic Services.

2. Apparently the important interests of that office involve circumstances which are many and varied and require complete cooperation with the Cable Censor at New York for their full and successful accomplishment.

3. You are hereby authorized to cooperate with them to the fullest extent, even to the extension of white-list privileges where such privileges are requisite and useful to the Office of Strategic Services.

H. K. Fenn

cc - Comdr. Silas B. Moore

OSS FORM 4001a

Date 16 Nov 44To: General Donovan

Attached is a letter from Mr. Byron Price asking that a representative of OSS be designated to serve on the Censorship Operating Board in place of Mr. Winmarth S. Lewis, who is no longer with the agency.

I have discussed this with Lt. Comdr. Henry Morgan, who says that the Board has not met for two years but is planning to meet again in the near future to consider its activities. He suggested that, in view of his position as chief of the Censorship and Documentation Branch, he might appropriately serve as the OSS member. If you approve, I have attached for your signature a reply to Mr. Price suggesting that Comdr. Morgan act as OSS member of the Board.

Office of the Secretary

John W. Auchincloss
John W. Auchincloss
1st Lt., JAGD

(9199)

115

*T. Howard
Censorship Operating Bd.*

Mr. Morgan, Lt. Comdr. Henry S.

16 November 1944

Mr. Byron Price, Director
The Office of Censorship
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

I have your letter of yesterday concerning the appointment of an OSS representative to serve on the Censorship Operating Board.

I shall be glad to have this agency represented on the Board by Lt. Commander Henry S. Morgan, who is familiar with matters that concern both OSS and the Office of Censorship. I hope that this is satisfactory to you.

sincerely yours,

William J. Donovan
Director

copy to Col. Morgan

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON 25

November 15, 1944.

BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR

Brig. Gen. William J. Donovan,
Director,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, 25, D. C.

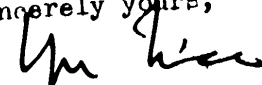
Dear General Donovan:

As you know, the Executive Order establishing the Office of Censorship provided that the Director of Censorship should appoint an Operating Board consisting of representatives of various other Government agencies having an interest in Censorship.

The Operating Board has not been especially active for some months and I find that vacancies have developed. I would like to bring the record up-to-date.

The latest information I have on file indicates that you appointed Mr. Wilmarth S. Lewis as the Office of Strategic Services representative on the Censorship Operating Board. I am informed that Mr. Lewis is no longer connected with your office. I would be greatly obliged if you would designate someone to serve on the Board in his stead, and would inform me of your selection.

Sincerely yours,


Byron Price,
Director.

Censorship Operating Board
X Lewis, Wilmarth
X Representative

7406A

**THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON**

December 22, 1942.

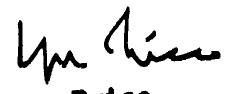
**BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR**

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

Dear Colonel Donovan:

I am glad to appoint Mr. Wilmarth S. Lewis to represent your office on the Censorship Operating Board, as recommended in your letter of December 17. I am sure that we shall find his counsel helpful.

Sincerely yours,



Byron Price,
Director.

Censorship Board 7406A

F. Davis, Wilmarth

X. Representative

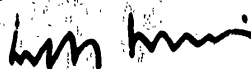
**OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

December 17, 1942

Dear Colonel,

The Censorship people have suggested that you send the enclosed letter to Mr. Byron Price in order to regularize my appointment to their Board.

Yours sincerely,



Enclosures

Colonel Donovan
Administration Building

December 17, 1948

Dear Mr. Price:

Mr. F. L. Belin who has represented this Office on the Censorship Operating Board now wishes to withdraw from it, and I hope you will be willing to have Mr. Wilmarth S. Lewis take his place on it. I am delighted to hear that the relations between our two Offices are now proceeding so satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

Mr. Byron Price
Director, Office of Censorship
Washington, D. C.

