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<td>Mr. Kiley</td>
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June 14, 1940.

Honorable Marriner S. Eccles,
Chairman, Board of Governors,
Federal Reserve System,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Eccles:

Many questions have arisen as to the procedure to be followed in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage, and kindred offenses. There are enclosed a copy of the President's statement of September 6, 1939, and a release of the Department of Justice, dated June 11, 1940, outlining in detail the procedure to be followed on matters of this character.

This material is being brought to your attention for your information and for such distribution within the Federal Reserve System as you may consider appropriate. The procedure is to be uniformly followed by all Federal departments and agencies, both in Washington and in the field.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Lowell Mellett

Lowell Mellett,
DIRECTOR.

Enclosures.
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"The Attorney General has been requested by me to instruct the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice to take charge of investigative work in matters relating to espionage, sabotage, and violations of the neutrality regulations.

"This task must be conducted in a comprehensive and effective manner on a national basis, and all information must be carefully sifted out and correlated in order to avoid confusion and irresponsibility.

"To this end I request all police officers, sheriffs, and all other law enforcement officers in the United States promptly to turn over to the nearest representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation any information obtained by them relating to espionage, counter-espionage, sabotage, subversive activities, and violations of the neutrality laws."
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Attorney General announced today that he had issued instructions to the United States Attorneys and Marshals in the United States and its Territories and Possessions outlining in detail the respective functions of the citizens, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Attorneys and the Department of Justice in Washington, D. C., in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage and kindred offenses.

Noting that in connection with the existing international situation, United States Attorneys and Marshals would doubtless receive considerable information from individuals and groups concerning espionage, sabotage, subversive and similar activities in the United States, its Territories and Possessions, he pointed out that a definite procedure had been established under which the citizens and the various law enforcement agencies each play an appropriate part. In this respect the instructions stated:

"The duty and function of the citizen is to report to local representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation all information relating to violations of this character and not to engage in investigative activity relative thereto. United States Attorneys and Marshals are likewise requested to refer reports, information and any persons having or claiming to have information of violations in this category to the nearest representative or field office of the said Bureau."
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The protection of the civil liberties of loyal and innocent citizens and aliens, as well as the maintenance of a sound public attitude, was emphasized, the instructions stating:

"While it is important that those engaged in illegal acts hostile to the best interests and welfare of the American people be promptly detected and the country protected against their activities, it is equally important that the civil liberties of loyal and innocent individuals be not invaded. Care should be taken to assure aliens of complete and friendly protection under the law. The law enforcement officers of the Federal Government have important responsibilities in helping to maintain a reasonable and healthy attitude on the part of citizens of this country and in the turning of their energies and patriotism into useful and efficient channels."
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June 22, 1940.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge the Board's letter of June 20, 1940, R-671 transmitting copy of a letter dated June 14, 1940, with enclosures, addressed to Chairman Eccles by Mr. Lowell Mellett, Director of the Office of Government Reports, outlining the procedure to be followed in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage and kindred offenses. We are glad to have this information and shall be governed accordingly.

Very truly yours,

L. R. Rounds
Vice President
KINDLY CHECK YOUR NAME AND CIRCULATE

Baldwin, Wm. N.
Ball, Mrs. Margaret K.
Boothe, G. L.
Boyer, Mrs. Rita
Bryan, Evelyn
Buchanan, Avelyn
Callahan, Frank J.
Caskey, M. P.
Conover, Mrs. Esther
Craighill, Ellen
Daniels, M. B.
DeLaMater, John
Evans, Louise
Farrell, John
Glazebrook, Virginia
Goheen, Loretta
Hainer, Sybil
Hammond, Bray
Hemminger, Mrs. Tressa
Horbett, J. E.

Hurley, J. J.
Jones, Marjorie
Kennedy, D. M.
Martin, Mrs. Dora
Millican, Mrs. Thelma
Mitchell, W. H.
Moore, A. A.
Morrissette, O. B.
Myrick, L. S.
Ontrich, Mrs. Nova E.
Porter, J. H.
Scudder, Dilver
Sherfy, R. E.
Smead, E. L.
Smith, Mrs. Jewell
Stone, H. B.
Van Fossen, J. R.
Walker, F. A.
Williams, Mary C.
Wright, Zelpha
Office Correspondence

To: Division Heads

From: Mr. Bethea

Date: June 21, 1940

Subject: Procedure to be followed in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage, and kindred offenses.

There is attached a copy of a letter (R-671-a) dated June 14, 1940, and enclosures, on the above subject, which Mr. Lowell Mellett, Director of the Office of Government Reports, addressed to the Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Mellett has been advised that copies of his letter and its attachments are being brought to the attention of the personnel of the Board, and it will therefore be appreciated if you will have the attached material circulated throughout your division.

[Signature]
Office Correspondence

To                      Division Heads
                         Mr. Bethea

From                      

Date: June 21, 1940

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Copy of this memorandum sent to each division head except Mr. Morrill.
Office Correspondence

To: Mr. Bethea
From: Mr. Divas.

Date: June 21, 1940

Subject: Procedure to be followed in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage, and kindred offenses.

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June 14, 1940.

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Chairman, Board of Governors,
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Very truly yours,

(Signed) Lowell Mellett

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DIRECTOR.

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Mr. Kiley: I'd like to have the attached considered an informal memo so that I won't have to make a green copy.

jcb
Mr. Lowell Mellett, Director,
Office of Government Reports,
Executive Office of the President,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mellett:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of June 14, 1940, with enclosures, to Chairman Eccles, outlining the procedure to be followed in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage and kindred offenses.

Copies of your letter and its attachments are being brought to the attention of the personnel of the Board and are also being sent to the Federal Reserve Banks for the information of their officers and employees.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) L. P. Bethes

L. P. Bethes,
Assistant Secretary.
Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith, for the information of the officers and employees of your Bank and its Branches (if any), a copy of a letter dated June 14, 1940, with enclosures, addressed to Chairman Eccles by Mr. Lowell Meltlett, Director of the Office of Government Reports, outlining the procedure to be followed in handling complaints and prosecutions of violations of laws relating to neutrality, espionage, sabotage and kindred offenses.

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L. P. Bethea,
Assistant Secretary.

Enclosures 3

TO THE PRESIDENTS OF ALL FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS
June 14, 1940.

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Chairman, Board of Governors,
Federal Reserve System,
Washington, D. C.

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(Signed) Lowell Mellett

Lowell Mellett,
DIRECTOR.

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Very truly yours,

(Signed) L. P. Betha

L. P. Betha,
Assistant Secretary.

TO THE PRESIDENTS OF ALL FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

FILE COPY
June 14, 1940.

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DIRECTOR

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REMARKS: If you agree, will you have this circulated for the information of the Board and staff, and send copies to the FR banks and branches— with acknowledgment to Bellett from you or your office, advising him that this has been given circulation in the system?

The chairman felt that it might best take this course. While it may not be highly important, it comes officially from the Executive office of the resident. So they evidently think it important.