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25 September 1945

Marshall-King [illegible] F-20

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL KING

SUBJECT: Signal Intelligence

Reference: (a) Top Secret ULTRA Memo for General Marshall from Admiral King, dated 18 September 1945 (copy attached)

(b) Top Secret ULTRA Memo for General Marshall and Admiral King from ANCIB, dated 22 August 1945

1. I recognize the principle stated in paragraph 2 (a) of your 18 September memorandum, Reference (a), and the principle that in general the dissemination of Naval or Army operational signal intelligence should be accomplished by the service concerned. No question of jurisdiction should be permitted to impede or delay the dissemination of signal operational intelligence to the commanders who must act on it.

2. The other conclusions in paragraph 2 (b) and (c) appear to me to remove the practical basis essential to achieve effective coordination, integration and merger of Army and Navy signal intelligence with maximum efficiency and economy to which we agreed in Reference (b).

3. The unanimous recommendation of ANCIB appears to be a concrete means of achieving effective and efficient signal intelligence operations within which each service could retain the degree of control over the evaluation and dissemination of operational intelligence adequate to its needs. I seriously question that complete and independent operation of such closely related activities by the Army and Navy in separate physical units can be justified in the future. Unless we effect a real merger and integration, I believe both services will either lose control of this source of intelligence or will be unable to secure the appropriation essential for its effective continuance.

4. Would you consider this matter and let me have your reaction?

/S/ G. C. MARSHALL

Chief of Staff

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