WJL:AMc

Censorship Board 7406
X Sec'y, Sub. Inv. Com.
X Representative

December 18, 1942

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Mr. Belin

Dear Lamot:

I have your memorandum and have today designated Wilmarth Lewis to act as our representative on the Censorship Board. I want to express my appreciation for the excellent job which you have done in Censorship, and I realize that the important work which you are doing so well requires your entire time.

OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

Censorship Operating Board
X Belin, F. L.
X Lewis, Wilman, Jr.

December 28, 1942

Mr. F. L. Belin
Office of Strategic Services
Washington, D. C.

Dear Lamott:

I have your letter of December 8 in which you submitted your resignation as the Office of Strategic Services' representative on the Board of Censorship of the United States Office of Censorship.

The services which you have rendered in that capacity have been most valuable to OSS, and I want you to know how appreciative we are of all your efforts.

Your resignation is accepted in order to free you for the other important services which you are rendering to OSS at this time.

Sincerely,

Director

EJP:IRN

~~OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP~~
~~COMMUNICATIONS SECTION~~

WASHINGTON, D. C.

F. L. Belin
[Signature]
1278

TO: Colonel Donovan
Major Bruce
Mr. John Wiley
Dr. James P. Baxter
Dr. Wilmarth Lewis

JUL 17 1942

FROM: F. L. Belin

I have received a notice from Mr. Byron Price, Director of Censorship, calling a meeting of the Censorship Operating Board for Wednesday, July 22nd.

Mr. Price expresses the hope that each member of the Board will come prepared to discuss constructively the operations of the Office of Censorship from the viewpoint of his own department or agency, and make suggestions for improvement.

If you desire me to make any suggestions at this meeting, will you be good enough to call them to my attention by noon Tuesday, July 21st?

F. L. B.
F. L. Belin

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

July 16, 1942

Mr. Byron Price
Director of Censorship
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

Replying to your letter of July 15
regarding a representative on your Censor-
ship Operating Board, Mr. F. L. Belin will
continue as the representative of the Office
of Strategic Services.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan
Director

✓

Censorship Operating Board 7406
x Belin -

**DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON**

July 15, 1942.

Colonel William J. Donovan,
Coordinator of Information,
25th and E Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

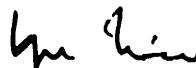
Dear Colonel Donovan:

Before the recent reorganization of the information services Mr. F. L. Belin served on our Censorship Operating Board as the representative of the Office of Coordinator of Information.

I have called a meeting of the Operating Board for July 22 and have sent Mr. Belin a notice.

I would be obliged, however, if you would let me know whether you desire to have Mr. Belin continue on the Board as a representative of the Office of Strategic Services.

Sincerely yours,



Byron Price,
Director.

6-20
9-10
11-5

Censorship extracts 6457
J. R. ...
Jill



TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

May 23, 1942

Dear Mr. Murphy:

I appreciate your sending me the reports taken from censorship extracts. They are quite interesting in that they certainly do give a picture of how people in Europe react to events.

Sincerely yours,

A. M. Kamarck

A. M. Kamarck,
Office of the Secretary

Mr. James R. Murphy,
Office of Coordinator of Information,
Old National Institute of Health Bldg.,
25th and E Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

FOR DEFENSE



*Censorship & extracts 6/57
X Treasury*

May 22, 1942

Mr. Andrew Kamarck
Room 207 Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kamarck:

I am attaching copies of two
recent reports taken from censorship
extracts.

Sincerely,

James R. Murphy

Office of Censorship 15978
x Bd of Review
Jill

May 9, 1942

Mr. Byron Price, Director
Office of Censorship
Washington, L. C.

Dear Mr Price:

I am sorry I have not answered sooner your letter of April 8th. However, I have been laid up in New York recuperating from injuries received in an automobile accident.

I have designated, as principal representative of this office in New York, Mr. ^{a.c.c.}Lucy Kastner of 270 Madison Avenue. I have asked Mr. Kastner to designate his alternate.

For the Los Angeles office I have designated Mr. Nelson Poynter, and Mr. Frederick Polangin, as his alternate, located in room 616 Taft Building, Hollywood, California.

