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Extract from MAGIC SUMMARY -- 17 April 1944

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3. Helsinki: The Summary for 29 June 1943 noted that the Finns had been giving the Japanese Military Attache in Helsinki at least some of the military intelligence obtained from Finland's Military Attache in Washington.

A number of reports from the Japanese Attache received since that time contain the following further information about Finnish-Japanese cooperation on intelligence matters:

a. The Finns have continued to give the Japanese detailed information on (1) the Russian Army (Order of Battle, tactics, etc); (2) military and naval strength of the United States.

b. From time to time the "Finnish Espionage Group" has given the Japanese pointers on cryptanalysis of Russian, British, American and other systems. As of June 1943 the Group's activities were regarded as a closely guarded secret and were not known to the Finnish Legation in Tokyo.

c. Toward the end of last year, the Attache was having some difficulty maintaining contact with the "Espionage Group." Permission to visit the Group had to be obtained from the Finnish High Command and was "generally refused." At least part of the difficulty had apparently arisen from Japan's failure to furnish intelligence material in exchange.

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The latest information is contained in a 29 March report from the Military Attache, reading in substance as follows:

"According to the statements of a Finnish officer assigned to cryptanalysis, Finland is in a state of political confusion, and cooperation on intelligence matters with Germany and Hungary has been suspended. Accordingly, Finland has to rely on her own efforts.

"There has been no change in the desire of the Finnish Espionage Group to cooperate with Japan. However, their fundamental rule has been equality in the exchange of material, and that policy applies to Japan as well as to others. The Finns have not progressed greatly since last fall in their work on Russian, American and British systems* and are particularly anxious to read the American systems. They want Japan's aid in the matter.

"The privilege of freely inspecting the places where the Finns do their work--which we had previously enjoyed--has been completely suspended.

"Under the circumstances, cooperation with Finland will certainly be difficult. I am particularly afraid that we will be at a great disadvantage if the question of furnishing important material should arise. However, I shall continue to try to obtain as much material as I can."

"Last June the Attache advised Tokyo that it was "now very hard to read American and British diplomatic systems" and recommended that Japan concentrate on the "codes of small nations which do not employ such difficult systems."

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