

EXHIBIT NO. 123A

JAN. 10, 1942.

Confidential Memorandum

From: The Assistant Chief of Staff (Plans).
 To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
 Subject: Joint Operations Centers.

Enclosure: (A) Letter on above subject to be signed by the Commander in Chief.

1. As a result of negotiations with the Army through the War Plans Division, a joint letter on Joint Operations Centers for Coastal Frontiers was agreed on, and the joint letter had been signed on December 6 by the Chief of Naval Operations but was awaiting signature of the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, on December 7.

2. The letter was revised to conform to current directives and conditions and was signed by both Chief of Naval Operations and Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, on December 31, 1941.

3. It is recommended that the joint letter be promulgated by the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, by means of the attached letter, enclosure (A), herewith submitted for signature.

R. K. TURNER.

Copy to:
 CNO
 F12Z-6

Received S-C Files, Room 2055, Jan. 10, 1942, Route to 30. Op File No. (SC) A16-3 (9), Doc. No. 41197.

Cominch File FF1/A16-3 (9)
 Serial 014
 Confidential

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF,
 UNITED STATES FLEET, NAVY DEPARTMENT,
 Washington, D. C., January 10, 1942.

From: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
 To: Commanders all Naval Coastal Frontiers, less Philippine.
 Subject: Joint Operations Centers.
 Reference: (a) Joint letter of Chief of Naval Operations and Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, of December 31, 1941, on Joint Operations Centers.

Enclosure: (A) Copy of Reference (a).

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded for information and guidance.

(S) E. J. King
 (T) E. J. KING.
 (S) C. B. Lanman
 (T) C. B. LANMAN,
Acting Flag Secretary.

Copy to:
 Chief of Staff, U. S. Army
 Chief of Naval Operations (10 copies)
 CinCpac
 CinClant
 Bureaus and Offices of the Navy Department

Received S-C Files, Room 2055, Jan. 14, 1942. Route to: 10-11. Op. File No. (SC) A-16-3 (9). Copy No. 1 of 10.

[1] Confidential

Dec. 31, 1941.

From: The Chief of Naval Operations and
The Chief of Staff, U. S. Army.

To: The Chief of Staff, General Headquarters.
Chief of the Army Air Forces.
Commanding General, Hawaiian Department.
Commander; North Atlantic Naval Coastal Frontier.
Commander; Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
Commander; Caribbean Naval Coastal Frontier.
Commander; Pacific Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
Commander; Pacific Northern Naval Coastal Frontier.
Commander; Panama Naval Coastal Frontier.
Commander; Hawaiian Naval Coastal Frontier.

Subject: Cooperation in Joint Defense; formation of Joint Operations Centers in Coastal Frontiers.

References:

- (a) Joint Action of the Army and Navy, 1935 (FTP-155).
- (b) Joint Army and Navy Basic War Plan—Rainbow No. 5.
- (c) CNO and Chief of Staff's joint letter quoted in CNO confidential file Op-22-A2 (SC) A16-3 (9), Serial 0115422 of October 23, 1941, subject: "Joint Army and Navy Training" and in AG 354.2 (10-3-41) dated October 17, 1941, subject: "Joint Army and Navy Training".
- (d) CNO despatch 182010 of December 1941.
- (e) Adjutant General's message AG 370.26 of December 19, 1941.

1. Operations during the present war have demonstrated the value of close personal contact of the commanders of Army, Navy, and Air Forces engaged in a given theater of war. In nearly all cases the combatant forces which have had such close personal contact or complete unity of command have been successful.

2. Present instructions for Joint Action of the Army and Navy, reference (a), provide for Joint Action of the Army and Navy, reference (a), provide for mutual cooperation of the Army and Navy at all times, and for unity of command in certain contingencies by joint agreement or when directed by the President. Instructions regarding joint planning are contained in references (a), (b), and (c).

[2] 3. The ideal method of obtaining close personal contact between Army, Navy, and Air Force commanders on shore is through the use of a joint operations center for each Frontier and subdivision of the Frontier. Commendable progress in approaching this ideal has been made in the North Atlantic Coastal Frontier, where a "Joint Operations Office" has been established, and in various Coastal Frontiers where joint Harbor Entrance Control Posts have been placed in operation. A layout plan showing one of these centers is enclosed for your information.

4. The recent joint directive of the Chief of Naval Operations and Chief of Staff, reference (c), provided for a joint training program in the Coastal Frontiers. Actual joint operations, as required by this directive, were expected to indicate existing deficiencies of joint organization and planning and to point the way towards improvement in joint military efficiency.

5. The establishment of Joint Operations Centers in Coastal Frontiers, sectors, and sub-sectors where joint operations are being carried on or are likely to be carried on has been directed by references (d) and (c). Early completion of these operations centers is desired.

(S) G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

(S) H. R. STARK,
Chief of Naval Operations.

Inclosure: Copy of Comdr. North Atlantic N. C. F. serial 539 of December 13, 1941, with enclosures thereto.

