

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols _ _
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton ____ _
Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Hendon
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Marbe
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/11/41

DML:CSH

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

~~XXXXXXXX~~ today informed ~~XXXXXXXX~~, in the strictest of confidence (and with the statement that if it ever got out that he had disclosed this information he would be fired), that about ten days before the attack on Pearl Harbor a number of Japanese radio intercepts had been obtained in Hawaii. When they were unable to break the code in these intercepts in Hawaii they sent them in to Washington where G2 broke them. It was found that these radio messages contained substantially the complete plans for the attack on Pearl Harbor, as it was actually carried out. The messages also contained a code Japanese word which would be sent out by radio to the Japanese fleet as the signal for the attack, when this word was repeated three times in succession. A message was sent by Army radio to the Hawaiian Islands, setting forth this entire plan for the information of the authorities in Hawaii.

On Friday morning, December 5th, the code words referred to in the previous messages as the signal for the attack were intercepted, which would have indicated that the attack was to be on either Saturday or Sunday, and this information was sent by military radio to the Hawaiian Islands.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ stated there was a great deal of inquiry going on at the present time of determining the reason for the fiasco at Hawaii, the inquiry being directed along two lines, first whether there was a breakdown in the military radio and a failure of the message to get across, or second whether the message was delivered and not acted upon by the military authorities. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ stated it was his understanding that when this all came out they would clean house in the Navy.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ stated with reference to the danger to the naval vessels, it was his understanding that one battleship, the West Virginia, was sunk; another one, believed to be the Oklahoma, is on its side, but can be salvaged; a third exploded but is in shallow water and the anti-aircraft guns can still be utilized and 3 others were damaged. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ stated the reason this matter is being kept so quiet is that it is the hope of the Navy that they can get the Oklahoma afloat and repair it and the other ships enough so that they can be taken to Bremerton, Washington for repairs under their own power; that the Navy is afraid if word gets out that all six have not been sunk the Japanese will come back and again attack these ships.

Respectfully,

DM Ladd