

PSF Executive Office — McCrea, Capt. John L.
of President

PSF
Subject File "E"
Box 147
~~147~~ - ~~147~~

75F-Exec Off - McCreia Folder
1-42

file
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

There is quoted below a paragraph from a memorandum recently prepared by the Director of Naval Communications for the Chief of Naval Operations:

"It is recommended that any conversations over the New York-London radio telephone circuit be conducted with great discretion in view of the danger that the Germans will understand everything said within a few hours after the completion of the telephone call."

The foregoing recommendation is based on the fact that we ourselves know how to "unscramble" conversations held where the scrambling device is used. We must give the Germans credit for being able to do as much.

Very respectfully,

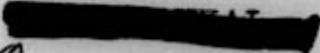
John L. McCreia

JOHN L. McCREIA

BF Exec. Ofc.

McGrea Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

 January 26, 1942.

file →
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

ONI has given me the following thumbnail sketch of our observer in Suez who made the attached report.

Lieutenant (jg) J. J. Wilkinson, U.S.N.R., has spent 14 years at sea in the Merchant Marine. He took the FBI course and was then sent to duty in the Jacksonville district, where he set up the Naval Intelligence service in that area. He did a fine job. He is about 36 years of age. Lieutenant (jg) Wilkinson arrived in Suez on 12 December 1941.

Very respectfully,

John L. McGrea

JOHN L. McCREA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

25 January 1942

Discipline aboard United States merchant vessels is deplorable, but it is no worse or better than it has been for the past few years. Vessels continue to abide by union rules and union delegates aboard ships dictate policies to masters and officers. Vessels in Suez are subject to air raids yet in most ships the majority of crews are ashore, leaving ships undermanned in the event of an emergency. Crews go on shore liberty and return to their ships when they feel so inclined. They are generally in advanced stages of intoxication and have with no exceptions created disturbances aboard every ship that has called at Suez since I have been in Suez. I am informed that the only disciplinary power that the master has is to impose fines or have seamen placed in jail, yet in most instances masters hesitate to even use these measures, complaining that in the event of a dispute with the Seamen's Union upon return to the United States, masters frequently lose their jobs due to the inability of steamship company officials, shipping commissioners, etc., to support them.

Due to extremely high wages and bonus gratuities, seamen are not concerned with slight wage penalties imposed by logging. Information circulated aboard ships is to the effect that still further bonus gratuities are to be paid merchant seamen, and this has reportedly dispelled any concern as to military or naval authority and discipline.

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McCrea
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
personal

McCrea Files

February 9, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you let me have the
chronological report on the
Japanese (two man) submarine
washed up on the beach outside
of Pearl Harbor, who found her,
and who took possession of her?
What do you find? Who is in
~~charge~~
custody of the Japanese officers?

F. D. R.

THE WHITE HOUSE

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON

February 7, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

My dear Mr. President:

I am sending you the draft
of a memorandum from you to Captain
McCray in connection with the matter
about which you asked me at lunch today.

Sincerely yours,

Francis Biddle

The President
The White House.

DRAFT OF MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT TO CAPTAIN McCRAY

Will you let me have the chronological report on the Japanese (two man) submarine washed up on the beach outside of Pearl Harbor, who found her, and who took possession of her? What do you find? Who is in custody of the Japanese officers?

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1-42

February 10, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR CAPTAIN J. L. McCREA

SUBJECT: du MAZUEL, Edmund G. F. R.

