REF ID:A4148694

FROM: BERLIN (JMA) (Trans. Feb. 2, 1943) TO: TOKYO DATE: OCTOBER 15, 1942 NUMBER: 396, part 1 (part 2 will follow in a few days)

While we know that you take every precaution in handling our code books and never leave them unguarded, yet for your information we are sending you the following.

As you know, every country is exerting itself to the limit to read foreign code messages and to get possession of these codes.

Early this year Germany and Italy obtained secret photographs of the code used by the American Attaches in European countries, and from code messages sent by the American Attache in Egypt, got a glimpse of the real condition of the British Army.

We also feel sure that Germany is reading our Japanese code messages.

No matter what kind of a safe these code books are held in, a specialist can open the locks. In the past there are many instances, when no one was in the room, of a photograph being taken in an instant of time.

(Trans. (B) Feb. 6, 1943)

From: Berlin (JMA) To: Tokyo Date: October 15, 1942 Number: 396 (part 2) (Part 1 completed February 2, 1943)

You have been unceasingly sympathetic with our tremendous task in protecting the codes with the few personnel in this office. However, in view of the above facts and on account of sudden developments in the situation in Spain, I am just reporting this for what it may be worth, in case communication with Japan should be cut off or something go wrong with the code.

SECRET

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 11-14-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526