-2-

I should like to receive decision as to representatives for other censorship stations, as I should like to have the two representatives here designated to cover other stations where it may be possible. If this arrangement does not work out, I shall then be glad to designate representatives wherever necessary.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR

Off. of Censorship 578
x Bd. of Review
x Photo material
x ...

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1942.

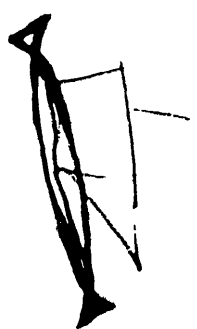
Handwritten initials and scribbles

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

Dear Colonel Donovan:

A reply has not been received to my request of April 8 that you designate a principal and an alternate representative of your department to advise the New York and Los Angeles Boards of Review on questions of film censorship affecting your agency. Designation of representatives for other censorship stations, where personnel is available to you, also was requested.

If you are unable to expedite a full reply, will you please let me have at your earliest convenience the designations for New York and Los Angeles?



Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Byron Price
Byron Price,
Director.

Handwritten notes:
4x ...
T ...
616

Handwritten name: Lucy Kastner

Handwritten notes:
145-31
19th Ave
Whitstone
20.

Handwritten numbers:
107-169
1822

Handwritten notes:
7:30
258
1572
12
College Point
N.Y.

Office of Censorship
x Board of Review
x Photographic
x CO & Represent

April 30, 1942

Mr. J. Robert Rubin
Low Building
1540 Broadway
New York City

Dear Bob:

Here is a memorandum I have received which
I wish you would look at and return to me. I
would like your ideas on it.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Censorship is 4761
~~*x letters from Europe*~~
x news from Rome

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

INTEROFFICE MEMO

2-13-42 **CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE March 13, 1942

FROM: David Bruce
TO: Colonel Donovan
SUBJECT: Letters from Europe

I am returning Mr. Pflaum's memorandum to you under date of March 11 regarding letters from individuals inside enemy or occupied countries.

This matter was discussed in the meeting this morning and Mr. Poynter is to take it up with Mr. Wilmarth Lewis.

David Bruce
David Bruce

Censor ship 4761
x letters from Europe
x news room

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.
March 11, 1942

A 543

MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Colonel William J. Donovan
From: Irving Pflaum
Subject: Letters from Europe.

Mr. Poynter spoke to David Bruce concerning the attached. Do you think it would be proper for it to be referred to Mr. Belin?

We believe there should be some way for the newsroom to use news, tips and clues contained in letters from individuals inside enemy or occupied countries.

Dear David —

Encl.

Trace this up
with Mr. Bartlett so
that we may work
something out.

D.

This matter was settled in the March 13th morning meeting. Mr Poynter is to see Lefty Lewis

Files.

Mr. Bruce

For Mr. Poynter

March 13, 1942

Explained this to Mr Poynter this morning.

AKCA

TO: MR. PFLAUM
FROM: WILLIAM A. KIMBEL

MARCH 10 1942

REPLY TO YOUR MEMORANDUM OF MARCH 9th OUTLINING
PROPOSAL NO. 1, OVER NAMES OF CORSON AND FARISH, IT IS
MY OPINION THAT THIS INVOLVES A MATTER OF BASIC POLICY WHICH
SHOULD BE REFERRED TO COLONEL DONOVAN FOR DECISION. THE
ENTIRE QUESTION OF CENSORSHIP AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIAL
NOW RECEIVING INTENSIVE STUDY IS A MATTER IN WHICH COLONEL
DONOVAN IS PERSONALLY PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE. I THEREFORE
SUGGEST THAT YOU SEE COLONEL DONOVAN PERSONALLY.

WAK
W. A. K.

COORDINATE OF INFORMATION

RADIO NEWS ROOM

date March 9 1948

to: **Mr. William Mitchell**
from: **Irving Pfizma**
subject:

The attached proposal, made by two members of the News Division staff, was brought to our early morning meeting today.

