A. MILITARY

1. Bucharest: For more than a year the Japanese Military Attache in Rumania has been getting intelligence from an organization engaged in intercepting, analyzing and reading radio traffic. So far as appears, the organization is operated exclusively by the Japanese. It has been covering U.S., British and Russian communications and has been working both on plain text and code messages; the codes involved seem to be for the most part of the low level variety.

Three recent reports from the Attache disclose that particular attention is being paid to EFM traffic of the U.S. Army,* and also to some U.S. Navy messages. On 29 January the Attache sent the following communication to the Vice Chief of the General Staff in Tokyo:

"Piecing together messages intercepted between December and January, we learn that large numbers of American troops have landed in England, but we do not know where they are stationed."

On 29 February the Attache reported:

"Most of the messages sent during February by United States troops in Britain had to do with furloughs and mentioned the possibility of returning home."

*EFM (Expeditionary Force Message) traffic is transmitted over Army circuits and, in some cases, over commercial circuits. The messages are in plain text, but bear code address words indicating the location and APO number of the soldier who sends or is to receive the message.
"United States Army addresses previously appearing on intercepted messages to Teheran have, since January, been identified as located in Cairo. On 21 February we intercepted messages from United States troops in Cairo as follows:

   a. 'From the Near East come many wishes for your good health.'
   b. 'We are travelling once again.'
   c. 'Due to a change in orders, I won't be able to come home as planned.'
   d. 'Letters and wires will be stopped soon.'
   e. 'Conditions do not permit my return home.'

"Those interceptions, together with many United States Navy code abbreviation wires, indicate movements of troops via Cairo."

The latest pertinent item is a 1 March report from the Attache, which lists "addresses of United States troop units ascertained during February." The report identifies 27 addresses as "positive beyond doubt," 20 of them in the British Isles, 6 in Cairo, and 1 in India; and it tentatively identifies 10 more in Cairo and 4 more in India. Note: The accuracy of the Attache's identifications cannot be checked completely because of garbles at some points; at least 25 of the 41 addresses given, however, are identified correctly."
The report concludes with a statement that until 14 December 1943 a specified address [garbled] was located in Iran, but that since 20 January "it has definitely turned up in Cairo."

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