

~~SECRET~~

SPSIB

June 1, 1943

Re No 4837Memorandum for: Colonel Doud

Subject : Intelligence and Information Section

1. In connection with Colonel McCormack's telegram NR 4837, returned herewith, it seemed best to prepare a report on our Information Section touching point by point on the same subjects. Red pencil numbers on the margin of the telegram refer to paragraphs in our report.

2. As our report shows, we operate in general very much along the same lines as the British; differing mainly in details of procedure and reference material utilized.

3. The greatest difference appears to be in the British use of certain large bound volumes, namely, the "Cabinet Book" and the "Diary" in which they make notations from day to day. As indicated in our report, by relying on our very efficient indexing system, we are able to go quickly to original sources for information, thus avoiding the possibility of important omissions which can very well occur in such ledger-like books which the British use.

If it is desired, a ledger corresponding to the British "Cabinet Book" may be kept; however, because of the completeness of our source material and the flexibility of our indexing system, it is not believed that this would improve the service.

We are fortunate in having such printed publications as "Facts on File" which are edited by specialists in the field of information and give us a much better chronology of events throughout the world than any locally kept "Diary" could do.

We would be very glad to receive the three publications mentioned in paragraph 11 if these can be made available to us; namely, "A Manual of Current Events", "The Geographical Handbook Series", and the "Report on Foreign Affairs."

It is interesting to note that whereas the British who have operated their Information Department since the

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

last war have, according to the above telegram, 19,000 odd names in their name file; we who started from scratch a little over a year ago, have from fifty to sixty thousand names.

As it now stands, B Branch Information Section is organized in such a manner that a nucleus is provided for expansion in any direction. It is tapping all sources of information now available to it, and is continuously on the lookout for further source material. As additional competent personnel are procured, our service will become increasingly comprehensive without any radical change in procedure.

*Verner C. Aurell*  
Verner C. Aurell  
Major, Signal Corps

~~SECRET~~