

MOST SECRET AND PERSONAL

*DW Series*

NAR/SR  
9.2.43

C230538

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

The United Kingdom Government have enquired, informally, whether we have any comment or suggestions to make about the general form of the daily and weekly D.W. telegrams.

In asking for any views we may wish to put forward in the light of 3½ years of receiving these messages, they explain that the following points are among those borne in mind in London in preparing them:-

- "(a) It is obviously undesirable that these telegrams should consist largely of repetitions of information which has already reached the Dominions in press communiques. The subjects dealt with in press communiques are accordingly customarily referred to in D.W. telegrams only when additional details can be given, e.g. as to number of planes, weight of bombs, etc.
- (b) The absence of any reference to a subject which is very much 'in the news' therefore only indicates that we have no information about it other than that which has been published. This occurs frequently in the case of Russian and some purely U.S. operations about which our supply of information is limited or belated.

It will be understood that information as to some operations particularly where wireless silence or heavy losses and disorganization are involved may only be received here after some delay."

In the course of the review which is now in hand of the make-up, distribution and general usefulness of the D.W. series, the United Kingdom authorities enquire at what hour these telegrams are usually read by the persons receiving them and what sort of distribution their contents receive within the Departments to which