

#60 RUSSIA

2

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1942.
11:40 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL KING

Miss Tully has just handed this to me, stating as she did so that the President was dissatisfied with the draft of the message and that he desired that you redraft it.

Very respectfully,

J. L. McCrea

JOHN L. MCCREA,
Captain, U. S. Navy,
Naval Aide to the President.

1625- 4 May/42

Redraft herewith

Not Sent

EGK

COMMON FILE

UNITED STATES FLEET

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Not Sent

The convoy routes into northern Russia are now heavily compromised by three factors first lengthening days second enemy surface submarine and air activity based in northern Norway third the unusual southward drift of the ice which severely restricts detour routes.

Para The three factors combine to make the difficulties of safe passage of convoys so great that the current and prospective results of deliveries are such that the British who handle matters in that part of the ocean have reluctantly come to the conclusion in which we concur that they are unable to send through more than three convoys every two months of twentyfive to thirtyfive ships each and this only when Russia shall be able to assist at the eastern end by adequate air and surface coverage and by sustained attacks on enemy air submarine and surface bases in northern Norway.

Para Sufficient American and British vessels are already loaded or are already on the high seas bound for Soviet Arctic ports to fill such convoys for at least two months. We have, therefore, acquiesced in the conclusion that it would be a waste of shipping space to load additional ships for Soviet Arctic ports until escorts are available for them or until navigation conditions become more favorable and enemy action

is reduced by appropriate Soviet support. Equipment manufactured particularly for the Soviet Union is being stored for later shipment and materials such as tanks and planes which may be diverted to other uses will be replaced just as soon as it is possible to transport them. The Soviet Ambassador has already been informed of the situation and has undoubtedly informed his Government.

~~Para There are three important military factors which also have a marked bearing on the munitions situation first other mandatory commitments of the United States and Britain second the growing production of munitions in Soviet Russia which makes convoy deliveries a lessening part of the whole third the shipping and munitions requirements involved in arrangements now in hand for mounting an offensive in Western Europe.~~

Para You are authorized in case the Soviet authorities should mention the matter to you to emphasize the fact that the adjustment of shipments is due entirely to the ~~three~~ physical ^{factor} ~~and the three military factors which call for appropriate revision of the munitions process~~ ^{we retain in full measure} in the interests of the common purpose of all of us to win the war.

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~~in the interests of~~ the common purpose of all of us to win the war.

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER		EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM	ROULLARD KOUBICHEV	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY				RRR
DATE	22 APRIL 1942			DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM	1520	INFORMATION	MOSCOW	PRIORITY
DECODED BY	NORBY			RRR
PARAPHRASED BY	HILL			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

LT WEINSTOCK

221615 NCR 3976

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	UCT
TEXT			

IN SPITE STRONG SOVIET PRESS PROPAGANDA AGAINST TURKISH TRIAL OF SOVIETS CONNECTED VON PAPEN CASE AND UNANNOUNCED DEPARTURE TURK AMBASSADOR CONVERSATION TURK MILITARY ATTACHE LEADS BELIEF SERIOUS BREAK USSR RELATIONS NOT LIKELY BUT MERELY BEING "TESTED" TO CLARIFY COUNTRIES POSITION.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date NOV 14 1973

16.....ACTION

COMINCH.....10/11.....20P.....FILE.

221615

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRIORITY
FROM KOUIBYCHEV(ROULLARD)	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			ROUTINE
DATE 22 APRIL 1942	INFORMATION	MOSCOW	DEFERRED
FOR CODE ROOM			PRIORITY
DECODED BY LEICH/WILBY			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY FL THOMPSON			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

LT(02 JG) GERMAN

221820

NCR 4/86

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRIORITY.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME

DATE

TIME

OCT

TEXT

RELIABLE SOVIET INFORMANT WHO JUST ARRIVED FROM HOME
IN BIRCHIDZHAN NEAR Khabarovsk STATES JAP AND SOVIET
MASSSED ON BORDER. EVERY MOVEMENT MADE IN DEPLOYING
TROOPS IS COUNTERED BY OPPOSITE COUNTRY.

