

SECRET

9 June 1949

XAAZ-27873

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Offie  
From: Mr. [ ]  
Subject: Visit with Prof. Karl Bergstrom

1. I visited Prof. Bergstrom under my pseudonym, at his hotel today (0930-1030), taken there by Mr. [ ] of OOC.

2. I told him, as you had instructed me, that there are difficulties involved in bringing his sons to this country, but that we are continuing to work on their cases and that these things simply take time. He was interested in the source of the difficulties and suggested that they might easily be brought to this country without much difficulty under the regulations that exist to enable foreign students to study in the United States.

3. I asked him if the FBI had contacted him yet. Mr. [ ] who was present during the entirety of my visit with Prof. Bergstrom, interjected the answer that the FBI had contacted him and that the FBI agents concerned are Messrs. Mar, McQueen, and Jones.

4. I asked him whether he has information on key Soviet agents, either foreign nationals or natives, in the Far East. He said that a few days ago he saw a list of Soviet personnel in that area and he recognized none of the names. It seemed to him that any information that he has on this subject would be obsolete and therefore of no value to us.

5. In reply to my question concerning the possible defection of Chow En Lai, he said he had no information.

6. I asked him to prepare character sketches of Li Li-san and Mao Tze-tung, paying particularly attention to the possibility of Mao's being dropped in favor of Li, the real Communist political boss in the future in China. Bergstrom mentioned this subject later when I was talking with him about one of his papers, pointing out that Mao surely will be dropped by Russia when he has fulfilled his mission of conquering China. He believes that when the inevitable friction between Mao and Li commences, that is when Mao will have fulfilled his function, Li, unable to oust Mao in Eastern China, will head for Sinkiang, which is already under Soviet tutelage. At that time Li will receive the blessings of the Kremlin and Mao will be accused of heretical deviationism.

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7. For the rest of the visit I talked over Prof. Bergstrom's third report, on the situation in China, with him.

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