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Mr. Baker

Mr. Ramsey

Future of the Office of Strategic Services

In answer to the general policy questions as to what action should be taken with reference to the Office of Strategic Services, Mr. Martin referred us to "The Post V-J Day Supplement to Report of Reconversion Program Committee." I have today received a copy of this supplement, and it contains the following on OSS:

"Office of Strategic Services intelligence work should be continued pending early development of a permanent plan for foreign intelligence and security (counter-intelligence) activity. 'Operational' activities of the Office of Strategic Services, e.g., work for the Army behind enemy lines, should be terminated and transferred to the War Department."

The Supplement is classified "Confidential", with the warning that under no circumstances should it be given or shown to anyone outside the Bureau of the Budget nor should the contents be reported as Bureau policy. Should I construe Mr. Martin's instructions as superseding those mentioned above and inform OSS as to the basis on which it should prepare a revised program? I recommend that we give them specific instructions and agree with the recommendation of the Reconversion Committee.

Mrs. May says that this general question (not necessarily related to OSS) has been the subject of discussion with Mr. Lawton.

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