~~SECRET~~

EO: 11652, Sec. 9(a) and (D) or (E)

GSI letter, May 2, 1972

By RHP, FAMS Date NOV 14 1973

16...ACTION

COMINCH...10/11...20G/..OPDO

FILE...20P...P1A...00...

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

221820

27147

Make original only. Deliver in communication watch office in person. (See Art. 75 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM <u>ALUSNA ISTANBUL</u>	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	000000 URGENT
RELEASED BY _____			DEFERRED
DATE <u>20 APRIL 1942</u>	INFORMATION		PRIORITY
TON CODEROM <u>2203/20</u>			ROUTINE
DECODED BY <u>KIRK</u>			DEFERRED
PARAPHRASED BY <u>HARVEY</u>			

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

ENS RODNEY

201945 NCR 3008

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

SECTION ONE. ON ^PAPRIL 16 PRIME MINISTER CALLED CONFERENCE ANKARA OF ABOUT TWENTY NEWSPAPER EDITORS. FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSED CONFERENCE SAYING RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA VERY DELICATE SINCE VON PAPPEN BOMBING INCIDENT FEB 24 AND RUSSIA BRINGING TREMENDOUS PRESSURE BEAR ON TURKEY FOR RELEASE OF TWO RUSSIANS ON TRIAL SINCE APRIL 1.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date NOV 14 1973

DISTRIBUTION

16....ACTION

RECORD COPY: COMINCH....

FILES: CNO....200P....00...P1A...

201945

~~SECRET~~

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
ALUSNA ISTANBUL		OPNAV	00000000 P P P P P
FROM	FOR ACTION		PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			ROUTINE
DATE	INFORMATION		DEFERRED
21 APRIL 1942			
FOR CODER ROOM			PRIORITY
STATES LLOYD			ROUTINE
DECODED BY			DEFERRED
HILL			
PARAPHRASED BY			

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY
 ENSIGN ROONEY 201955 NCR 3016

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME DATE TIME OCT
 TEXT

SECTION 2. HE COMPARED PRESENT RUSSIAN PRESSURE WITH PRESSURE ON
 GERMANS APPLIED TO AUSTRIA PRIOR TO ANSCHLUSS. HE STATED RUSSIAN
 EMBASSY MAKES DAILY VISITS TO FOREIGN OFFICE WITH COMPLAINTS
 REGARDING CONDUCT OF TRIAL AND THAT SINCE BOMBING INCIDENT IN
 WITH RUSSIA HAZARDOUSLY AVOIDED ON 2 OR 3 OCCASIONS. PRESS WAS
 INSTRUCTED AVOID AT ALL COSTS ANTAGONIZING RUSSIA.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(X) and 6(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 1971

NOV 14 1973

By RHP, MARK Date

16.....ACTION

COMINCH.....(P1A).....CNC.....200P.....RECORD COPY.

~~SECRET~~

201955

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM <u>ALUSNA ISTANBUL</u>	FOR ACTION	OPNA V	PRIORITY 0000000000
RELEASED BY			ROUTINE
DATE <u>21 APRIL 42</u>	INFORMATION		DEFERRED
TOR CODE/ROOM <u>3185/21</u>			PRIORITY
DECODED BY <u>DRUMMOND / SUPPLE</u>			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY <u>CL TUCKER</u>			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

LY. KELLY

202010 NCB 3124

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

THIS IS SECTION THREE

THE SOURCE OF ABOVE INFORMATION ATTENDED CONFERENCE ^{AND} ~~AND~~ LATER ATTENDED TRIAL. HE STATES EXTREME FAVORITISM SHOWN BY JUDGES AND AUDIENCE TO 2 TURKISH SUBJECTS ON TRIAL WITH THE 2 RUSSIANS, HE TOLD OF INCIDENT X ABOUT APRIL 17TH WHEN RUSSIAN EMBASSY CAR RAN DOWN TURKISH SOLDIER AND MDD ABOUT TO LUNCH DRIVER WHEN PASSING HIGH TURKISH OFFICIAL FROM PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE INTERVENED.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (J)
OBD letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date NOV 14 1973

16.....ACT.

