A BILL

To penalize the divulging of the contents of confidential Government documents.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

That whoever, without authority, shall willfully and knowingly furnish, communicate, divulge, or publish to any person, in whole or in part, copies or the contents, substance, purpose, effect, or meaning of any file, instrument, letter, memorandum, book, pamphlet, paper, document, manuscript, map, picture, plan, record, or other writing in the custody of the United States, or of any agency, officer, or employee thereof, declared to be secret or confidential by statute, or declared to be secret or confidential by any rule or regulation of any
department or agency of the United States of which he has
knowledge or which has been published in the Code of Fed-
eral Regulations or in the Federal Register, shall be fined
not more than $5,000 or imprisoned for not more than two
years, or both. The provisions of this section are in addition
to, and do not supersede, other laws.

Sec. 2. The head of any executive department, inde-
dependent establishment, or other agency may authorize the
disclosure of information in the custody of his department,
establishment, or agency to particular persons or classes of
persons or to the public generally. The provisions of section
1 of this Act shall not apply to disclosures so authorized.
A BILL

To penalize the divulging of the contents of confidential Government documents.

By Mr. Van Nuys

FEBRUARY 17 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 18), 1942
Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary