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July 6, 1942

MEMORANDUM

FOR:

Colonel Donovan

FROM:

Mr. Taylor

SUBJECT: F

Role of Intelligence in shaping propaganda

policy

In addition to the intelligence required for its own psychological warfare activities the OSS has an obvious interest in supplying the foreign branch of the OWI with intelligence of various types. By doing so, the OSS can exercise an indirect influence over the policies and operations of OWI, which in the long run, may prove even more effective than direct instructions. The following suggestions are offered for the exploitation of OSS intelligence material to influence OWI policy:

1. Special liaison on intelligence directly between R and A and OWI. The OSS liaison officer with OWI should, however, be in constant contact with the R and A man assigned to this task.

3

- material constantly flowing to the OWI through the channel indicated above, it might prove effective from time to time to prepare ad hoc analytical reports or summaries of intelligence material bringing out indirectly but clearly the points which the OSS planners will wish to call to the attention of the OWI. These special reports should always be based on accurate intelligence and should not contain misleading interpretations. The general liaison officer should be closely associated with the preparation of these special reports.
 - for the collection and appreciation of intelligence, it seems logical that OSS should gradually take over more and more of the functions now carried out by or projected by the OWI intelligence service. As these are still in an embrionic state it should be easy for OSS to establish its superior facilities for intelligence work. Great tact must be exercised in approaching this whole question. The OWI intelligence men must be given no pretext for feeling that an attempt is being made to restrict their

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activities. The restriction of OWI intelligence activities must be voluntary, arising solely from a realization that the OSS intelligence services are doing a better job for OWI than any services OWI itself could set up.

4. It would be useful to establish in London a strong psychological warfare intelligence unit working closely with the intelligence division of PWE and servicing both OSS and OWI. This unit should concentrate on the types of intelligence required chiefly for the guidance of radio propaganda: Analysis of the enemy's domestic propaganda policy, fluctuation of moral, zones or areas of ignorance among listening groups on the Continent, etc.