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11 January 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: EK-2 (Attn: [ ])

SUBJECT: <sup>Johnston</sup> ~~Nikhelson and Kalmis~~ <sup>Point</sup>

REFERENCE: ONE Memorandum to OGP on Nikhelson and Kalmis, dated 26 December 1950

1. A sterile paraphrase of the referenced memorandum was given today in an effort to gain more detailed answers to the questions you raised about the subject individuals. [ ] made the following statements:

a) He agrees that there is not enough information about Kalmis to justify a decision to support his activities. But he feels "sure" about Nikhelson and "would favor starting out with him" and delaying on Kalmis "until we know more about him".

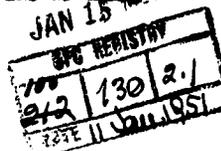
b) "These men, through exiles in Sweden and through contacts of various nationalities are able to an extraordinary degree to keep in touch with what's going on in occupied Baltic States as well as certain parts of the Soviet Union. They have also been able to get letters in and out of Baltic states and are working on a very modest scale on certain psychological warfare work."

c) Nikhelson is also helping out in connection with a publication called Baltic States Review (he wasn't sure of the name) as a contributor to that publication. [ ] stressed the significance of this activity on Nikhelson's part.

d) He promised to get some sample intelligence gathered by the subject individuals.

e) On the question of whether Nikhelson might be tempted to use the proposed support for political advantage in Estonian emigré circles, [ ] declared that the FTUC is already supporting Nikhelson on an irregular basis; since the proposed support would also come through FTUC, the situation wouldn't be materially changed as far as using the funds as a political weapon is concerned.

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f) On the details of a program, [redacted] stated: "I envisage a stipendiary of \$200 per month, given Mikhalson through PTUC, on condition that certain duties or obligations be given him in a) the psychological warfare field; and b) in relation to our intelligence people." He said some of the intelligence gathered from Mikhalson might be duplicating that already coming, but "you can't ascertain that definitely until you try".

g) [redacted] wound up his statement by saying with some impatience: "If you've got a program, come up with it. The Baltic hasn't even begun to be exploited."

2. Please let me know what you wish me to tell [redacted] about this matter, particularly with reference to your intentions project-wise.

SP/PLC/mmc

[redacted]  
Acting Chief, SP

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