

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

In reply refer to
Op-16-B
(SC)A8-5
A3-1/A8-5
Serial No. 04816
CONFIDENTIAL

Director, Washington
Declassify / Upgrade to

Auth: EO 12958

Date: 21 SEP 98 Unit: NCT&S 22

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From: Chief of Naval Operations.
To : Commandants, ALL Naval Districts;
Commandant, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.;
Commandant, U. S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba;
Commandant, U. S. Naval Station, Guam;
Commandant, U. S. Naval Station, Tutuila, Samoa.

Subject: Cooperation and Coordination between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Military Intelligence Division of the War Department and the Office of Naval Intelligence.

Reference: (a) CNO conf. ltr. Op-16-B-3, A2-8, (SC)A8-5, Serial No. 0102916, dated July 6, 1940.

Enclosure: (A) Agreement of December 12, 1940 for cooperation and coordination between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department and the Office of Naval Intelligence.

1. Reference (a) enclosed an agreement between the Directors of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department and the Office of Naval Intelligence, for the guidance of District Intelligence Officers in connection with investigations of espionage, counter-espionage and sabotage. The enclosure of reference (a) called for close cooperation between the three agencies in all fields; but due to the various interpretations placed on this agreement, some confusion still exists.

2. Enclosure (A), supplementing the agreement of June 5, 1940, is forwarded for the information and guidance of the District Intelligence Service.

3. Particular attention is invited to paragraph 1.(a) of enclosure (A), which provides for a meeting of representatives of the three agencies at least once per week.

Distribution:

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W. S. Anderson,
By direction.

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Authority NND 78643

December 12, 1940

COOPERATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION OF THE ARMY
AND THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE OF THE NAVY

1. The Assistant Chief of Staff in charge of the Military Intelligence Division of the Army, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of Naval Intelligence, with a view to promoting the closest possible cooperation and coordination between the Field Services of these agencies, recommend as follows:

(a) Special Agents in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Divisional Offices, Corps Area Military Intelligence Officers, and Naval District Intelligence Officers will maintain close personal liaison between those offices and their representatives, including a meeting of representatives of the three agencies, preferably the officers in charge, at least once per week, for the purpose of discussing pending and contemplated investigative activities, and any other subjects necessary to insure that there is proper coordination of their investigative work.

(b) The close personal liaison to be maintained between representatives of the three agencies at all times should insure that there is no duplication of effort in any field, and that a proper coverage of the whole investigative field is maintained. Particular attention should be paid to avoiding any duplication in connection with the use of informers.

(c) A distinction should be recognized between the investigative interest of individual agencies and the coverage interest. It is believed that all three agencies should study, from time to time, the coverage of the investigative field in order to insure that all channels of interest and avenues of information are adequately covered by at least one of the participating agencies.

(d) Where there is doubt as to whether or not one of the other agencies is interested in information collected, it should be transmitted to the other agency.

(e) Consideration should be given to the fact that certain classes of information are of general interest to the Military and Naval Intelligence Services in connection with background and a knowledge of espionage and sabotage organizations, even though the Military and Naval Intelligence Services may have no apparent direct investigative interest.

(f) Should differences of opinion of a minor nature occur, the Directors of the three intelligence agencies feel that with proper personal liaison, such differences can be satisfactorily adjusted locally by the officials in charge of the various divisional organizations.

2. The above instructions should not in any way be construed as abrogating the delimitation agreement previously promulgated, but as amplifying and clarifying this agreement.

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