

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG : E
UNIT : NEA
EXT : 3159
DATE : 9 AUG 54

S-E-C-R-E-T

ROUTING	
1	4
2	5
3	6

TO : STATE, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, NSA, JCS, SECDEF, ONE, OCI, ORR

FROM : CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ONASSIS, *inst to*

CONF : NE 6

INFO : DD/1, FI, FI/OPS, FI/PLANS, FI/STC, FI/STD 2, FI/RQM 3, PP 3, EE 2, FI/RI 2

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CS (PD 883) (OUT 67636)

21007 9 AUG 54

PRIORITY PRECEDENCE

PLACE

ACQUIRED : BONN, GERMANY

DATE INFO : 5 AUGUST 1954

APPRAISAL

OF CONTENT : 3

SOURCE : GERMAN JOURNALIST (F); PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 6 VERIFIED BY GERMAN OFFICIAL (B).

SUBJECT : EFFORTS OF ONASSIS TO PURCHASE GERMAN SHIP WORKS.

1. ARISTOTLES SOCRATES ONASSIS ATTEMPTING PURCHASE OF GOVERNMENT OWNED HOWALDISWERKE PLANT IN HAMBURG, GERMANY, FOR NINE AND ONE HALF MILLION DEUTSCH MARKS WITH GUARANTEE TO KEEP FULL EMPLOYMENT AT PLANT FOR TEN YEARS.

2. GERMAN FINANCE MINISTER FRITZ SCHAEFFER IS AGAINST SALE TO ONASSIS, BUT DR. ROBERT PFERDMENGES AND HERMANN ABS, BOTH CLOSE ADVISORS OF ADENAUER, TRYING HARD TO PUSH SALE.

3. HERMANN ABS RECENTLY BECAME MEMBER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SISTER FIRM HEADED BY NIOCHUS (POSSIBLY NIARCHOS). ONASSIS OWNS FIRM OF WHICH NIOCHUS' FIRM IS A SUBSIDIARY.

4. ABOVE GERMAN BANKER (WASHINGTON COMMENT: PRESUMABLY PFERDMENGES AND ABS) TRYING HARD ENTER INTO ONASSIS' FIRMS WITH LONG RANGE PLAN OF BREAKING ANGLO-AMERICAN CONTROL OF OIL AND SHIPPING FLEETS. ABS IS INTERESTED IN GETTING SUFFICIENT CONTROL OF ONASSIS' SUBSIDIARIES TO BE ABLE HAVE INFLUENCE IN FRANCHISES ONASSIS HOLDS WITH ARABS.

5. OTHER GERMANS CLOSELY COLLABORATING WITH ONASSIS ARE (PRINCE) OTTO VON BISMARCK AND H. G. VON STUDNITZ, PUBLISHER OF HAMBURG ALL-GEMEINE. PFERDEMNGES AND ABS ATTEMPTING OBTAIN CREDITS FOR ONASSIS IN GERMANY.

6. PFERDMENGES TOLD ADENAUER RECENTLY THAT BASED ON TALKS WITH

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 2528
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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S E C R E T

9 AUG 54
CSPD 883 (OUT 67636)
PAGE -2-

ONASSIS ON FINANCE MATTERS HE ESTIMATES ONASSIS' PRIVATE CAPITAL (PRIVATES VERMOEGEN) TO BE BETWEEN 275 AND 300 MILLION DOLLARS.

7. ABS IS PRESENTLY TRYING TO ARRANGE ANOTHER MEETING BETWEEN ONASSIS, ADENAUER, AND PFERDMENGES AT BADEN--BADEN IN ORDER TO BRING PRESSURE ON SCHAEFFER TO SELL HOWALDTSWERKE.

FIELD DISTR: NONE
FORMAL DISSEM FOLLOWS IN CS-44325

(END OF MESSAGE)

THE ABOVE INFO BASED ON BONN 1914 (IN 34060)

BONN 1921 (IN 34873)

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9 Aug 54

X-ref. in