[1] Op-22-A2
 (SC) A16-3(9)
 Serial 0115422
 Confidential

NAVY DEPARTMENT, (hw)
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS,
 Washington, October 23, 1941.

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.

To: The Commander, North Atlantic Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Caribbean Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Panama Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Pacific Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Pacific Northern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Hawaiian Naval Coastal Frontier.
 The Commander, Philippine Naval Coastal Frontier.

Subject: Joint Army and Navy Training.

1. The Following is quoted from J. B. No. 350 (serial 704), subject: Joint Army and Navy Training, for necessary action:

"From: The Chief of Naval Operations, and
 The Chief of Staff, U. S. Army.

"To: The Chief of Staff, General Headquarters.
 Chief of the Army Air Forces.
 Commanding General, Northeastern Defense Command.
 Commanding General, Southern Defense Command.
 Commanding General, Western Defense Command.
 Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command.
 Commanding General, U. S. Army Forces in the Far East.
 Commanding General, Hawaiian Department.
 Commander, North Atlantic Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Caribbean Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Panama Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Pacific Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Pacific Northern Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Hawaiian Naval Coastal Frontier.
 Commander, Philippine Naval Coastal Frontier.

"Subject: Joint Army and Navy Training

[2] Reference: (a) Joint Action of the Army and the Navy, 1935 (FTP-155).

"1. There is need for frequent and closely coordinated joint training of army field forces and naval operating forces, to the greatest extent compatible with other urgent preparations for war.

"2. Due to the employment of the U. S. FLEET and the training program of the major portion of Army forces, the scheduling of Grand Joint Exercises is not practicable at this time.

"3. Consideration is now being given to joint training for overseas expeditions employing elements of the Third Division, U. S. Army, and the Second Division, U. S. Marine Corps; and employing elements of the First Division, U. S. Army, and First Division, U. S. Marine Corps, in Puerto Rico. Similar joint training for other units of the Army will be initiated by the War and the Navy Departments, as the situation permits. In general, such training will be accomplished by the assembly of a Task Force.

"4. A large field for joint training exists in the coordinate operations required between the Army and the Navy in Coastal Frontiers. Such operations might involve:

"(a) Joint air defense operations, both for attack and defense, including operations of anti-aircraft, barrage balloon, and aircraft warning units.

"(b) Joint signal communications, between Army and Navy forces, including ground, sea, and air.

"(c) The operation of harbor entrance control posts and inshore patrol, and the coordinated functioning of personnel in defense of the harbor. The cooperation of the Coast Guard and other government agencies may be obtained.

"(d) The operation of internal security measures in Army and Navy posts and stations; exercises in passive defense measures for the prevention of damage by hostile action or sabotage to Army and Navy defense installations; [3] and liaison with Civilian Defense agencies.

"5. The preparation of Joint Coastal Frontier Defense Plans (and their subsidiary plans) is a necessary preliminary to coordinated operations of ground, sea and air forces required in defense of the Coastal Frontiers. Based upon these plans, and closely paralleling actual operations which are likely to occur and in anticipation of which the plans are drawn, joint training exercises shall be held at frequent intervals with special emphasis on joint communications. To provide for the use of mobile air forces, and other defensive measures provided by the Army Air Forces, situations should be assumed in the training exercises, where necessary, which place them in a higher category of defense than that prescribed in the joint color plan. Provisions shall be made to alternate command in the exercise of unity of command, and also for the conduct of the exercises under the principle of mutual cooperation.

"6. Naval Coastal Frontier Commanders, Army Air Force Commanders in the continental United States, and Army Defense or Department Commanders shall undertake coordinated operations monthly, if practicable, and at least bi-monthly. It is recommended that staff problems requiring coordinated action be conducted at least weekly and that continuous training of joint signal communication personnel be conducted. Where the use of mobile air forces and other defensive measures are required, joint training shall be undertaken to the greatest extent compatible with other urgent preparations for war.

"7. It is desired that:

"(a) Commanders concerned prepare promptly Joint Coastal Frontier, Joint Sector, and Joint Subsector Defense Plans, based on the directives contained in Joint Army and Navy Basic War Plan—RAINBOW No. 5, and in accordance with Army and Navy Operations Plans as issued.

"(b) In accordance with the conditions in paragraphs 5 and 6 of this letter, the Commanders of the Naval Coastal Frontiers, Commanding Generals of the Army Air Forces in the continental United States, and Commanding Generals of [4] the Defense Commands and Departments initiate a program of minor joint exercises.

"(c) Copies of these programs be furnished the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of Staff of the Army, as soon as prepared.

"(d) Reports of exercises be submitted in accordance with paragraph 119.b., Chapter VII, Section II of reference (a).

/S/ G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

/S/ H. R. STARK,
Chief of Naval Operations.

/S/ R. M. Griffin
/T/ R. M. GRIFFIN,
By direction.

Copy to:

CinCPac
CinCLant
CinCAF
Op-12
Op-20
Op-30
Op-38

Confidential
AG 354.21 (10-3-41) MC-E-M

WAR DEPARTMENT,
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 17, 1941.

