

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **WASHINGTON, D. C.**

FILE NO. **65-1145**

REPORT MADE AT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	DATE WHEN MADE 6/26/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/26/42	REPORT MADE BY W. A. ROBINSON WAR:mlp
TITLE STANLEY JOHNSTON			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - J

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Arrangements made for obtaining telegram sent by subject to LOY MALONEY of Chicago Tribune on June 5, 1942. Lieutenant Y. FRANK FREEMAN, JR., of Public Relations Office had no information concerning censorship of subject's material. Lieutenant HAROLD P. REQUA, JR., Assistant Public Relations Officer, stated that Commander SELIGMAN telephoned him stating that subject had material that he wanted to get to Washington; that anything the Public Relations Office could do to expedite getting it to Washington would be appreciated. At no time did subject specifically state he knew material had to be censored nor was this specifically stated to him although all seemed to understand this. Commander SELIGMAN not presently available for interview.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Telephone call from Mr. TYLER of the Bureau to San Diego on June 26, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Superintendent DAWSON TOPHAM of the Western Union, San Diego, advised that the telegram sent by the subject to LOY MALONEY of Chicago Tribune on June 5, 1942, was being held at the main office of the Western Union at San Diego; that the person who received the message from the subject for transmission was E. R. NAUCK who could be reached at the Western Union Office

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) - Bureau 2 - San Francisco 2 - Washington Field 5 - San Diego			

at Hotel Del Coronado, Coronado, California. Mr. TOPHAM stated that ordinarily he himself was subpoenaed to introduce telegram messages into evidence. Lieutenant Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Jr., of the Public Relations Office, Eleventh Naval District, stated that on June 3, 1942, he had gone to the Hotel Del Coronado with Lieutenant REQUA and that he had met subject at the hotel shortly after 6 P.M. He stated subject was absent for some time after that in another part of the hotel and that FREEMAN left before 7 P.M. FREEMAN said altogether that he had not been with subject for more than twenty minutes and did not talk to him directly at any time and that at no time was any material that subject had written discussed, nor did the question of censorship come up, so far as FREEMAN knew.

Lieutenant HAROLD P. REQUA, Assistant Public Relations Officer, Eleventh Naval District, stated that on June 2, 1942, he had had a telephone call from Commander SELIGMAN at which time SELIGMAN said that JOHNSTON had some material that he wanted to get to Washington for release by the Navy Department as soon as possible; that anything that the Public Relations Office could do to expedite getting the material to Washington would be appreciated. REQUA then discussed that matter with Commander ANDERSON and ANDERSON suggested that JOHNSTON appear at the Public Relations Office with the material to be submitted to Washington at 10 o'clock the following morning. Later in the evening of June 3, 1942, REQUA saw SELIGMAN and JOHNSTON at the Coronada Hotel at which time SELIGMAN said something to the effect that he understood REQUA had made arrangements to have JOHNSTON meet ANDERSON in connection with forwarding material of JOHNSTON's to Washington. REQUA said that he had, and JOHNSTON asked what time it would be convenient for ANDERSON to see him. REQUA said at 10 A.M. and an appointment was made for that time on June 4, 1942. REQUA could not recall any more specific agreements or statements made by either JOHNSTON, SELIGMAN, or himself, but he advised that it was understood by him that JOHNSTON wanted to get the material that he had written into the hands of the Public Relations Office so that they could expedite getting it to Washington. JOHNSTON never asked whether the material could be released by the Public Relations Office in San Diego, and REQUA said he felt sure that JOHNSTON knew it had to be released in Washington.

REQUA stated he never told JOHNSTON that he could not publish anything without a release but he said he was sure JOHNSTON understood this from the nature of the arrangements that were made. He stated he thought this was borne out by the fact that JOHNSTON saw to it that his Coral Sea reports were taken to the Public Relations Office on June 4 even though he did not appear in person. REQUA concluded by saying that all the arrangements for submitting JOHNSTON's material for censorship were handled in such a way that the question of censorship was taken for granted. It was not discussed in so many words but it seemed understood from JOHNSTON's attitude and his desire to get the material into Washington that he knew he was to publish nothing without the Navy Department's approval.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority AND 76716

It was learned that Commander SELIGMAN is presently confined to the Naval Hospital and is not available for an interview.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -



National Security Archive,
Suite 701, Gelman Library, The George Washington University,
2130 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20037,
Phone: 202/994-7000, Fax: 202/994-7005, nsarchiv@gwu.edu