

Leslie Truman Fossil, Lieutenant, USNR
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EXPERIENCE:

Feb. 1945 to Nov. 1945, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, D.C.:
Executive officer to Chief of OSS Intelligence section for Central Europe and Scandinavia. Also Chief of Scandinavian section. Administratively and operationally responsible for recruiting, training, equipping, and directing OSS agents in that area. Administratively responsible for personnel in Washington office (approx. 30). Liason with State Department, G-2, and ONI. Reported status of operations directly to planning board of Admirals and Generals.

During this period was scheduled to go to Norway as Special Assistant to U.S. Ambassador and as Chief of OSS missions, but injuries and subsequent dissolution of OSS made this impossible. (Have been offered same Special Assistant appointment by State Department, but unwilling to accept for financial reasons.)

Left OSS November 1 after having completed liquidation duties.

Released to inactive duty by U.S. Navy on January 24.

References:

General William J. Donovan }
Dr. Walter C. Langsam } see attached letters

General John Magruder, Strategic Services Unit, War Dept., Washington, D.C.
Whitney Shepardson, " " " " " "

April 1943 to Aug. 1944, Office of Strategic Services, London, England:

Chief of Scandinavian section of OSS Intelligence. Duties included development of intelligence sources; selection and direction of all agents in that area; supervision of training, equipment, transportation, and communication; and supervision of preparation and dissemination of reports. Position also required liason on high level with Norwegian and British intelligence and military officials; and close personal relationships with Norwegian and Danish government officials such as Norwegian Foreign Minister, Minister of Defense, etc.

References:

Col. David K.E. Bruce, 1411 34th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Junius P. Morgan, J.P. Morgan & Co., 23 Wall St., New York, N.Y.

~~Col. William P. Maddox, Strategic Services Unit, War Dept., Washington, D.C.~~
The Hon. Lithgow Osborne, American Embassy, Oslo, Norway

May 1942 to April 1943, Office of Strategic Services, New York, N.Y.:

Scandinavian section of OSS Intelligence in New York and Washington. Maintained liason with Scandinavian government officials, organizations, and business men to develop sources of information. Commissioned in Navy October 1942. Except for brief periods of training and work with sabotage sections was concerned entirely with intelligence plans and development.

References:

Allan W. Dulles, 48 Wall St., New York, N.Y.

John H. Hughes, McCampbell & Co., 40 Worth St., New York, N.Y.

Irving Sherman, J.H. Becker, 54 Pine St., New York, N.Y.

Sept. 1941 to May 1942, Coordinator of Information, New York, N.Y.:

(After May 1942 this organization became OSS and OWI.) Joined COI as part of small intelligence unit which was forerunner of OSS intelligence. Under direction of Col. G. Edward Buxton and Capt. William H. Vanderbilt, USNR, questioned refugees arriving in New York and organized liason for gathering information from foreign officials, individuals, and organizations. Also recruited employees for organization.

References:

Col. G. Edward Buxton, Chatham Hotel, New York, N.Y.

Wm. H. Vanderbilt, Williamstown, Mass.

John P. O'Keefe, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Penn.