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EXHIBIT

25 March 1944

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NNDG 760093

MEMORANDUM TO THE CHIEF ENGINEER:

By WGL/mc NARS, Date 9-29-81

Subject: Information Requested by the Attorney General
Relative to Monitoring Operations on the West
Coast Between December 1941 and July 1, 1942,
as Expressed in Memorandum from Office of
General Counsel

On December 7, 1941, there were in operation within the confines of the Western Defense Command area two Primary Monitoring Stations and fourteen Secondary Stations. The Primary Monitoring Stations were located at Portland, Oregon and San Pedro, California. The Secondary Stations were located at Seattle, Washington; Spokane, Washington; Portland, Oregon; Great Falls, Montana; Boise, Idaho; Arcata, California; Larkspur, California; Fresno, California; Los Angeles, California; San Diego, California; Reno, Nevada; Yuma, Arizona; Tucson, Arizona and Salt Lake City, Utah. Between the dates of December 7, 1941 and July 1, 1942, a Secondary Station at Larkspur, California, was moved to San Leandro, California, and was expanded to a Primary Monitoring Station. The Secondary Station at Yuma, Arizona, was moved to Salinas, California. These stations were engaged in a comprehensive surveillance of the entire communications spectrum to guard against its use for illegal and subversive purposes. The Primary Monitoring Stations were equipped with Adcock high-frequency direction-finding apparatus and tied in with a nationwide direction finding system whose operations were coordinated through the headquarters of the National Defense Operations Section, Field Division, Engineering Department in Washington. Through this facility, direction finding bearings from a number of stations on the continent as well as Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico could be obtained and fixes embracing the areas in which the suspected transmitters were located made possible.

The Secondary Monitoring Stations were equipped with mobile loop direction finders which permitted them to go into the field and by taking bearings within the groundwave range of the station they could quickly locate the source of the radio signals. Other devices were provided which enabled the personnel to determine the exact house and room in which a transmitter was located if necessary.

In addition to the direction finding apparatus all stations were equipped with radio receivers and recorders which permitted the interception and recording of signals transmitted throughout the entire communications spectrum from 15 KC to 300 MC.

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Early in the Spring of 1941 at the request of the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army these monitoring facilities were intensified through the use of coastal patrols. The coastal patrols comprised mobile direction finding-intercept stations which operated near the coast from the Canadian to the Mexican border. The particular purpose of these patrols was to ferret out any enemy transmission from the shore to ships at sea as well as to locate the source of interference to military circuits and to identify radio signals and service at the request of War and Navy Department units in the field.

The Commission's field offices on the West Coast on December 7, 1941, were flooded with calls from the Army and Navy, reporting subversive radio signals as well as requesting the location and identification of radio signals and services.

Several informal conferences were held in San Francisco between representatives of the War and Navy Departments and members of the Federal Communications Commission. Moreover, telephone circuits were kept open continuously between the Primary Monitoring Stations at Portland, Oregon, and Army and Navy Posts in Oregon and Washington for the purpose of furnishing these agencies with bearings and other information pertaining to radio signals. Similar service was rendered at San Diego and other stations.

Considerable confusion and misunderstanding existed in military circles relating to radio because of inexperienced and untrained officers and personnel. Our records are replete with cases where untrained and inexperienced Army personnel erroneously reported location of Japanese radio stations which upon investigation proved to be radio stations transmitting from Japan and the Mandated Islands. Information concerning a case of this kind can be gained by reading from the file entitled "Correspondence Relating to Alleged Radio Activity by Japanese on the West Coast" and the RIC file.

Considerable assistance was requested from representatives of the Federal Communications Commission by the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army in matters relating to radio silences and seizure of radio transmitters in the possession of enemy aliens within the Evacuation Area.

Mention has been made relative to informal conferences held between members of the War and Navy Departments on the West Coast and members of the Federal Communications Commission. These conferences resulted in the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army requesting the War Department under date of January 15, 1942 to establish a joint Radio Intelligence Center in San Francisco to be operated by the Federal Communications Commission. The Commanding General stated:

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"The defense of this theatre of operations requires the immediate establishment of a joint Radio Intelligence Center for the purpose of coordinating and evaluating radio intercept and goniometric information now being collected by the Army, Navy, and FCC. A plan for its establishment agreed to by representatives of the above services is inclosed."

