

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~~~SECRET~~

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~~SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: "Japanese Diplomatic Secrets," Manuscript of

1. Through the good offices of the Department of Justice this Agency has acquired for study and permanent file a microfilm copy of the subject manuscript, the publication of which was prevented by the rapid enactment of special legislation for the protection of diplomatic codes (Act 10 June 1933 (48 Stat. 122; 22 U.S.C. 135)).

2. Until the copy became available for study, it was the general impression among U.S. COMINT authorities that the writer of the manuscript was Mr. H. D. Yardley, the author of The American Black Chamber. However, upon examining the subject manuscript, its author purports to be a Marie Stuart Klooz, who in 1932 or 1933 appears to have resided in Sweet Briar, Virginia, and was probably either a student or a member of the faculty of Sweet Briar College. Also, it appears that the firm of George T. Bye and Co., then located at 535 Fifth Avenue, New York City, acted as literary agent for the author of the manuscript.

3. Several questions arise: who is or was Marie Stuart Klooz; if still living, where is she and what does she do; how did she acquire the secret decoded Japanese messages, which are quoted in the manuscript and which appear to be authentic; where are those messages now; what relationships existed at the time of writing among Klooz, Yardley, and the literary agent?

4. Although the passage of time and the close of the recent war with Japan have nullified much of the value of the messages employed in this manuscript, it is nevertheless deemed advisable to locate them or to insure that they have been destroyed, since according to USCIB regulations for the protection of COMINT sources, "the time limit for the safeguarding of COMINT never expires."

5. Any information you may be able to supply in this connection will be appreciated.

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