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USSR

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FURTHER CONVERSATION BETWEEN "RANDOLPH" AND BALDWIN (1943)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

Nos. 1243 and 1244

28 July 43

[Two part message complete]

Part I]

To the Director.

RANDOLPH[RANDOLPH]^[1] had another conversation with BALDWIN^[11], who gave [48 groups unrecoverable] which the Americans are carrying on through the Vatican with the King and Marshall BADOGLIO. (The conversation took place before the events in ITALY.)

(b) The invasion of Southern ITALY (and SARDINIA) is to take place after the fall of SICILY. Simultaneously from CYPRUS and from SYRIA on the DODECANESE Islands and CRETE. (The General Staff believes there are 4 Axis divisions on CRETE). [a]

(c) In the Autumn an invasion of the BALKANS will be made from Southern ITALY, from CRETE and the DODECANESE Islands. At that time ITALY will come over to the side of the Allies.

(d) The Allies' views are based on the fact that 90% of the German forces will be held down in the East by the Red Army.

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(e) The USA thinks that in the East the Germans will remain on the defensive till Autumn and then make a strategic withdrawal to a line RIGA - KIEV - ODESSA, consolidate their position in the USSR and simultaneously strengthen their defense in Southern FRANCE, Northern YUGOSLAVIA and in Western EUROPE. (The Germans do not expect an attack on Western FRANCE by ENGLAND this year.)

(f) In the Spring of 1944 the English and Americans intend either to stipulate terms of surrender or (if they are not accepted) make an attack on FRANCE from ENGLAND and on Southern FRANCE from ITALY and CORSICA.

rt II] 2. KERN, [iii] who is close to Governor DEWEY, gave [E] the same information in a conversation with RANDOLPH, referring to DEWEY's statements. The latter told KERN that Anglo-American plans remain unchanged: to create in [8 groups unrecoverable] declared:

(a) ROOSEVELT has been severely shaken [1 group unrecovered] in order to strengthen his position for the 1944 elections.

(b) The State Department fears that the creation in the USSR of a Polish division will have a "bad" influence on the Poles, since they may link the liberation of POLAND with the fate of this division.

(c) The Allies intend to use the Polish army also in the attack on the BALKANS from SYRIA.

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MOLIERE [MOL'ER] [iv]

T.N.: [a] As sent, but presumably the main verb has been omitted.

Comments: [1] Unidentified cover-name.

[ii] Referred to in NEW YORK's External Serial No. 1074 of 5th July 1943 (S/NBP/T660) as Editor of the Military Department of the "NEW YORK TIMES"

[iii] Also referred to in NEW YORK's External Serial Nos. 1074/5 (see Comment [ii] above) as a Republican attorney close to Governor DEWEY.

[iv] Pavel P. MIKHAILOV, GRU Resident in NEW YORK.

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