

STANDARD FORM NO. 64
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 26, 1949

FROM : *WJ* SAC, New York

SUBJECT: JAHAM; FERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

A review of the photographic prints prepared from microfilm "C", otherwise known as grand jury exhibit #48, reflects that the question of the availability to ALGER HISS of the particular document depicted in these photographs may arise in the course of the forthcoming trial of HISS. Of particular concern is the fact that the prints referred to, depict carbon copies of an original State Department document, and the question arises as to how a carbon copy became available to HISS. It is of course realized that information has previously been received that HISS, because of his position in the State Department, would have had any files available to him.

However, SAAG DONEGAN and AUSA MURPHY desire that an effort be made to determine the policy of the State Department at the time, in so far as the preparation and distribution of carbon copies was concerned.

The particular prints referred to are as follows: 1 - QC74 and QC75 are photographs of a carbon copy of a memorandum dated 1/8/38 from HARRY C. HAWKINS to Mr. SAYRE. This memorandum begins, "I am returning the German Aide-memoire which you sent me on November 23.....", and closes with the initials TA:HH:JRD.

WALTER ANDERSON of the State Department has explained that the initials JRD indicated the identity of the stenographer who prepared this memorandum. It is desired that an effort be made by the Washington Field Office to determine the identity of the stenographer, her present whereabouts and thereafter, she be interviewed as to the practice in relation to the preparation and distribution of carbon copies of a memorandum such as pictured in these prints.

2 - QC76 to QC91 inclusive, consists of photographs of a carbon copy of a sixteen page memorandum dated December 31, 1937, from a Mr. DARLINGTON to Mr. HAWKINS. This memorandum commences, "I am returning the Aide Memoire which was handed to Mr. WELLES.....", and closes with the initials TA:DARLINGTON MFD. In this instance, it is likewise desired that the identity of the stenographer having the initials MFD be determined and if possible she be interviewed with a view to ascertaining the practice of the State Department and her particular office in preparing and distributing carbon copies of a document such as this.

3 - QC92 to QC95 consists of a four page memorandum prepared by Mr. DARLINGTON and dated December 31, 1937, which commences, "The United States Government has devoted careful study to the Aide Memoire...." This memorandum bears the identical initials of that set forth above, and in this instance

cc Washington Field (3)

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it is likewise desired that the unidentified stenographer, MFD, be interviewed along similar lines, concerning a memorandum of this type.

In a recent interview in New York City, of Mr. WALTER H. ANDERSON, Chief of the Records Branch, Division of Communications and Records, State Department, ANDERSON was queried concerning the practices of the State Department and its stenographers in these matters, but ANDERSON was unable to supply a satisfactory answer. In addition to the interview of the two aforementioned stenographers, it is desired that an effort be made to determine from a responsible official of the State Department, the definite rule or practice in the State Department in 1937 and 1938 as to the distribution of original and carbon copies of documents of this type. It is believed highly probably in instance #1, set forth above, that a carbon as well as an original copy of this memorandum, was sent to Mr. SAYRE, which would account for the possession by HISS of a carbon copy, rather than an original. Since the trial of ALGER HISS is scheduled to commence on Tuesday, May 31, 1949, it is desired that this matter be given very expeditious attention, and a summary of the results teletyped to this office.

WFO handling
5-31-49
per Zaider, WFO.
JJD