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

In reply refer to No.

Op-16-B-6
QM/EJ3
Serial No. 0260216

WASHINGTON

Apr 3 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL DISTRICTS DIVISION.

Subject: Security of Emergency Power Sources, Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.

Enclosure: (A) Copy of report dated March 28, 1941, subject, Emergency Power, Protection of, by the District Intelligence Office, Sixth Naval District.

- 1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded for your information.

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Authority *NND 803073*

UNITED STATES NAVAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
INVESTIGATION REPORT

APR 1 1941 9 59 AM

Confidential

Subject: EMERGENCY POWER, PROTECTION OF.
Report Made at: District Intelligence Office, 6ND Date: March 28, 19 41
Report Made by: Lt. Frank P. Morton, USNR
Period Covered: March 27, 1941 Status of Case: Pending
Origin of Case: Teletype from ONI, March 27, 1941.

Character of Investigation: Security of emergency power sources.

Enclosures: NONE Copy to: ONI (2) 6ND (2)

Source File No. ONI File No.:

Synopsis: There are three possible sources of emergency power into the Charleston Navy Yard. Two of these are now available and a third may be easily connected. The temporary sub-station is in an extremely vulnerable position and should be protected. The permanent sub-station is planned at a location outside the Yard area and it is understood that the only protection planned is a wire fence.

Comment and Recommendations: Attention is invited to the recommendations on the last page of this report.

APPROVED: A. G. HOWE, Captain, USN, (Ret) District Intelligence Officer

DECLASSIFIED Authority NND 803073

From N. P. D. K. C. Wh. Wi. 4 5 6 8 H.

March 28, 1941

AT CHARLESTON, S. C.

Contact was made with Mr. Ernest L. Godshalk, President of South Carolina Power Company, and Mr. Jim Crist, Vice-President of South Carolina Power Company. At the present time the South Carolina Power Company has a 4400 K.V. line running from St. George, South Carolina, to the steam generating plant at Charleston, South Carolina. Power may be fed from either end of this line and either generating system has ample surplus power to supply the needs of the Charleston Navy Yard. A transmission line connects this line into the sub-station in the Charleston Navy Yard.

A third source of power is the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, which is only a short distance from the Navy Yard, and a 13,000 volt line is now run to within 150 feet of the sub-station at the Navy Yard.

No special control or guard of these lines is being made by the local law enforcement officers.

The power company states that it would be a matter of only a few hours at most to restore service on these lines in the event of a major interruption. Crews and materials are available twenty-four (24) hours a day.

The line from the pulp mill is not connected at present to the sub-station at the Navy Yard, but the power company states that this can be done in a matter of a few hours.

In the Navy Yard at the sub-station, there are three transformers rated at 1667. These are special transformers designed to take care of the power from the 4400 K.V. line and the 13,000 volt line, and there are no spare transformers of this type available in this area. In the event of damage to one transformer, the other two may be used which will give a power output of two-thirds ($2/3$) of the combined capacity. Power company officials state that this is ample at present to take care of the Yard load with the dry dock pumps not operating, but would not provide enough power to carry the entire load including these pumps.

Mr. Simon Sorentrue, Master Electrician at the Navy Yard power plant advises that the lines between the sub-station and the main power plant are very light and are capable of handling only about 1500 at present. To remedy this situation, it will be necessary to string lines and provide switches capable of handling the full load.

The present temporary sub-station is protected only by a light wire fence. It is located only a few feet from the edge of the Yard in full view of a public highway. These transformers could be damaged very easily by rifle fire or bomb.

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It is planned to locate the permanent sub-station outside the Yard, approximately 200 feet to the rear of the main power plant.

COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the power company be requested to complete the connection between the lines of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company and the temporary sub-station.
2. That the temporary sub-station be protected from damage by rifle fire, bomb or similar methods.
3. That heavier lines be strung between the temporary sub-station and the main power plant so that the full capacity of these transformers will be available in an emergency.
4. That consideration be given the locating of the permanent sub-station inside the Navy Yard where it will be better protected and that it be so designed that it will be effective against rifle fire, time bomb, or aerial bombardment.

P E N D I N G

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