

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

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WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM

1. During the past year continued close cooperation and liaison has been maintained with other government departments. Especially close relations are maintained with the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department and with the Department of Justice. There is an interchange of all reports and information which might be of interest between M.I.D. and O.N.I. However, so far as Domestic Intelligence is concerned, M.I.D. is not primarily interested in conditions affecting the seaports and locales of naval bases, hence in those areas O.N.I. must rely upon its own efforts to keep informed of subversive and espionage activities which might affect the safety of the fleet. The Department of Justice with its limited personnel is fully occupied with criminal investigations and cannot carry on the investigations which it is sometimes essential to have done. Even in important cases, it is usually impossible for the Department of Justice to detail an investigator to a case at the time that he is needed. As an illustration of this, in a recent case involving the probable theft of a highly confidential pamphlet, the Department of Justice was unable to send an agent to investigate until two months had elapsed. By that time it was too late and the pamphlet was not recovered.

2. The Director of Naval Intelligence is prepared to explain why it is necessary to have permanent investigators under this Division.

(By giving an expose of the Thompson and Barone cases and showing that it is not a question of merely apprehending one or two individuals, but rather of keeping track of an efficient organization which is made up of numerous informers and has many ramifications. In other words, it is a continuing proposition rather than a temporary one.)

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