

Secretary Knox has seen.

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to No.  
Op-16

January 13, 1942

**CONFIDENTIAL** C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY

Subject: Espionage in Hawaii.

Supplementing the information which you heard on your flying visit to Hawaii, the following may be of interest:

Immediately after the attack on December 7th a guard was placed at the Japanese Consulate and observed the Consul General and the Vice Consul attempting to burn records. Some were seized before they could be burned, including the telegraph file of messages to and from Tokyo and a "consular code".

On December 8th the FBI obtained from the radio and cable companies copies of all messages which had been sent and received by the Japanese Consulate, and this material was translated by the local Naval Intelligence. It included:

- (a) A dispatch to Tokyo on December 3rd, indicating code and methods of signalling to show movements of ships on the 1st to the 3rd (one group) and on the 4th to the 6th (another group).
- (b) Messages to Tokyo on December 4th and 5th showed actual movements of our ships, including data on those anchored "on the afternoon of the 5th".
- (c) There was also a message from Tokyo to Honolulu of the 6th to inform Tokyo immediately of any rumors of the movements of warships after the 4th.

In this connection it is interesting to note that prior to the attack and all during last year the FCC had refused the FBI information regarding international and trans-oceanic radio cable and telephone messages because of the illegality of so doing. The FBI memorandum containing the information above concludes with this significant paragraph:

RECEIVED S-C FILES

Room 2055

JAN 16 1942

ROUTE 10:-

*Sec No*

Op File No. (SC)

*A8-5/EG12*

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"It is further noted that repeated efforts, and in fact entreaties, were made to enlist the cooperation of the managers of the various commercial cable and wireless companies in Honolulu to furnish the FBI and the Office of Naval Intelligence with copies of all communications exchanged between the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu and the Foreign Office in Japan, but all of these requests were without success."

*T. S. Wilkinson*

T. S. WILKINSON.

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