This Intelligence Center was established in the Customhouse in March, 1942, and funds were made available by the War Department. The Primary Monitoring Stations at Portland, Oregon, and Santa Ana and San Leandro, California, were provided with direct leased-line teletypewriter circuits to the Center. Furthermore, a central circuit was provided between San Francisco and the headquarters of the Radio Intelligence Division in Washington, D. C. Through these channels rapid coordination of radio direction finding bearings and exchange of information relating to identity of radio stations was consummated. Army officers were in constant attendance at the Intelligence Center for the purpose of coordinating the Commission's activities with those of the War Department. The Navy furnished officers for part-time service and all the departments had direct line telephone circuits from the Center to their headquarters. The following is a report of actual cases investigated by the mobile direction finder units of the RID operating in the Evacuated Area of the Western Defense Command from December 1941 to July 1, 1942:

1. Number of Reports to FCC of Unidentified or unlawful radio signals in area evacuated: 760
2. Results
 - (a) Number of cases in which found no radio signalling at all involved: 641
 - (b) Number of cases in which found radio signalling came from ~~un~~identified and lawful stations:
 - (1) U. S. Army: 21
 - (2) U. S. Navy: 8
 - (3) Enemy stations in enemy occupied territory: 10
 - (4) Others - by groups, if possible
 - (a) Police: 12
 - (b) Phonograph Oscillators: 3
 - (c) Legitimate U. S. and Foreign Commercial Stations: 65
 - (c) Number of cases in which found radio signalling was from

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- (1) Unidentifiable sources. No cases involved signals which could not be identified.

During this period as a result of the operations of the Radio Intelligence Division, 19 unlicensed radio stations were found; however, none were located in the States of California, Oregon or Washington. There are attached to this report 2 graphs showing the trend by months of the number of cases referred to the Radio Intelligence Division alleging illegal or subversive radio operation, between September 1941 and September 1942, two graphs are shown on this exhibit. It will be seen that the number of complaints requiring investigation received before and after July 1 are comparable. It is quite evident that these complaints were influenced only to a small degree, if at all, by the evacuation of the Japanese since the graph shown for these three states almost exactly follows the trend of the graph shown for the entire United States and possessions, which is the larger of the two graphs shown on the attached sheet. Observations and statistics maintained by this Division since the establishment of NDO quite clearly indicate that the increase and decrease of the number of complaints received from time to time, not only varies in the same way in various parts of the country, but also actually follows our success in the war. When our military ventures appear to be unsuccessful, or when we are losing battles, complaints received from the general public appear to sharply increase. As soon as the tide of battle turns in our favor, the number of complaints received shows a sharp decrease.

The material contained in this memorandum does not portray the whole picture of the months following Pearl Harbor. Hundreds of complaints were received by our offices which involved licensed radio stations or identified stations in other categories which did not require investigation but could be solved either by referring to the station lists of various sorts, by listening to the signals over the telephone, or by tuning in the station and identifying it right at the monitoring station. Reports which were handled in this manner, particularly immediately following Pearl Harbor, could not be appropriately recorded and classified as cases since investigation in these numerous instances was not required. One example of this may be shown from quoting the report received from Seattle, Washington, for the month of December 1941, in which the recorded number of cases totaled 16, but during which time the Monitoring Officer reported, "In addition to the cases listed on the attached report, this Unit has investigated and closed (without assigning case numbers) 130 complaints of alleged unlicensed radio transmitters, Japanese language transmissions and radiotelegraph signals since December 7, 1941. Also, a great deal of cooperation has been given to the government agencies in identifying radio signals."

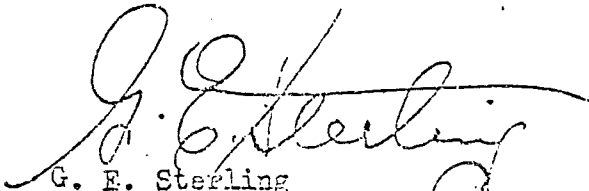
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In honoring specific requests for bearings on Japanese radio signals, originated by the War Department, the Primary Monitoring Stations at San Leandro, California, and Portland, Oregon, took bearings on Japanese signals outside the United States in the following categories:

| <u>Classification</u> | <u>Number of Stations</u> |
|--|---------------------------|
| Japanese Naval | 193 |
| Japanese Army | 45 |
| Japanese Military Attache | 1 |
| Japanese Diplomatic | 17 |
| Japanese Weather | 10 |
| Japanese Shortwave Broadcast | 9 |
| Japanese Point-to-Point | 16 |
| Japanese Point-to-Point in Occupied Territory | 8 |
| Other Japanese | <u>572</u> |
| TOTAL | 871 |

During this entire period of operation, no illegal radio stations were found within the confines of the Evacuated Area of the Western Defense Command.


G. E. Sterling
Chief,
Radio Intelligence Division

GES:nbp/RI