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NAVY DEPARTMENT  
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations  
Washington

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Op-20-G/kac

May 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL CARTER CLARKE:

Subject: ONI "Brief of Telegrams of Department of State."

Enclosures: (A) My memo to Op-20-S, dated Apr 6, 1943.  
(B) OP-20-S reply, dated May 8, 1943.

1. Enclosures (A) and (B) are forwarded for your information.  
I believe they are self-explanatory.

J. N. ENGER  
Op-20-G-1

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Op-20-S-3/rah

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May 8, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR OP-20-S:

As you will remember, Commander Wenger transmitted several weeks ago a memorandum stating that there was some question as to the technical quality of the paraphrasing done to State Department dispatches which are included in the O.N.I. periodical information bulletin. I was unable to get the exact messages, but I ascertained that they were available to Colonel Cook. Accordingly, I secured a copy of the O.N.I. Bulletin and sent it to Colonel Cook with the request that he compare the paraphrases with the originals and render an opinion.

He has returned the Bulletin with the oral statement that the paraphrases have been satisfactorily made.

A sample of the O.N.I. Bulletin is attached.

Respectfully,

/s/ R. L. DENSFORD

ENCLOSURE (B)

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Op-20-G/jac

April 6, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR Op-20-S:

Subject: Brief of Telegrams of Department of State.

1. Colonel McCormack of G-2 recently called to my attention a daily publication prepared by ONI (Op-16-C) entitled, "Brief of Telegrams of the Department of State". He said that the Special Intelligence Section of G-2 published a similar resume but in much briefer form and thoroughly paraphrased. His group in G-2 are much concerned over the fact that many of the telegrams quoted are very poorly paraphrased and give the British, who are on the distribution list, an excellent means of getting into State Department communications. He said that recently Field Marshal Dill remarked to General Strong that British cryptanalysts could read the traffic of any nation, including the U. S. Colonel McCormack said it was no wonder they could when we provided them with such things as this ONI buttetin; he could not imagine the British Foreign Office supplying us with a loose paraphrase of all of their telegrams.

2. I have not seen the publication in question, but I am passing this information on to you because it bears on Security, and possibly the matter is worth looking into.

/s/ J. N. WENGER

ENCLOSURE (A)

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