RECORD COPY TO...COMINCH...~~00~~...CNOL...XX (PIA)...DP-20...FILE...~~SECRET~~

202010

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM <u>ALUSMA ISTANBUL</u>	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY OP OP OP
RELEASED BY _____			ROUTINE
DATE <u>21 APRIL 1942</u>			DEFERRED
TOR CODE ROOM <u>3323</u>	INFORMATION		PRIORITY
DECODED BY <u>LOUGHLIN McEILL</u>			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY <u>HILL</u>			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

LT KELLY

202020 NCR 3021

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH REFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GET
TEXT			

SECTION 4. INFORMANT IS PRO ALLY AND HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY OPTIMISTIC REGARDING TURKEY NOT BECOMING INVOLVED IN WAR BUT AS RESULT FOREIGN MINISTERS STATEMENT IS DEFINITELY PESSIMISTIC NOW. HE MAY HAVE ^{EX}PECTED THIS WOULD BE FORWARDED. IN THIS COUNTRY PENALTY FOR DIVULGING INFORMATION FROM SUCH A CONFERENCE IS DEATH.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(K) and 5(D) or (E)

OBD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NAJUS Date NOV 14 1973

16.....ACTION

COMINCH.....P1A.....202020.....CNO.....FILE.

~~SECRET~~

202020

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NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM DUNCAN (MOSCOW)	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			ROUTINE
DATE 18 APRIL 1942			DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM 1803/18	INFORMATION	DECLASSIFIED	PRIORITY
DECODED BY FISHWICK			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY HEINE			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

OSD letter, May 2, 1973

GERMAN

180735 NCR1690

By RHP, RADM Date

NOV 14 1973

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

UPON OCCASION OF MY FIRST VISIT RUSSIA'S NAVY DEPARTMENT, I WAS TOLD THEY WERE FULLY PREPARED FOR A FREE AND FULL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. MATERIAL WHICH I BROUGHT WITH ME WAS MOST GRATEFULLY RECEIVED AND I WAS INFORMED THEY NOW FEEL PARTICULAR CONCERN AS TO SITUATION IN FAR EAST. AS EVIDENCE THIS CONCERN I WAS GIVEN SECRET INFORMATION AS TO PARTICULAR CARE THEY ARE TAKING IN THAT AREA WHICH INFORMATION THEY REQUESTED I GIVE THE AMBASSADOR. THEY ASKED I NOT TRANSMIT THIS INFORMATION WHICH ALTHOUGH EVIDENCING THEIR REAL CONCERN WOULD BE OF LITTLE VALUE TO OPNAV.

THEY STATE KURILE ISLAND PASSES ARE NOT BELIEVED MINED AND TRANSIT THROUGH THEM IS NOT DENIED RUSSIAN SHIPS. HOWEVER, JAPS REQUIRE THEY BE INFORMED PRIOR TO SAILING OF SHIPS WHICH WILL USE THESE PASSES. AS TO WEATHER INFORMATION THEY REGRET NEGOTIATIONS HAVE TAKEN SO LONG AND HOPE MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE SPEEDILY CONCLUDED.

THEY BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF STATIONING TAECKER AT VLADIVOSTOK. THEY NOW SEEM ANXIOUS TO HAVE HIM THERE AND THAT WE HAVE CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE COMMANDER OF THEIR PACIFIC FLEET. THEY PREFER HE OSTENSIBLY APPEAR AS ATTACHE OF OUR CONSULATE. TAECKER HAS REPORTED HIS DEPARTURE TEHRAN ENROUTE MOSCOW.

~~SECRET~~

(CONTINUED)

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM DUNCAN(MOSCOW)	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			ROUTINE
DATE			DEFERRED
TOR CODER ROOM	INFORMATION		PRIORITY
DECODED BY			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

PAGE 2

180735 NCR1690

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

IN COMPANY OF AMBASSADOR I CALLED ON NAVY COMMISSAR. CUTTING INITIAL FORMALITIES SHORT, HE ASKED ADMIRAL STANDLEY

"WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER JAPAN'S GREATEST WEAKNESS FROM NAVAL POINT OF VIEW" THE ADMIRAL REPLIED THEIR SHIPPING AND GREATLY

LENGTHENED LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS AND STATED FURTHER IN EFFECT THAT SUBMARINES WERE THE ANSWER.

