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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2005

OSSA-5209

Chief, WE

12 October 1956

Chief of Station,

INFO: Chief,

Operational/TILBURY

Contact Report of Meeting with TILBURY on  
26 September 1956

ROUTING	
#1	2/CE walt
#2	B12
#3	
#4	
#5	

ACTION REQUIRED: Headquarters evaluation of report as requested in para 2a.

1. Meeting: Subject was seen by prearrangement upon his return from leave, at the VAGABOND safehouse from 1430 to 1600 on 26 September. The next meeting is scheduled to take place at the same location on 16 October at 1330.
2. Operational: The following items of operational significance were covered:
  - a. The two Latvians who landed on Gotland in July via rubber boat were discussed and it developed that Subject has not yet been in direct contact with either one of this pair. TILBURY was able to elaborate slightly on their arrival in that he is now definite on the fact that the Swedes consider them to have been sent to Sweden by the RIS and further, that they did not arrive simultaneously. As Enclosure 1 to this report is a copy of an information report which the Swedes turned over to TILBURY for translation from the Latvian. This report is submitted untranslated and we would appreciate a Headquarters evaluation of same at such time as it becomes available.
  - b. The above mentioned report originates with the individual who appears to be the more dominant of the two Latvians, Viktor MIKELSSON. TILBURY knows nothing more than has already been reported about (fm) KIMKANS. TILBURY states that a second report should soon be forthcoming from Mikelsson which will be taken from a diary covering a trip which Mikelsson took on the Volga. Mikelsson claims to be a member of a Latvian resistance group which sent him to Sweden in order to make contact with a certain ZARINS in London. It was the intention of Mikelsson's resistance organization to have Mikelsson remain in London as Zarins' assistant (assuming that the Swedes are correct in their

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evaluation of Mikelsson as an RIS agent, this scheme would certainly afford the RIS a maximum penetration of Latvian emigration activity abroad.) Mikelsson is reported to have brought a formal protocol along with him as evidence of his bona fides. He reports that there are currently five or six resistance groups in Latvia, one of which is known as the MAKSIS (the group to which Mikelsson belongs). Another group is named the IMANTA. According to TILBURY, SMOTH advised the Swedes that they were certain that the MAKSIS group in Latvia is under control and that they (SMOTH) were certain that Mikelsson and Kinkans were on an RIS mission. We are awaiting Headquarters traces on Mikelsson and Kinkans. We have no Stockholm traces.

- c. [ ] inquired into the current status of <sup>Janis</sup> Janis KRAMENS, the fairly recent Latvian architect refugee to Sweden. TILBURY reports that he has not been in direct contact with this individual, that Kramens is currently living outside of Stockholm and is engaged in fruit orchard work. TILBURY further reported that Kramens had recently written a letter to Bulganin in the Soviet Union stating that he (Kramens) had given the matter considerable thought and decided that his friends and relatives in Latvia would suffer from his escape and that he now wanted to return to Latvia. Subject reports that Kramens has had little contact with local Latvians, has done a few VOA broadcasts and that he is now probably in a hospital suffering from a severe nervous disorder resulting from his experiences. The Swedes want TILBURY to debrief Kramens but not before he at least has had a partial recovery from his current disorder.
- d. In response to [ ] inquiry concerning GRINBERG whom you will recall had been closely associated with the now-convicted Soviet spy, Anatols ERICSSON, TILBURY reported that Grinberg was a neighbor and fairly close acquaintance of Ericsson's but that no one with whom he has spoken has intimated that there is anything definite with regard to Grinberg's having helped Ericsson in his work with the Soviets. Subject will continue to keep an ear to the ground for Grinberg's activities.
- e. During a discussion about recent tourist visits to Sweden, [ ] steered the conversation around to the group of which [ ] was a member. TILBURY reports that, to his knowledge, this group did not return to Latvia by boat but rather by airplane. Subject repeated his impression that all of the ~~negative~~ <sup>relative</sup> Latvian members of this group were very much in favor of Soviet reprisals for any

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unwarranted action they might take during their stay in Stockholm. As far as Subject has been able to determine, all of the Latvian members of this group were considered to be honest, straightforward and in Sweden without a Soviet mission. Subject described their principal trait as a strong desire to buy up commodities on the local market at lower prices. TILBURY states that he has spoken with "many people" about the [ ] group.

- f. TILBURY is certain that no Latvian boat operation will be laid on for the balance of this year. There has been a minimum of radio contact for the last few months and he described the Swedish attitude as extremely cautious and desirous of waiting for some time.
- g. In connection with the conversation about boat operations, [ ] brought up the subject of TILBURY/1. TILBURY responded to numerous questions on subject but stated that he was certain that TILBURY/1 was not under control during his last visit and when asked why, simply replied that he, TILBURY, spent two solid weeks with TILBURY/1 last year and that TILBURY/1 could not have been under control at that time. As a by-product of this conversation bearing on TILBURY/1's cleanliness, Subject stated that the Swedes had sent money to some of their Latvian agents in the spring of 1953 via SMOTH assets. The SMOTH assets buried the money in Latvia and the Swedish agents were then told where the money was located. TILBURY speculated that if these funds were made available to Swedish agents in Latvia through such a resistance organization as ~~SMOTH~~ or any group which fall under RIS control then it would be perfectly reasonable to assume that TILBURY/1 is controlled; despite this speculation, TILBURY clings to his belief throughout that TILBURY/1 has not been double by the RIS.
- h. The subject of RIS activity within the Latvian emigres in Stockholm was taken up once again in detail and TILBURY has promised to <sup>search for</sup> a good prospect carefully. He has no candidates to offer as possibilities at present.
3. Personal: Subject reported that he had spent part of his leave in Italy attending a Latvian organization conference and that the remainder of his leave had been spent in the Stockholm area.
4. Communications: The communications plan for contact between TILBURY and [ ] was gone over in full and it appears that Subject now has it firmly in mind.

10 Oct 56

Encl: Untranslated report

Distribution:

3-Headquarters w/1 encl.

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