1. The Office of Naval Intelligence is informed that Senator Reynolds, of the Military Affairs Committee, on December 16, 1941, wrote to the President suggesting the formation of an "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CONTROL COMMISSION" to study the destruction of enemy crops by a process known as "Cooperzoidel Warfare." Attached to the letter was a draft of an Executive Order creating the Commission and appointing the subject, duMAZUEL, as a Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy, in charge of the Commission, with a deputy as Brigadier General, U. S. Army. All members of the Commission were to be commissioned officers of the Army or Navy.
2. The subject now calls himself contact man for the Military Affairs Committee and has an office, suite 357, House Office Building, telephone National 3120, extension 418.
3. The files of the Office of Naval Intelligence indicate that from 1926 to 1940 the subject posed as a preacher in Lake City, Florida, and operated as a Catholic Cemetery Association, "The Shrine of Christendom," claiming to have discovered bodies of pre-historic men, which were later proven to have been constructed of concrete and planted in a cave.
4. The subject has falsely represented himself as a doctor of medicine, and has been suspected of being engaged in espionage for some foreign government.
5. The subject has gone under various names and was engaged in manufacturing illicit liquor, and was also connected with a chain letter racket. The subject has engaged in sending messages in code, and is considered mentally unsound.
6. The subject was born in Paris, France, October 11, 1876, and the Office of Naval Intelligence has no evidence that he is a United States citizen.

DECLASSIFIED

By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.

By W. J. Stewart Date JAN 31 1973For The President
Very resp.
J. L. McCreA~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 14, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Attached hereto is a memorandum prepared by ONI showing facilities for drydocking in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania, which the President directed be compiled.

Very respectfully,

John L. McCrea

JOHN L. MCCREA

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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DDO OIK. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Division of Naval Intelligence
February 13, 1942

Date- 13-29-70

DRYDOCKS - AUSTRALASIA

Signature- *W. J. [unclear]*

I. AUSTRALIA

BRISBANE

The Queensland Government Graving Dock will take flotilla leaders and destroyers.

SYDNEY

This is the main maintenance and operating base of the Royal Australian Navy. At Cockatoo Dockyard destroyers are built while cruisers and an aircraft carrier of the size of the HERMES (10,850 tons) can be drydocked. Two other commercial docks in Sydney can drydock cruisers.

MELBOURNE

The graving dock belonging to the Duke's and Orr's Co. can drydock a light cruiser of the size of the 4,850 ton DANAE and the 6,900 ton seaplane carrier PEGASUS. The Alfred Graving Dock belonging to the Melbourne Harbour Trust will also take the DANAE and PEGASUS.

NEWCASTLE, N. S. W.

The New South Wales Government Floating Dock can take all types of cruisers and aircraft carriers of the size of the 10,850 ton HERMES.

II. NEW ZEALAND

AUCKLAND

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 2 -

Dockyard cruisers of the size of the 8,000 ton Fiji and the 6,900 ton seaplane carrier PEGASUS can be taken in the Harbor Board Calliope Dock.

PORT CHALMERS

The Otago Harbor Board Dry Dock will take cruisers of the size of the 5,450 ton DIDO as well as the 6,900 ton seaplane carrier PEGASUS. The Port Chalmers Dry Dock will take flotilla leaders and destroyers.

LYTTLETON

The Harbor Board Graving Dock will drydock cruisers of the size of the 4,200 ton CARLISLE.

III. TASMANIA

* No facilities.

Op-16-F-1

Op-16-F

* I will have this rechecked —

Very resp
John MacLean

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

McCrea folder

PST

March 2, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you check on this?

F. D. R.

Report from J. Edgar Hoover reporting that a pilot of the Eastern Airlines, flying north from Miami, ~~was~~ sighted two ships about ten miles apart and a submarine located about midway between them. He reported it to the Office of Naval Intelligence. Nothing done about it for several hours.

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By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.

By *E. J. Starnes* Date *JAN 31 1973*

full
confidential

TSF: Eric RB.

The Crea Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3-7-42

Memorandum for The President:—

Last evening you asked what was going to be done with Vice Admiral Shornley — The Secretary told me this morning that it was intended "to employ him at sea in a job commensurate with his rank"

As I write this I am wondering just what that means. Shornley is now a temporary vice-admiral. Query: Will he be employed as a vice-admiral or as a rear admiral —

I will try to get this cleared up this afternoon — and let you know.

Very respectfully

JAR
memo

PSF
Exec. Ofc.

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7-52

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 7, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you speak about this
to the necessary people in the
Department or possibly just to
King? It comes from a retired
Officer who had a very good
record.