THIS REPLY OBVIOUSLY PLEASED THE COMMISSAR AND HE STATED HE HAD REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSION. ALTHOUGH KUIBYSHEV IS

NOMINALLY SEAT OF GOVERNMENT ALL IMPORTANT OFFICIALS ARE NOW HERE IN MOSCOW. ROULLARD REPORTS FROM THERE OUR LAST NAVY

CONTACT, A LIEUTENANT, HAS LEFT. BRITISH NAVAL ATTACHE HAS BEEN REFUSED PERMISSION TO LEAVE KUIBYSHEV, BUT ALLEN HAS

REMAINED HERE ALMOST 3 MONTHS WITHOUT OBJECTION. I HOPE TO REMAIN, BUT QUESTION HAS NOT BEEN MENTIONED YET. CERTAIN

CHARTS HAVE BEEN HANDED ME FOR DELIVERY WASHINGTON.

SOVIETS REQUEST CERTAIN OUR CHARTS WEST COAST, UNITED STATES, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, PANAMA, MEXICO AND WEST INDIES AND

OUR CHART CATALOG. RECOMMEND CATALOG AND PORTFOLIOS COVERING THESE REQUESTS BE SHIPPED FRANKEL FOR DELIVERY AND I BE SO

INFORMED.

SECRET

CONTINUED

DECLASSIFIED
CDD Letter, 5-3-78

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER		EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM	FOR ACTION			PRIORITY
RELEASED BY				ROUTINE
DATE				DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM	INFORMATION			PRIORITY
DECODED BY				ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY				DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

PAGE 3

180735 NCR1690

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

THEY ALSO REQUEST INFORMATION OUR ESTIMATE NUMBER
 ORANGE MERCHANT SHIPS OVER 1000 TONS AT BEGINNING OF WAR,
 NUMBER OF OILERS, WHAT ACQUISITIONS SINCE WAR FROM ASSOCIATED
 POWERS AND NEUTRALS AND WHAT ACQUISITIONS ABOVE SHIPS FROM UNITED
 STATES AND ENGLAND; ALSO EXTENT ORANGE LOSSES, HOW MANY SHIPS
 NOW COMPRISE ORANGE MERCHANT FLEET AND ESTIMATE THEIR ABILITY
 REPLACE LOSSES BY NEW CONSTRUCTION.

DISTRIBUTION

16.....ACTION

RECOP: COMINCH....20G.....38.....12....

FILES: CNO....P1A....00.....200P.....

DECLASSIFIED
 OSD Letter, 5-3-72

180735 NCR1690

~~SECRET~~

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPART N1

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM CTG 24.6 (<i>Beard Control Iceland</i>)	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PPPPPPPT
RELEASED BY			ROUTINE DEFERRED
DATE 6 MAY 1942	INFORMATION	ADMIRALTY COAC	PPPPPPPT
FOR CODEROOM 1408/06			ROUTINE DEFERRED
DECODED BY ATKIN/LOVELL			
PARAPHRASED BY JENKINS			

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

COPELAND

1131Z/6 NCR 1922

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME DATE TIME GCT

TEXT

(ACTION OPNAV INFO ADMTY COAC FROM CTG 24.6)

YOUR DISPATCH 1400Z 2ND TOTAL MAY ICE-BOUND RUSSIAN BOUND
 SHIPS 26 AT ^(about 8 mi North of Reykjavik) HVALFJORDUR AND 30 IN REYKJAVIK ROADS LATTER
 ANCHORAGES SUBJECT TO RISK OF SUBMARINE ATTACK. SERVING
 LARGE NUMBER OF SHIPS WITH DOCKS PRESENTS MAJOR PROBLEM.
 17 SHIPS FOR RUSSIA NOW AT HVALFJORDUR WITH 6 MORE ARRIVING
 FROM SC B1. CINC HALIFAX HAS RECOMMEND NOT MORE THAN 25
 SHIPS PER CONVOY

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (S)

OHD Letter, May 2, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date NOV 14 1973

DISTRIBUTION;

37...ACTION

RECOP;

F35...P1A...FILE...

~~SECRET~~

1131Z/6 NCR 1922

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

Copy made for
Mr. HopkinsPlotted on Russian
Convoy chart.