

Doyle

Blakely,
R. Ad. C. O

IN REPLY KINDLY ADDRESS
"COMMUNICATIONS"
BOX THE NUMBER BY WHICH

NAVY/ADM-1/USN (Civilian Police)
143-45-100

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE
ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
May 5, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

April 28, 1941

The Honorable Frank Knox
The Secretary of the Navy
Navy Department
Washington, D.C.

FILED

My dear Admiral:

My dear Secretary:

I have your letter of April 28 in which you outline your understanding of the proposed project for improving the safeguards against espionage and sabotage in our shore establishments. The outline you give in your letter is substantially correct. Of course, you understand before this project can be put into effect, I must have legislation from Congress. I am going about getting this as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Although there seems to be some discrepancy in statements reported made to the various officers by Mr. Doyle and his two companions, Messrs. Hogan and McGrath, concerning the details of the proposed program, it is evident that an interesting and most necessary project is under consideration. Required adequate safeguards against

Admiral C. A. Blakely, USN,
Commandant, 11th Naval District,
San Diego, Calif.

Although the program presented by Mr. Doyle, statements, as made by Mr. Doyle to the Chief of Staff and reported by the latter to me, is substantially the following plan:

RECEIVED S-C FILES
Room 2055

1. That a specially-trained investigative unit be established within the naval service;
2. That the investigative unit would be composed of specialists selected for their abilities as mechanics, clerks, draftsmen, etc.;
3. That the investigators would be assigned in groups of about 25 to the various naval districts;

ROUTE TO: 10 MAY 1941
Op File No. (86) A8-6/ND

Copy No. 1 of 1

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 803073

(S) A8-6/ND

IN REPLY KINDLY ADDRESS
"COMMANDANT"
NOT THE SIGNER BY NAME

ND11/A16-1/QM(Civilian Police)
(A8-An-Hn)

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE
ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

April 28, 1941

The Honorable Frank Knox
The Secretary of the Navy
Navy Department
Washington, D.C.

My dear Secretary:

It is regretted that illness confined me to the hospital during the recent visit to Eleventh Naval District of your assistant, Mr. Jerome Doyle. However, Captain G. M. Ravenscroft, U.S. Navy, Chief of Staff, conferred at length with Mr. Doyle and made possible for him discussions with various activity commanders and the District Intelligence Officer and members of the District Intelligence Officer's staff.

Although there seems to be some discrepancy in statements reported made to the various District officers by Mr. Doyle and his two companions, Messrs. Hogan and McGrath, concerning the details of the proposed program, it is evident that an interesting and most necessary project is under consideration to provide urgently-required adequate safeguards against espionage and sabotage.

Although no written program was presented by Mr. Doyle, statements, as made by Mr. Doyle to the Chief of Staff and reported by the latter to me, in substance, proposed the following plan:

1. That a civilian highly-trained investigative unit be created to function within the naval service;
2. That the investigative unit would be composed of from 300 to 400 specialists selected for their abilities to function as mechanics, clerks, draftsmen, etc.;
3. That the investigators would be assigned in groups of about 25 to the various naval districts;

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 803073

ND11/A16-1/QM(Civilian Police)
(A8-An-Hn)

April 28, 1941

-2-

CONFIDENTIAL

4. That the investigative groups would function under direction of the commandants in the various districts to augment the Naval Intelligence field units of the districts;
5. That investigative group personnel, while on field duty, would be under direction of the Intelligence Branch field unit heads;
6. That the investigative groups personnel would be assigned with a flexibility that would permit easy movement from district to district of specialists in trades, etc., and
7. That, in general, the investigative groups would function under Washington headquarters for personnel administrative purposes only.

From Mr. Doyle's reported statements to the Chief of Staff, it is evident that a greatly-needed protective personnel force is under consideration and, if the program is planned as outlined by Mr. Doyle to the Chief of Staff, the Commandant would be thoroughly in accord with its development. //

Your thorough understanding of our Eleventh Naval District plant protection problems and your eagerness to assist us in solving them is most heartening.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very respectfully,

C. A. Blakely

C. A. BLAKELY
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.
Commandant, 11th Naval District

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 803073