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X-9724

24 April 1947

TO: []
FROM: FBL *js*
SUBJECT: Johannes MIHKELSON

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION SB2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. The following information has been obtained from OO:

"Johannes MIHKELSON, former Estonian Trade Union (General Federation) Second Secretary, currently and since 1944 in Sweden with the Swedish Government Labor Market Commission, as contact man ~~with the~~ with the Foreigners Section, is in touch with a Lithuanian journalist and prominent underground movement leader, name unknown to us, in Stockholm.

"Journalist, is 32 years old and was born in Daugapils (Dunaburg) in Latvia. Before the war he was editor of the People's Party Paper. In 1940 the Russians had him in prison for a year and he was liberated by the Germans. He then went to work for the Underground and was editor-in-chief of their weekly newspaper "Fighters for Freedom". In 1944 he was arrested by the Gestapo and after being tortured for six weeks was sent to East Prussia, then to Berlin and then to Southern Germany where he was liberated by the Third Army. Worked for the Third Army a while as an interpreter and then went back to Lithuania through Poland using a Polish name. Resumed work in the Underground for a year and then got out to Stockholm through Poland, East Prussia and Gdynia.

"Subject has, or expects to have soon, a secret mail service between Stockholm and Lithuania operating."

2. In examining available material in connection with MIHKELSON, Noel has dug out your LSS-53 which clearly indicates that the Lithuanian journalist mentioned in the foregoing is none other than our friend TILESTONE. In your TX-0990 you have considerable information from TIGLIC on MIHKELSON which you rate as reliable. A study of the cards on Subject leads us to agree with you since the shadier sides of this character have been reported from this source in Stockholm as far back as the middle of 1944. In this connection we refer you to TX-865 of 12 June 1946 and T-2917 of 12 July 1944. Of all current sources TILESTONE appears to be one of the most promising. This new information, however, if correct, may mean that he is blown to the Russians (or to the Swedes with respect to his high-grade RAMONA material) or is a

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Russian agent who has passed us high-grade smoke, or he may potentially be used as a penetration agent if MIKKELSON's relation with the Russian Intelligence Service is as close as indicated in TX-990.

3. These, of course, are not all the alternatives but are passed on to you as a suggestion which, in view of the interest expressed both here and among our customers in the production of TILESTONE, indicates the necessity of establishing as quickly as possible his real loyalty and motivation. Inasmuch as [] , considered here a reliable source, is quoted as having provided the information ~~as~~ contained in TX-865 (together with ~~TX-992~~), you should consider the possibility of using him to ferret out the true situation. At this point we are not concerned with intelligence from TILESTONE until his status has been clarified, particularly in the light of a possibility that he may belong on the other side. Please study this matter and advise us by fast pouch what steps you intend to take.

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