

From: WASHINGTON

To: MOSCOW

No. 965

5 May 1943

No.165. To the Director. HARDY's [GARDI] information.
From personal observation and conversations with officers.

The organization of airplane runs on the southern route.

Airplanes for units of the U.S.A. from the plants [5 five-digit groups unrecovered] [D% groups [GRUPS]] are flown [C% for] modification [C% to] [8 digits unrecovered] centers. There the planes receive [5 five-digit groups unrecovered] equipment--armament--radios, bomb sights, etc. Then the machines are taken over by combat crews and proceed on their own to the units. For the Allies airplanes comprising

[8 five-digit groups unrecovered]

[48 five-digit groups unrecoverable]

Transport Command--staff in MEMPHIS--4 air groups--2nd, 4th, 6th, 20th.

In Florida there are several air bases from which airplanes leave for crossing the ocean. Three bases are known constituting the Caribbean Wing Command [5 five-digit groups unrecovered] commanding officer Colonel MELLOW [MELLOU][b]. The bases are in HOMESTEAD, MIAMI, and PALM BEACH. The principal one is in HOMESTEAD, from which from November to March departed 650 planes. The base... [5 five-digit groups unrecovered] up to 750 planes a month. The base in PALM BEACH dispatches up to 250 planes a month. The base in MIAMI dispatches fewer, mainly transports. Attached to this base there is a warehouse for the transfer of cargos by air across the ocean. Per day are dispatched 15-20 thousand pounds including 50% spare parts for U.S.A., 30% Great Britain [ANGLIYA], and 10% each for us and China.

Types of airplanes dispatched--for U.S.A.--B-17, B-24, B-25, A-20, P-38, C-46, C-47. For Great Britain--B-24, B-25, A-20, A-30. For China--A-20, C-46. The letters of the plane types are given with [their] Latin designation[c].

~~[a] At this point the preposition V (literally "into") seems to occur, but in the fragmentary condition of the sentence it is not possible to see what use it has.~~

[b] Or "MALLOW".

[c] This means that TOM has not used those Russian letters which might serve to transliterate Latin B, C, and P into Russian (in any case C would offer difficulties, though in similar circumstances Russians have used their letter Ts). As constantly in [redacted] and [redacted], he uses those letters which by chance exactly resemble Latin B, C, and P in shape, respectively the Russian V, S, and R.