F. D. R.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

McCrea Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 2, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you let the Navy
Department know very confidentially
about this but do not disclose the
source?

F. D. R.

Memo from J. Edgar Hoover,
dated April 27, 1942, reporting
that a German fleet contacted
the German Embassy in Buenos
Aires, Argentina, early on the
morning of April 24, 1942.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you be good enough
to see that Mr. Nash gets the
enclosed copy of letter from
Donald M. Nelson?

F. D. R.

PSK Exec OPS

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN MCCREA:

A good friend of mine and the Navy's sends me the following:

"I think someone ought to look into a 16 million dollar contract known, as I understand it, as the South Boston Works, let by the Bureau of Docks and Yards of the Navy. It looked originally as if the contract would go to a Massachusetts contractor, a buddy of Senator Walsh. This contractor, as I understand it, was under indictment on an income tax matter and therefore was disqualified. I understand the contract subsequently was let to another corporation, which in reality is nobody but the original bidder who had been disqualified. I should think that an inquiry from on top would get nowhere, but there is a Lt. Commander who is secretary of the Committee, who is on the level and knows all the facts. This Lt. Commander is a Michigan graduate. I have not been able to locate his name as yet, but will get it shortly."

Would you please take this up privately and confidentially with Ben Moreell and ask him for the facts?

F.D.R.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 22, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR CAPTAIN McCREA:

FOR YOUR FILES.

F.D.R.

Enclosures re message to Mr. Curtin
(Australia) Corres from Admiral King,
Sumner Welles, etc. May 20, 1942.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

McCrea Files

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA:

Will you speak to me about
this?

F.D.R.

Memo for the Pres. from H.H. 6/9/42
re President Quezon's desire to become
a member of the Pacific War Council.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 12, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA:

Will you find out, in confidence,
where the MAYRANT is?

F.D.R.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

McCrea Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA:

Will you show this to the
Joint Board? It may interest them.

F.D.R.

Memorandum re ALASKA HIGHWAY

BF Exec. Ojo.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN MCGREA:

Will you thank him and file?

F.D.R.

Note from Lord Halifax, British Embassy, 9/25/42, to the President, enclosing copy of a telegram from the Viceroy of India. This is a confidential paraphrase of telegram from the Viceroy of India to Lord Halifax dated 9/22/42, in re situation in India.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 31, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR
CAPTAIN McCREA

I wish I could have a copy
of this for my family files,
together with a sketch map or
chart of Maiken. I will lock
it up until after the war is
over.

F. D. R.

(161)
RM

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1-42

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

To reply to.

F. D. R.

Enclosures

Letter from Annie Sinnott Devereux,
1 West Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase, Md., undated,
to the President, enclosing letter she received
from Mabel T. Boardman, Secretary of the
American Red Cross, dated 11/12/42, attached to
which is letter which Mrs. Devereux received
from Lt. D.E. Kermode, R.N.R., M.S. Kamakura Maru,
8/31/42, regarding Major J.P.S. Devereux,
Woosung Concentration Camp, Shanghai, who has
approximately 510 officers and men of his
Wake Island command interned with him in the camp.
~~XXXXXXXX~~ Mrs. Devereux feels these prisoners
should be exchanged. Mrs. Devereux is Major
Devereux's mother.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

*Capt. McCrea
folder
1-42*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 21, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCrea

Will you find out what
they mean by "appropriate degree"?
That's just the thing I have
been talking about.

F. D. R.

Enclosure

Memo and enclosures from Capt.
McCrea to the President re award of
Legion of Merit with appropriate
degree to Lt. Fiss and Lt. Commander
King.

(334)
Rm

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2-42

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 15, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR

CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you be good enough
to acknowledge this letter from
Mrs. Winfield Scott Cunningham?

F. D. R.

Enclosure

Letter from Mrs. Winfield Scott Cunningham,
Cedar Park, R.F.D. #2, Annapolis, Md.,
undated, to the President, advising that her
husband, who was in command of Wake Island,
and now in Shanghai Municipal Gaol, be
released.