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SUBJECT : FORD Project - SKURIN's Current Interests

1. On 11 February 1947 source had his scheduled meeting with Captain SKURIN. The one-hour session involved no intelligence briefing, but was a heart-to-heart talk of a case officer dissatisfied with the work of his agent and trying to step up his production. For the past six months, SKURIN complained, in spite of source's native intelligence and capabilities, he had not done sufficient or satisfactory work. When source protested that with his position in ADN there was little time left for other activities, SKURIN suggested as a possible solution that source either ought to drop his job at ADN or give up intelligence work.

2. SKURIN revealed that his interests now ran along very definite lines. In the past source had produced reports on political trends, civilian morale, and so forth, and offered to do more along those lines. This SKURIN brushed aside; his only interest, he stated, was in people, preferably ex-Abwehr personnel. He had to be able to arrest one or two people a month, at least, and source ought to be able to produce one of these people for him every month.

3. Source's best interests, SKURIN continued, lay in continuing to work with the Russians, unless, of course, he had begun to falter in his belief in the Russian philosophy (source assured him he had not), because within the next few months, source would see, the Russian position would be considerably strengthened and the "Allied" position weakened.

Field Comment: To keep up SKURIN's faith in source, the latter will be requested to announce that GAMBIT now trusts source to the extent that she has consented to visit friends in the French Sector of Berlin with him -- when the weather improves sufficiently. (As a result of the extremely cold weather, and the coal shortage, the subway operates at half-hourly intervals only, and ceases operating at 2030 hours.)

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