

~~SECRET~~ARLINGTON HALL STATION
MESSAGE CENTER

(42)

INCOMING MESSAGEDate Filed MAY 21, 1943FROM: KXX AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO: WILID WASHINGTON
NR: 4827Time Filed 0038Z

WE LEARNED SOME DAYS AGO THAT COLONEL KING DOUGLAS WORKING AT AIR MINISTRY HAS HAD SINCE LAST FALL FULL ACCESS TO ALL PARK MATERIAL AT AIR MINISTRY (WHICH IS GRATER PART OF ALL E MATERIAL) INCLUDING MSGS TO COMMANDERS, AND ARE INFORMED THAT ONE OF HIS JOBS IS TO HELP IN PREPARING FOR GENERAL EISENHOWER WEEKLY AND OTHER PERIODICAL SUMMARIES OF INFORMATION DERIVED FROM E AND SUBORDINATE MATERIAL AND ALSO THAT HE MAINTAINS LIASON FOR EIGHT AIR FORCE. (TO STRONG FOR CLARKE FROM MCCONACK) PARK PEOPLE WERE TO ARRANGE FOR US TO GO TO AIR MINISTRY AND WHILE THERE TO SEE DOUGLAS, WHICH SEEMED TO BE BEST APPROACH. HOWEVER WE THEN ACCIDENTALLY RAN ACROSS COLONEL LUSK AND FOUND THAT HE HAD COME OVER TO LEARN ABOUT SUNSET REPORTS AND TO SPEED THEIR FLOW TO WASHINGTON. THROUGH LUSK WE MET CAPTAIN BATES, AN ASSISTANT IX AIR ATTACHE, AND LEARNED FROM HIM THAT HE HAS BEEN SEEING AT LEAST SOME OF E MATERIAL AND SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH GROUP CAPTAIN WINTERBOTHAM, WITH WHOM LUSK AND BATES HAV BEEN DEALING, INDICATES THAT BATES HAS BEEN FREE TO SEE EVERYTHING AND THAT IN FUTURE ALL PARK MATERIAL WILL BE AT HIS DISPOSAL. WINTERBOTHAM, AMONG OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH I

AS Nr TANE TO BE MANIFOLD, IS CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER WITH AIR
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MINISTRY. HE TELLS ME THAT IT IS NOW PROPOSED TO SEND WASHINGTON ALL OF THE FACT MATERIAL THAT COMES OUT OF E, INSTEAD OF SENDING EVALUATIONS, AND THAT THIS IS TO BE DONE AT AIR MINISTRY BY BATES, WHO WILL SAY THAT HE WANTS TO HAVE SENT AND WHO CAN ALSO GET FROM MINISTRY, IN CONNECTION WITH ANY PARTICULAR ITEM OF INFORMATION, WHATEVER THEY MAY HAVE THAT BEARS ON ITS EVALUATION. WINTERBOTHAM ASKED ME TO CALL ON HIM TODAY, WHICH I DID, AND PRINCIPAL POINT THAT CONCERNED HIM WAS SECURITY OF ARLINGTON'S MESSAGE CENTER AT WHICH MATERIAL ROUTED THROUGH PARK AND BAILY COULD FIRST GET INTO FORM OF CLEAR TEXT AND MORE ESPECIALLY THE SECURITY OF ROUTING FROM ARLINGTON TO G-2. I TOLD HIM THAT NO DOUBT THESE POINTS WOULD BE LOOKED INTO BY TRAVIS, SINCE CHIEF HAD PUT UP TO HIM THE ADVISABILITY OF THIS METHOD OF TRANSMITTING REPORTS, BUT THAT I FELT SURE THAT SPECIAL BRANCH, BEING RECIPIENT OF EVERYTHING PRODUCED BY ARLINGTON, COULD ASSURE RESPONSIBILITY OF SEEING TO IT THAT MATERIAL GOT DIRECTLY TO GENERAL STRONG OR COLONEL LUCK OR WHOEVER WAS TO BE THE ACTUAL CONSUMER OF THE INFORMATION. NOTE THAT WINTERBOTHAM PUTS GREAT STRESS ON THIS METHOD OF ROUTING, FORTIFYING

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IT BY SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF TROUBLES THAT BRITISH USED TO
HAVE UNTIL SUCH QUESTIONS WERE RESOLVE. AND PRACTICE ABSO-
LUTELY STANDARDIZED. VARIOUS PEOPLE HAVE TOLD US THAT LT
WAR MINISTRY THERE IS AMERICAN OFFICER WHO CORRESPONDS
IN FUNCTION TO COLONEL DOUGLAS AT AIR MINISTRY BUT WE HAVE
FOUND NO ONE WHO CAN IDENTIFY SUCH AN OFFICER. AS WE WILL
NOT BE ABLE TO SEE GENERAL DAVIDSON UNTIL NEXT THURSDAY,
WHEN HE WILL TAKE US TO LUNCH, WE MIGHT MAKE SOME PROGRESS
IN OUR INVESTIGATIONS IF YOU WOULD INFORM US OF THE NAME OF
OFFICER AT WAR OFFICE, IF THERE IS SUCH PERSON

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