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In reply refer to Initials  
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## NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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14 NOV 1944 34

MEMORANDUM for Vice Adm. A. P. Fairfield, USN(R).

Subject: Shipping Information - Security of.

1. Information has been received by the Office of Naval Intelligence from a confidential and reliable source that a crew member aboard the SS ESSO ROCHESTER, in a letter, stated in part as follows:

"....You didn't tell me who in Standard Oil keeps you informed of where I am and where I'm going. So far your information has been amazingly accurate. It seems silly to me to have all this censorship so that I can't even hint where we have been, yet you find out not only where I've been but where we are going. Every office boy at the home office knows and tells what he knows, yet we on the ship never know where we are going till we get there. We have an idea from our direction of travel and the natural possibilities of the situation, but that is all. Your letters have come to me uncensored. It just occurs to me that you had better not tell me who it is that keeps you informed as to where I am - he might get into trouble and then you wouldn't know when I'm coming home. I wondered why you were so vague about it but suddenly I realize why."

2. In view of the indicated disclosure of information pertaining to the future movements of the SS ESSO ROCHESTER, this matter is referred for such attention as may be appropriate.
3. The source of this information should be kept confidential and in no event should the Office of Naval Intelligence be mentioned in connection with any action which may be taken.

H. A. BURCH,  
Lieut. Comdr., USNR.

Vice Adm. A. P. Fairfield, USN(R)  
Division of Security and Communications  
Department of Commerce Bldg.  
Washington, D. C.

CC: United States Coast Guard

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Authority NN 3-26-83-11By LZK NARA. Date 4-7-17

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