It is my idea that some material from the source suggested in the proposal is or soon will be made available to COI.

Would you let us know if this is so, and if it is, whether the News Division could possibly have access to it?

(by E. Powell)

File
Copy

PROPOSALS FOR MORNING CONFERENCE

March 9, 1948

No. 1. Background: Inside news, tips and clues from individuals inside enemy countries are splendid sources for more news stories and ideas. Every verified idea should be at our disposal.

Proposal: Letters from thousands of persons and private business houses within occupied countries go right past our censors who are looking for other content, not necessarily what we would want. From France, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and North Africa, these letters come almost uncensored on the other side.

The thoughts of the writer, his feelings and intuition are revealed. He is a check on our present closely guarded sources. He is information that we don't use.

A man from this office, and I humbly propose myself, could read selected correspondence at the censoring source. In Bermuda he would find new information and ideas, be near the censors and in constant touch with this office. Another field would be opened to our news office.

BY: Carson, Farish

BELIN - ⁽¹¹⁾ Q BLDG

Censorship 400
X Requirements of COI

February 6, 1942

Mr. Byron Price

Director of Censorship

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

I understand that each governmental department and agency has been requested by the Board of Censorship to inform it regarding what sort of information is desired from the Division of Reports.

(1) The Office of the Coordinator of Information would like to have copies of every letter submitted (i.e., every letter which the examiner, according to the instructions she has been given, considers worthwhile reporting by reason of its information or security interest).

(2) Cable and telegraph, including commercial wireless telegraph. In addition to whatever the officials of this branch think might be of interest to the COI, we would specifically like to have transcripts of all long distance telephone conversations intercepted

-2-

here, and also copies of all en clair cables of foreign embassies and legations, and other foreign organizations.

(3) In addition to having copies, as mentioned in paragraph (1), of all detained material, we should like specifically to have the following:

a. Letters to and from foreign Missions and personnel thereof.

b. Letters and telegrams dealing with commercial transactions and money movements between suspects, or with suspects, or addressed to individuals or firms with European or Far Eastern connections.

c. Letters and telegrams from Europe, especially those containing accounts of conditions, or referring to movements of individuals.

d. ~~All~~ correspondence containing references to naval, military and air matters.

e. All correspondence containing reference to, or indication of, Falange or other pro-Nazi or Communist propaganda or activities.

f. All correspondence referring to shipping.

g. All re-addressed letters, viz., passed on

-3-

by original addressee to another address.

h. Correspondence regarding stamp collections.

i. Letters which seem otherwise innocent, but which refer to addresses abroad, or cable addresses.

j. Letters to and from refugee organizations, prominent refugees or doubtful minority groups and individuals.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

Censorship Board
X Mullen

February 4, 1942

Memorandum for Mr. Bruce:

There will be a meeting of the Censorship board in Mr. Price's office at Room 774 Apex Building at 11:00 o'clock on Monday morning. In attendance will be:

- Mr. Gaston, Treasury
- Mr. Mellett, Government Reports
- Mr. Price, Censorship
- Nelson Rockefeller, Inter-American Affairs

The subject will be the motion picture and film problem. If Mr. Delin cannot attend will you arrange to be present. Also, please notify Miss Mullen, Mr. Price's secretary as to who will attend.

nJD

SECRETARY OF STATE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

DATE: 10/10/54

FROM: [Illegible]

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible handwritten text]

[Illegible handwritten text]

[Illegible handwritten text]

[Illegible handwritten text]

Censorship 3809
X Belin

al, 1942

Memorandum on censorship
prepared by [redacted] for the Censor.

I thought you might want to read it.

Sincerely,

William J. Donovan

*Censorship to Press 3710
X L.O. N.U. -*

**COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION
270 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK**

January 28, 1943

**To: Colonel William J. Donovan
From: Commander Vanderbilt**

**It is possible that you might want to send
a copy of the attached to Mr. Price for the
use of his mail censorship people. Copy of
this has been sent to the FBI in New York.**

WSTH

Attach.

WJV AM