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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON

July 6, 1942

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

The Joint Chiefs of Staff are of the opinion that, in the interests of maximum security and efficiency, cryptanalytical activities should be limited to the Army, the Navy, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

At present, small cryptanalytical units exist in the offices of the Director of Censorship, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Director of Strategic Services. It is also possible that other offices have installed or are contemplating cryptanalytical units.

In the interests of secrecy, elimination of unnecessary duplication, and most efficient use of the limited number of talented personnel skilled in cryptanalysis, it is believed that this work should be controlled and undertaken by a minimum number of agencies. As the Army, the Navy, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation now have large organizations well equipped and capable of handling the processing of all the raw material currently intercepted, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend that these activities be limited to the three agencies mentioned. An agreement has been reached with regard to the allocation of this work between the Army, the Navy, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Presidential approval of the foregoing is respectfully requested.

(Signed) F. J. HORNE

E. J. KING
Commander in Chief
U. S. Fleet

(Signed) G. C. MARSHALL

G. C. MARSHALL
Chief of Staff

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Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 06-13-2012 pursuant to E.O. 13526

Enclosure (A)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 8, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET:

I am enclosing a copy of a memorandum received today from the Chief of Staff and the Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Fleet. I agree with them. Will you please have the proper instructions issued discontinuing the cryptanalytical units in the offices of the Director of Censorship, the Federal Communications Commission and the Strategic Services. If you are aware of any other agencies having services of this character, will you please have those discontinued also.

F.D.R.

Enclosure

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Enclosure (B)