

OFFICE OF THE  
SENIOR COAST GUARD OFFICER, 5th NAVAL DISTRICT  
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

INTELLIGENCE  
REC'D MAR 10 1942  
ANS'D

Subject: Suspicious message; radio intercepted.

Summary of Information

1. The Navy Radio Monitoring Station, Norfolk, Virginia, log of 25 February, 1942, signed by I. L. Pairish, records that about 2225 a message was sent to Sterling 80329, Mr. Irving, New York City, via WGB, Virginia Beach, "E. W. Sinclair and I'll be at the Stork Club at 6 p.m. tomorrow. Get following--75 loaves of bread, 50 pounds of cake, a bushel of cucumbers, a bushel of egg-plant, brussels-sprouts, two baskets of fresh spinach." It was determined that the message came from a tanker, but the name of the vessel is unknown. This message could well be a typical pre-arranged code message and might refer to a convoy observed from the vessel sending the message. The first class yeoman who intercepted the message thought it sufficiently suspicious to make a special report to his superior, Lieut. Morgan Martin.

2. In the evaluation of this message, Lieut. Comdr. L. J. Hasse, USNR, on duty in this office, who is a former Standard Oil tanker master, says that it is not a normal message. The feeding of the crew is taken care of by the steward's department on shore. A tanker normally would not send such a message; but if it did, the quantities would not be a normal order.

*Navy has copy*  
*file - R.*  
*20*

Distribution:  
Headquarters  
F. B. I., Norfolk  
D. I. O., 5ND

Evaluation

Source: Reliable  
Information: Reliable

*possibly tanker*  
*488 7th*  
*Grass, which would*  
*E.W. SINCLAIR*  
*2-26-42*  
*20*