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Feb. 14, 1945

Dear SAINT and PURITAN:

We have received your Pouch Letter XX-002-2301 concerning the question of submitting information regarding double agents to you in London. In the first place, we are in total agreement with the necessity for your receiving this information.

As you know, we originally made our very strong protest on the Embassy's and Legal Attache's views in the [] case, the results of which were Washington's cable 06412, directing that the data was considered top secret and instructing us that the matter must be handled directly between Madrid and Washington. Since that time the Embassy and Mr. Siscoe have refused to permit any information regarding double agents to be sent to London. As a matter of fact, a few days ago in connection with the case of [] I finally got hold of the Embassy's dispatch with the complete story and found that the Embassy had requested that the information contained therein be made available to the FBI, and no mention was made of ourselves. I immediately took up the case and insisted on the right to forward this information to both London and Washington, which was definitely refused. I insisted that, if that was definite, I would have to inform my office accordingly; and finally I was successful in having the Embassy send a cable to the State Department, requesting that that information was also of interest to us. We did not interpret Washington's instructions in the [] case as a general directive affecting all cases of double agents, and BC-005 has informed me that, if that was your understanding from conversations with him, there was a misunderstanding. As you can see from the above, however, the result has been the same.

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Your pouch letter under acknowledgement, of course, will be of great assistance to us as I had previously pointed out to the Embassy that just exactly this type of thing would happen. I can now make a much stronger protest to the Embassy, which I shall do in the form of a memorandum immediately, but heretofore my position has been so weak in view of the information contained in Washington's cable 06412, stating among other things that high military authorities desired that such matters be handled directly between Madrid and Washington. I shall in the very near future be sending you an official pouch letter in this regard. I think in the meantime, however, it might be advisable to begin preparing a case to be presented by Washington to the Joint Chiefs of Staff so that we can have their support if required.

Actually I had arranged for copies of our reports on DA's which were transmitted for the BPCO to go to London and be turned over to you there. There was apparently a misunderstanding, however, and this information did not get to you through those channels. I am taking this question up immediately in order that you may at least receive this information from us until we can settle the whole thing satisfactorily.

I understand some United States Congressmen are visiting in Spain in the very near future, and they would doubtlessly be very much interested in what we are doing and particularly some of the difficulties we are having.

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I think the decision as to whether or not to give this information and how far to go is one which should be made by JJ-001 yourself and perhaps even the General himself. I think also that suitable instructions should be sent to ARGUS in this regard, as well as to myself. My own opinion is that we confine ourselves to indications of an unsatisfactory state of affairs but to leave the details to be discussed in Washington. Of course the personalities and characters of the Congressmen who are coming have to be taken into consideration, but I think this entire question is worthy of careful consideration.

I want to call your attention particularly to my memorandum XMLO-59, dated 5 February 1945, to the Embassy, concerning the relationship between X-2, Madrid, and the British. This was a result of a copy of the dispatch sent from Tangier to the Department of State concerning the unsatisfactory situation in Tangier. I showed this to my opposite number, who was very pleased and grateful. You may wish to do the same in London.

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