

DIRECTIVE

Cominch File

Ffl/QB

UNITED STATES FLEET

Serial: 003686

SECRET

Headquarters of the Commander in Chief

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Washington 25, D.C.

26 December 1944.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: DISTRIBUTION LIST ATTACHED.

Subject: U.S. Naval Technical Mission in Europe.

1. On 4 December 1944 the Secretary of the Navy approved the establishing of a U.S. Naval Technical Mission in Europe, (short title, NavTechMisEu), with the following mission and tasks:

Mission To exploit German science and technology for the benefit of the Navy Department technical Bureaus and the Coordinator of Research and Development.

Tasks

- (a) To coordinate all the United States Naval activities engaged on the continent of Europe in exploiting German scientific and technological intelligence.
- (b) To form a pool of technically qualified personnel under Naval control to operate as field teams either independently or with Combined Intelligence Objectives Sub-Committee (C.I.O.S.) teams, Technical Industrial Intelligence Committee (T.I.I.C.) teams, ALSOS teams, United States Army teams, or British teams where such teams are exploiting targets of the United States Naval interest. The Naval ALSOS group already established will be the nucleus of this pool.

2. The Mission will be composed of Chief of Mission designated by the Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and Chief of Naval operations, technical officers and civilian technicians who will be provided by the technical Bureaus and by the Coordinator of Research and Development, together with the necessary administrative personnel. The present relationship of the Navy with the Army ALSOS Mission will remain unchanged and the present close cooperation should continue. The chief of the Navy Technical Mission will be the Navy representative on the ALSOS Mission and will assign officers or civilian technicians to ALSOS projects as necessary. ALSOS facilities will be used to the maximum extent that the Army can provide them.

3. Mission activities should be in general accordance with ComNavEu Intelligence Memorandum No. 4, dated 1 November 1944. (1)

4. It will be necessary that the Chief of Mission be kept continually informed as to the plans and activities of the Technical Intelligence Committee and War Department technical missions. For this purpose an office in the Division of Naval Intelligence will be established which will keep in close touch with such groups. (2)

(1) See Appendix 4 and Appendix 10.

(2) See Appendix 6.

S E C R E T

5. Existing Naval activities in Europe will furnish the Mission necessary assistance in the form of transportation, billeting, office space, provision of junior administrative personnel, clerical assistance, etc.

6. The Chief of Mission is to be regarded as the direct representative of the Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and the Chief of Naval Operations for procurement of German technical intelligence in continental Europe and should be given the maximum freedom of action consistent with operational Naval and Military requirements. As a U. S. Naval organization in Europe, the Naval Technical Mission will be subject to the Military control and orders of the Commander, U. S. Naval Forces, Europe. The Chief of Mission as commanding officer will report to the Commander, U. S. Naval Forces, Europe in person and keep him informed of his movements and of the roster and movements of his staff. The Chief of Mission will be further directed to report to the Senior U. S. Naval authority in the area to be exploited. Subordinate members of the Mission will report only to the Chief of Mission. Each Mission member will retain his normal permanent duty status and will be ordered to report for temporary additional duty to the Chief of Mission for the necessary length of time to complete the exploitation of his specialty.

7. Subject to the foregoing, the Chief of Mission is authorized and directed:

- (a) To travel and to order any other members to travel anywhere in Europe.
- (b) To obtain and expend such funds as may be necessary in procuring technical intelligence.
- (c) To obtain necessary assistance from United States Naval authorities in Europe.
- (d) To obtain necessary assistance from United States Army authorities in Europe utilizing the ALSOS Mission channels wherever possible.
- (e) To forward intelligence reports direct to the Division of Naval Intelligence with copies to the appropriate offices in the Navy Department and to appropriate United States Naval activities in Europe and to communicate directly with the Navy Department regarding the intelligence operations of the Mission.
- (f) To ship any material of special interest to the Navy Department direct to the United States subject to current policies.
- (g) To return to the United States for consultation at such times as may be considered necessary.

E. J. KING

/s/ HOWARD E. OREM
HOWARD E. OREM
Flag Secretary

DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR COMINCH SERIAL 003686

Commander, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe
Chief of Bureau of Aeronautics
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Chief of Bureau of Ships
Chief of Bureau of Yards and Docks
Chief of Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Coordinator of Research and Development

INFORMATION ADDRESSEES:

Cominch (4)
Commander, U. S. Naval Forces in France
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 (3)
Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2
Office of Procurement and Material
Office of Strategic Services (Naval Command)
Prospective Chief NavTecMisEu
Op-03
Op-05
Op-12
Op-13
Op-16
Op-20
Op-23
Op-25
Op-29
Op-30
Op-31
Op-32

/s/ HOWARD E. OREM
HOWARD E. OREM
Flag Secretary