Subject: J. B. No. 350 (Serial 704)—Joint Army and Navy Training.

To: The Chief of Staff, GHQ;

The Chief of the Army Air Forces;

The Commanding Generals, Northeast, Southern, Western and Caribbean Defense Commands; U. S. Army Forces in the Far East; and Hawaiian Department.

Received S-C Files, Room 2055, Oct. 20, 1941. Route to: 12 Op File No. (SC) P-11-1 (A&N). Doc. No. 36793. Copy No. 1 of 1.

The following is quoted from J. B. No. 350 (Serial 704), subject: Joint Army and Navy Training, for necessary action:

"The following joint letter is furnished you for necessary action:

"From: The Chief of Naval Operations, and
The Chief of Staff, U. S. Army.

"To: The Chief of Staff, General Headquarters.

Chief of the Army Air Forces.

Commanding General, Northeastern Defense Command.

Commanding General, Southern Defense Command.

Commanding General, Western Defense Command.

Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command.

Commanding General, U. S. Army Forces in the Far East.

Commanding General, Hawaiian Department.

Commander, North Atlantic Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Caribbean Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Panama Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Pacific Southern Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Pacific Northern Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Hawaiian Naval Coastal Frontier.

Commander, Philippine Naval Coastal Frontier.

"Subject: Joint Army and Navy Training.

"Reference: (a) Joint Action of the Army and the Navy, 1935 (FTP-155).

[2] "1. There is need for frequent and closely coordinated joint training of army field forces and naval operating forces, to the greatest extent compatible with other urgent preparations for war.

"2. Due to the employment of the U. S. FLEET and the training program of the major portion of Army forces, the scheduling of Grand Joint Exercises is not practicable at this time.

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"4. A large field for joint training exists in the coordinate operations required between the Army and the Navy in Coastal Frontiers. Such operations might involve:

"(a) Joint air defense operations, both for attack and defense, including operations of anti-aircraft, barrage balloon, and aircraft warning units.

"(b) Joint signal communications, between Army and Navy forces, including ground, sea, and air.

"(c) The operation of harbor entrance control posts and inshore patrol, and the coordinated functioning of personnel in defense of the harbor. The cooperation of the Coast Guard and other government agencies may be obtained.

"(d) The operation of internal security measures in Army and Navy posts and stations; exercises in passive defense measures for the prevention of damage by hostile action or sabotage to Army and Navy defense installations; and liaison with Civilian Defense agencies.

"5. The preparation of Joint Coastal Frontier Defense Plans (and their subsidiary plans) is a necessary preliminary to coordinated operations of ground, sea and air forces required in defense of the Coastal Frontiers. Based upon these plans, and closely paralleling actual operations which are [3] likely to occur and in anticipation of which the plans are drawn, joint training exercises shall be held at frequent intervals with special emphasis on joint communications. To provide for the use of mobile air forces, and other defensive measures provided by the Army Air Forces, situations should be assumed in the training exercises, where necessary, which place them in a higher category of defense than that prescribed in the joint color plan. Provisions shall be made to alternate command in the exercise of unity of command, and also for the conduct of the exercises under the principle of mutual cooperation.

"6. Naval Coastal Frontier Commanders, Army Air Force Commanders in the continental United States, and Army Defense or Department Commanders shall undertake coordinated operations monthly, if practicable, and at least bi-monthly. It is recommended that staff problems requiring coordinated action be conducted at least weekly and that continuous training of joint signal communication personnel be conducted. Where the use of mobile air forces and other defensive measures are required, joint training shall be undertaken to the greatest extent compatible with other urgent preparations for war.

"7. It is desired that:

"(a) Commanders concerned prepare promptly Joint Coastal Frontier, Joint Sector, and Joint Subsector Defense Plans, based on the directives contained in Joint Army and Navy Basic War Plan—RAINBOW No. 5*, and in accordance with Army and Navy Operations Plans as issued.

"(b) In accordance with the conditions in paragraphs 5 and 6 of this letter, the Commanders of the Naval Coastal Frontiers, Commanding Generals of the Army Air Forces in the continental United States, and Commanding Generals of the Defense Commands and Departments initiate a program of minor joint exercises.

"(c) Copies of these programs be furnished the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of Staff of the Army, as soon as prepared.

"(d) Reports of exercises be submitted in accordance with paragraph 119.b., Chapter VII, Section II of reference (a).

/S/ H. R. STARK,
Chief of Naval Operations.

/S/ G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff."

[4] * Sufficient information to carry out this directive is contained in WPD WDOP-R5-41 and WPD WDCP-R5-41. However, Joint Basic War Plan Rainbow No. 5 is undergoing revision and a copy will be sent to you in the near future.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/s/ E. S. ADAMS,
Major General
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished:

The Chief of Coast Artillery;
The Chief Signal Officer;
The Divisions of the War Department General Staff;
The Chief of Naval Operations.