

18 January 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: CPP
SUBJECT : Nomination of Counselor in the Latvian Legation,
Washington, D.C.

1. This Division has been informed that Anatols DINBERGS, at present the First Secretary of the local Latvian Legation, is to be named Counselor of the Latvian Legation. It is our understanding that a preliminary, unofficial reading to such nomination has been obtained by the Latvian Charge d'Affaires from the Department of State which indicates that the Department of State would view such nomination with favor.

2. It is in this Division's interests that DINBERGS not be named Counselor but rather that he remain in his present position; moreover, it is also in the interests of this Division that Alfred Berzins, former Minister of Public Affairs in Latvia, be the individual whom the Department of State would accept as Counselor. Our interest in Berzins is operational:

Members of this Division have been in contact with Berzins for quite some time and find him most cooperative. During a recent trip to London, Berzins was assured by the chief Latvian diplomat, Karlis Zarins, that Zarins would have the local charge d'affaires propose Berzins as Counselor. If the Department of State would accept Berzins as Counselor, he could perform a variety of operational tasks for this Division under

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the an excellent cover which the Latvian Legation would afford him. If and when Berzins would ^{attain} ~~assume~~ the position of Counselor, he could perform spotting, recruiting, cover and cut-out tasks for this Division.

3. In view of the above it is requested that all possible steps be taken to deter the Department of State from accepting DINBERGS as Counselor and to induce them to indicate to the Latvian Legation by innuendoes ~~and~~ or insinuations that Berzins would be favorably accepted.

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