

Office of

Op-16-B

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UNCLASSIFIED

Report made at:
Date made by:
Period covered:
Title of case:

Dear Captain:

Many thanks for your kind letter of February 18, 1941. Commander Davis thinks it is a very good idea for you to have the Japanese informants do work for you but he would like to know what their names and addresses are and he wants you to be sure that they are not actually espionage agents of the Japanese Government.

Commander Davis who is in charge of our section E-7, would also like you to furnish him more information from the Eleventh Naval District on Japanese activities, particularly regarding the Japanese Naval Officer whom we are sending you a coded dispatch about today.

In regard to the transfer of Agent Teague from San Diego to Los Angeles, I will find some way to mention this to Mr. Tamm but, of course, I will have to be very careful in doing so.

I am going to New York on Friday to attend the weekly meeting between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Military Intelligence Division and the District Intelligence Office there and I am sorry that you are so far away and cannot attend some of our conferences. If you have any trouble at all with the Special Agent and he does not cooperate with you please let me know and I will get Mr. Tamm to jump him about it.

With kindest personal regards,

UNCLASSIFIED

~~Confidential~~ / Downgrade to Sincerely,

Auth: ED/2958.....

Date: 28 SEP 98 Unit: NCT522.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

W. B. Phillips,
Captain, U. S. Navy.

Capt. B. L. Canaga, USN (Ret.),
Eleventh Naval District,
Naval Operating Base,
San Diego, California.

Dictated Feb. 25, 1941
Dictated by Capt. Phillips
Typed by N. Hannon

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 73643

Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Op-16-B

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February 25, 1941

Dear Captain:

Many thanks for your kind letter of February 18, 1941. Commander Davis thinks it is a very good idea for you to have the Japanese informants do work for you but he would like to know what their names and addresses are and he wants you to be sure that they are not actually espionage agents of the Japanese Government.

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With kindest personal regards,

~~Confidential~~ Downgrade to..... Sincerely,

Auth: EO 12958

Date: 28 SEP 98 Unit: NCIS 22

W. B. Phillips,
Captain, U. S. Navy.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Capt. B. L. Canaga, USN (Ret.),
Eleventh Naval District,
Naval Operating Base,
San Diego, California.

Dictated Feb. 25, 1941
Dictated by Cap
Typed by N. Han

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73643

UNITED STATES NAVAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
INVESTIGATION REPORT

Office of
NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
Received in B-3

.....am. 3 pm.

1-3-41
(Date)

cc

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SUBJECT: Procurement of Oriental Undercover Agents.

Report made at: 11ND San Diego, Calif. Date: December 23, 1940.

Report made by: C. H. Coggins, Lt. (MC) U.S.N.

Period covered: Continuous Contact Status of case: Pending

Origin of case: Eleventh Naval District.

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Character of investigation: Interview to discuss enrollment of Undercover Agents (Oriental).

Enclosures: Declassified / Downgrade to
Auth: EO 12958
Date: 28 SEP 98 Unit: NCTS 22

Copy to: ONI (P) ✓
ADIO SP
12ND
13ND
14ND

Source File No.: ND11/A8-4

ONI File No.:

Synopsis: The informant points out that many Chinese and some Koreans are being included in the selective service draft. He suggests that these be listed and investigated to determine which appear most promising material. A special few might then be given training in intelligence work and earmarked for undercover work in Honolulu or in the Canal Zone. He also stated that all the local Nisei had specific orders to vote against President Roosevelt in the last election, believed done on order from abroad through parents and elders. Orientals native to Hawaii will not be found satisfactory for undercover work due to the fact that a lifetime of close association with other oriental groups in the Islands has dulled the normal suspicion and antipathy. He suggested that oriental undercover agents be imported into the Islands.

Comment and recommendations: It is suggested that the present contact with this informant, which has now been carried on over a period of nearly two years be maintained and developed until such time as a definite policy for the enrollment of undercover agents be established by ONI.

Approved: B. L. Canaga
B. L. CANAGA
Capt. U.S.N. (Re)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority ND 73643

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ND11/A8-4
(A8-Cs-We)

December 23, 1940.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subject: Procurement of Oriental Under Cover Agents.

1. The informant points out that many Chinese and some Koreans are being included in the selective service draft. He suggests that these be listed and investigated to determine which appear most promising material. A special few might then be given training in intelligence work and earmarked for undercover work in Honolulu or in the Canal Zone.

2. He also suggests that, through his extensive connection with Chinese importing firms, the planting of these agents could be done through commercial channels in a most natural and logical manner.

3. The informant states that all of the local Nisei had specific orders to vote against President Roosevelt in the last election. It is generally agreed among the Nisei that this was done on order from abroad through the parents and elders of the Nisei.

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4. The informant confirms the popular impression that the Chinese are highly individualistic and without the tradition of a strong Nationalistic spirit. Nevertheless he states that the Chinese will fight fiercely against any power which injures his home or a member of his family. He suggests that a number of young Chinese whose relatives have been killed or wounded by the Japanese, have applied to the Chinese Consul for transportation to China for military service, and that they are strong in their anti-Japanese feelings. The Consul has a list of these volunteers and this list can be obtained and might well serve as a source of supply for undercover agents.

REF: EO 12958

5. The informant, who is an experienced and well qualified Chinese, offers the suggestions that, for the purpose of undercover work, Orientals native to Hawaii will not be found satisfactory. He states that the reason for this is that a lifetime of close association with the other oriental groups in the Islands has dulled that suspicion and antipathy which normally exists between the groups in other parts of the world. For this reason he suggests that oriental undercover agents be imported into the Islands.

28 SEP 98 11:00 AM

6. There are several young Chinese in this country who speak and understand Japanese. The informant has several of these under investigation and observation for the purpose of determining their background and loyalties. These will be reported on at an early date.

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Subject: Procurement of Oriental Undercover Agents.

7. Of the Chinese-Japanese marriages which have taken place, and the possibility of utilizing these for counter-espionage purposes, the informant states that they are generally very risky business. He states that a Chinese female will never give information against her Japanese husband and it is also doubtful if a Chinese husband could get dependable information through his Japanese wife.

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Auth: EO 12958
Date: 28 Sep 98 Unit: NCT 20

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