

In reply refer to  
Initials and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Op-16-1-B

A3-1/ND

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

Serial 0349716

WASHINGTON

25 February 1944

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.  
To : District Intelligence Officers - All Naval Districts.  
Subject: Restriction of Counter-Intelligence Activities:

1. Counter-intelligence activities of the Naval Intelligence Service are definitely restricted to matters of direct Naval interest, both by the Delimitation Agreement, except as indicated therein concerning Japanese, and by the established responsibilities and jurisdictions of the other Departments, Bureaus and Offices of the government.
2. In spite of these restrictions, it has come to the attention of the Director of Naval Intelligence that a large number of man-hours have been and continue to be expended on theoretical studies of organizations, groups, trends etc., which are of very indirect or only passing interest to the Navy, and in some cases of no interest whatever.
3. It is appreciated that many of these studies were undertaken to bridge a definite gap, because the Naval Intelligence Service was organized and equipped to do so and that this service has been rendered in a highly commendable manner. However, expansion of other agencies, enabling them now to assume and discharge their individual responsibilities, coupled with the man-power shortage, makes it mandatory that the restriction to direct Naval interest be rigidly applied.
4. No hard and fast definition as to what is or is not of direct Naval interest is deemed feasible. Good common sense must govern any decision, and if there is doubt, the advice of the Office of Naval Intelligence is always available.
5. The following subjects are cited to indicate a few typical examples that are considered to be not of direct Naval interest; when information is received concerning such subjects, it should be accepted by any Naval Intelligence Officer as the representative of an agency vitally interested in national security and forwarded to the Office of Naval Intelligence for further disposition or turned over to the appropriate local agency for such action as may be deemed advisable, and the Office of Naval Intelligence informed.

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Organizations for peace movements.  
Activities of Americans, Moslems, Arabs etc. in Middle East.  
Activities of Irish in collaboration with Germans in U. S.  
Information concerning economic espionage.  
Existence of Abwehr, Gestapo etc. in U. S.  
Activities of Pan-Serb Nationalistic groups.  
Spanish honorary consuls in United States.

6. Directives in conflict with the above are hereby cancelled and will also be the subject of separate correspondence.

H. H. Schuirmann,  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy.

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