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OLSR

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1. SWEDISH NEWS MEDIA CONFERENCE.
2. OLSEN'S INFORMATION FROM A SWEDISH PROVINCIAL EDITOR
3. INFORMATION ON THE "HIPPER" FROM A SWEDISH SAILOR. (1942)

From: STOCKHOLM

To: MOSCOW

No: 792

24 April 42

To: [Name No. 42][i].

1. At the conference which was attended by about 160 editors of Swedish newspapers, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, GUNTHER[ii], made a speech pointing out that a suitable rebuff should be delivered in the Press with regard to German intrigues in SWEDEN, but that this should be based on verified facts. He referred to the presence in SWEDEN, in various social strata, of people working for the Germans (often to the detriment of their own country) on whom it was necessary to keep a more careful watch and whose activities should be exposed in the Press. GUNTHER admitted the existence of German demands in March which, apart from the demand for the withdrawal of Swedish troops from the Norwegian-Swedish border, were [formally][a] submitted but [he said that][i] they were all rejected.

2. The editor of a Swedish provincial paper told OLSEN[OLSEN][iii] that one of the official Finnish representatives conducting trade negotiations in SWEDEN, had informed him that at the talks uncertainty prevailed among the leading personalities, one of whom was FUNK[iv], even when future prospects were being

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discussed. The Germans are demanding a great deal more from their allies than they give them. On such terms, he said, it is impossible to trade.

3. Information from a Swedish sailor:-

The cruiser HIPPELO arrived in GONIA on the 17th March while his ship was in port and she immediately began to undergo repairs without entering dry dock. She was still being repaired on 26th March, the day on which the Swedish ship sailed.

It is not known what kind of repairs were being carried out.

No. 60

[Name No. 64][v]

Note: [a] Inserted by translator.

Comments: [i] Name No. 42 : Possibly Capt. (1st Rank) K. A. VORONTSOV.

[ii] GÜNTHER : Christian GÜNTHER, Swedish Foreign Minister since 1939.

[iii] OLSEN : Unidentified.

[iv] PUNK : Walter PUNK was German Minister of Economics at this time.

[v] Name No. 64 : Probably Aleksandr PAVLOV, Tass correspondent.

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