

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2,  
WASHINGTON

29 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL CORDERMAN:

These are the papers that I just discussed with you over the telephone. Please return both General Bissell's letter and Admiral Schuirmann's reply with inclosures to me with a full detailed statement of S.S.A.'s position in this case.

/s/ C.W.C.  
C.W.C.

Recd 6 P.M. 29 Sept.

W.P.C.

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Op-20-N ~~SECRET~~

26 September 1944

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE RE "WINDS EXECUTE" MESSAGE

- (1) Original teletype message - believed delivered to Admiral Noyes. Cannot be located.
- (2) Duplicate teletype message - should be among the work sheets and miscellaneous papers in 20-G. Cannot be located.
- (3) Original "Navy distribution" copy of translation - given to Admiral Noyes (with other papers) about 15 Dec. 1941 - for submission as evidence to the Roberts Commission. Admiral Hart intimated that he had sighted this copy late in April 1944. It is believed to be in the custody of Vice Admiral Horne or his aide.
- (4) Duplicate "Navy-file" copy of translation - should be filed in serial order in Gy's "JD-1" file. JD-1 #7001 (3 Dec. 1941) is missing and the dummy sheet inserted between #7000 and #7002 bears the notation - #7001 - Cancelled."
- (5) Two copies of translation were furnished to the War Department. One should be filed under the date (of origin) and the other by serial number in the "SIS" file. Col. O. K. Sadtler, Signal Corps, collected all Army copies about 15 Dec. 1941 and delivered them to a representative of G-2. The Army were requested (unofficially) on several occasions since October 1943 to furnish the Navy Department a copy of this translation but on every occasion they advised that they were unable to locate these translations although it was common knowledge that they had existed.
- (6) So far as can be ascertained, there is no written record still in existence which would prove receipt and delivery of the "Winds Execute" message.

/s/ L. F. Safford  
Captain, U.S.N.

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

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28 September 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL CLAYTON BISSELL, A. C. of C., G-2

- Subject: Pearl Harbor Investigation.
- Reference: Major General Bissell's Memo of 25 September 1944 to Rear Admiral Schuirmann, Director of Naval Intelligence.
- Enclosures: (A) Copy of Memorandum dated 26 September 1944 prepared by Captain L. F. Safford, subject: "Documentary Evidence Re "Winds Execute" Message".
- (B) Copy of Memorandum of 27 September 1944 to Op-20 signed by Captain P. R. Kinney, Subject: "Pearl Harbor Investigation".
- (C) Copy of JD-1:7148 Navy Translation 7 December 1941.

1. In reply to your memorandum of 25 September 1944, (reference (a)) so far as can be ascertained there is no written record in the files of the Navy Department which would prove receipt and delivery of the "execute" to the so called "Winds" message. It is possible that the present Court of Inquiry may obtain information which may shed some light as to whether the execute to this message was received, when it was received and to whom it was delivered and the time of such delivery. The records of this Court of Inquiry are not available to the Director of Naval Intelligence.

2. Enclosures (A), (B) and (C) are forwarded herewith for information. It is possible that a search of the War Department file may reveal some information on this subject.

R. E. SCHUIRMANN,  
 Assistant Chief of Staff.

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25 September 1944

SUBJECT: Pearl Harbor investigation.

TO: Rear Admiral R. E. Schuirmann, Director of Naval  
Intelligence, Room 3076 Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

1. Reference is made to the fact that on the 28th of November 1941 there was decoded a Japanese message providing for a voice code in a news broadcast which would warn of an imminent break in relations between Japan and the United States or Great Britain or Russia. This message we called the "Winds" message and already is familiar to you.

2. In order that War Department records may be completed, will you please answer the following questions involving this "Winds" message:

a. Did the Navy Department receive an implementing message to the "Winds" message on the night of 3-4 or 4-5 December 1941 which, decoded, said in effect that Japanese relations with the United States and with Great Britain were to be broken but that Japanese relations with Russia were not to be broken? If so, when and from what source?

b. Did the Navy Department receive an implementation to this "Winds" message on the night of 3-4 December, or at any time prior to Pearl Harbor? If so, when and from what source?

c. What notice, if any, of any such implementation message was ever given to the War Department by the Navy Department?

CLAYTON BISSELL,  
Major General,  
A. C. of S., G-2.

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TENTATIVE 27 September 1944~~TOP SECRET~~MEMORANDUM TO OP-20

Subj: Pearl Harbor Investigation.

Ref: (a) Memo from Gen. Bissell to Admiral Schuirmann

Enc: (A) Memo from Captain L. F. Safford  
(B) Copy of JD-1:7148)

1. Reference (a) requests a written reply to several questions concerning the possible reception and dissemination by the Navy of a Japanese message implementing the "Winds" message of 28 November 1941. Enclosure (A) is a memorandum from Captain L. F. Safford which cites his findings on the documentary evidence concerning the existence of an implementing or "Winds Execute" message.

2. An investigation held in Op-20-G to determine whether or not a "Winds Execute" message was ever received by the Navy has disclosed that no written record exists to prove either the receipt or the dissemination of such a message before December 7, 1941. On December 7, 1941 at 080015 Z a plain Japanese language message using code names (JD-1: 7148) was intercepted by the FCC, which indicated that diplomatic relations between Japan and England were on the verge of being severed.

3. Op-20-G's comments on the memorandum of Captain Safford are as follows: (Numbers refer to similar numbers in Capt. Safford's memo).

- (1) There is no written record of the receipt and dissemination of this message. No one at present

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Enclosure (B)

In the Naval Communications Annex has seen the message.

- (2) The work sheets and miscellaneous papers pertaining to Japanese diplomatic traffic were turned over to the Army (Arlington Hall) about June, 1942.
- (3) Captain Safford was Op-20-G at this time.
- (4) There is no record of this message in the JD-1 file. A file of 3 December 1941 (JD-1: 7001) has been cancelled, and it is possible that this file number referred to a message received on 3 December 1941. However, it is also possible that the file number (JD-1: 7001) was assigned to a message received several days or weeks before. The reasons for the cancellation of this file number are not known.
- (5) According to the practice of December 1941, the Army received two copies of each message translated by the Navy, and these are filed under date of origin and by serial number in the SIS file. It would appear, therefore, that a message disseminated by the Navy should be present in both of these Army files.
- (6) Op-20-G concurs with this statement.

/s/ Philip R. Kinney,  
Captain, U. S. Navy.

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