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War Department

Military Intelligence Division G-2

1 September 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL CORDERMAN

Subject: Security of United States
Military Communications

Pursuant to paragraph 12 of the agreement of May 17 between GC & CS and G-2, General Strong has received the following information from GC & CS:

1. On 11 July, at 2300, the German Army Y Service (Sicily, presumably) sent the following:

"Intercepted signal on 2125 kcs. Control to BDS. Time 2003. To Commanding General of the Corps and to Divisional Commanders of Third Infantry and Second Armored Divisions. The rate of exchange in Sicily will be 100 lire to the dollar. Signed Patton.' Comment: This shows that Second American Armored Division is operating with the forces landing."

2. The German Army Y Service (Sicily or Italian mainland) sent the following messages on 15 August:

(1) At 1100: "Third Infantry Division intends to set up a supply base at Capt Milazzo, to be supplied from the sea."

(2) At 1130: "A reinforcement combat team supported by two cruisers is to land on coast at Spadafora at 0100 on 16 August."

(3) At 1200: "Decoded signal: Air Force states no fighter protection is available for cruisers except where landings are involved. This means there will be no further artillery support for your advance."

(4) At 1700: "Signal passed in Third Infantry Division area mentions a land operation scheduled for tonight."

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- 2 -

3. On 28 August, at 1600, the GAF Y Detachment with Luftflott 2 sent the following:

"Message from 12 USAAF to unknown W/T station begins. Enemy fighter opposition to bombing attacks by the North West African Air Force was still strong yesterday. In strong opposition to the German and Italian fighters, twenty of them were shot down."

4. On 17 August, at 0830, the German Army Y Detachment in Southern Italy sent the following:

"American Air Liaison officer on 2160 kcs at Posgay at 0711 hours, Begins. Banshee requests permission to bomb the beach from Messina to D/3866. Please reply on (rest missing). Ends."

5. On 17 August, at 1130, the same Y Detachment sent the following:

"(1) Patton probably in Messina today. (2) According to a plain language signal of American Air Liaison Officer air attack on beach South of Messina not allowed."

6. Your comments on the above will be appreciated.

(SGD) AMCC

A. McCormack
Colonel, General Staff

PS Please note the second sentence in paragraph 12 of the governing agreement, which binds the War Department "if possible" to come to an agreement with GC&CS on any action to be taken on possible compromises of codes. In view of the source of the information set forth above ("E") the British have a special interest here.