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In reply refer to Initials and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Op-32-CK

Serial:

~~TOP SECRET ULTRA~~

8 NOV 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL MARSHALL:

Subject: Signal Intelligence.

Reference: (a) Your Top Secret ULTRA Memo dated 10 October 1945.

1. Your memorandum of 10 October has had my most careful consideration. I note that you consider the best solution for improving the effectiveness of ULTRA intelligence and for resolving the entire question of Army and Navy intelligence would be for us to combine in one location, under joint control, all Army and Navy intelligence effort, personnel and direction, including all of the product of ULTRA.

2. You will recall that in November 1942, at my suggestion, we directed the heads of ONI and MIS to explore ways and means of merging their activities in order to eliminate duplications, reduce overlap, and make headway toward a unified intelligence agency. As a result, each of the services undertook the performance of certain intelligence functions on behalf of both and in addition, numerous joint intelligence activities were established. That this progress has not resulted in complete coordination or joint effort in all intelligence matters appears to have been because of the different ideas of the two Services as to what should be included under intelligence effort.

3. I concur with your proposal as stated in reference (a) above, insofar as it is practicable to do so and still retain to each service control of those matters essential to the effective employment of its forces. For this reason it is necessary that the Navy retain those functions which relate to Naval operational intelligence required for the exercise of naval command. This includes cryptography, which for the Navy's purposes, must be integrated into the communications service rather than into the intelligence service.

4. Subject to the above, I agree that intelligence should be a joint matter. I suggest that an ad hoc committee be appointed to work out a program on the above basis for our further consideration.

5. I share your view that our program should be worked out in a manner to permit the armed services to cooperate fully with the State Department in the formation and operation of a central intelligence agency, should one be established.

E. J. King
Fleet Admiral, U. S. Navy.