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EXCERPT OF LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY
OF THE NAVY TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

This letter shows that the JCS proposal for a national intelligence organization had found a ready response in Secretary Forrestal, who was anxious to "push it vigorously." Secretary Patterson at once asked the chiefs of the various War Department intelligence branches to give him their views on the subject. He included in his request General Magruder of SSU, as the next succeeding paper indicates.

*via
Greenbaum
and
Carter*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

13 October 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

It occurs to me that these subjects which have common interest to both Departments might be the basis of a discussion between us some time in the near future: * * * * *

2. Joint intelligence. The Joint Chiefs of Staff, as you know, made a recommendation to the President for a national intelligence organization, the general outline of which provides for intelligence supervision by the War, State and Navy Departments, with a director charged with the working responsibility functioning under these individuals as a group. I think this is a subject which should have our close attention. The Joint Chiefs of Staff paper seems to me soundly conceived and, if you agree, I think we should push it vigorously at the White House. * * * * *

s/ James Forrestal

James Forrestal