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FURTHER REPORT FROM "IDLER" ON THE GERMAN POLITICAL SITUATION (1945)

From: STOCKHOLM

To: MOSCOW

No: 598-600

16 Mar. 45

To the 8th Department.

[Part I] On 14th March 1945 "IDLER[GULYAKA]" [1]

[17 groups unrecovered]

[G: possibilities] of peace negotiations with all the Allies a special representative of the German Foreign Office was arriving in the country from [G: GERMANY] together with *leading personalities*

[50 groups unrecovered]

representatives of the legation [HISCHIA][a] met only

[15 groups unrecovered]

so that the Allies would enter into negotiations.

2. [32 groups unrecoverable, 92 groups unrecovered]

to HIMMLER [4 groups unrecovered] in the direction

[48 groups unrecoverable]

negotiations [G: was selected by] the Foreign Office. HIMMLER himself took part in them and in future will probably do this even more often and to a greater extent in order to acquire more influence on foreign policy. HIMMLER was also the driving force in the attempt at negotiations entered upon in STOCKHOLM. However

Distribution

[Continued overleaf]

[41 groups unrecovered]

incorrect treatment" of other peoples. According to this information HEDLER claims that he was only carrying out HITLER's orders, and often even resisted them, but so far his resistance has been rather feeble. The relations between HITLER and HEDLER have not become worse, in the same way as they have in general worsened between [5 groups unrecovered] high Nazi leaders. At the same time, the Sixth Department [EDEL] is trying to induce HEDLER to overthrow HITLER by means of a coup d'état and then put an end to the war. They say that HEDLER at the present time is the only force in GERMANY that can overthrow HITLER. He has at his disposal an incomparably bigger army than

[18 groups unrecovered]

GERMANY.

4. "EDLER", reflecting, apparently, the views of the Sixth Department, considers that it would be to GERMANY's advantage to overthrow HITLER, [6 groups unrecovered] overthrow [2 groups unrecovered] forces. Although [7 groups unrecovered] HEDLER [Q. such] [1 group unrecovered] forces is impossible, but this possibility [2 groups unrecovered] probable [b], as this [3 groups unrecovered] GERMANY. According to information received by "EDLER", HEDLER, is at heart prepared for a coup d'état, but he has not yet plucked up the courage, partly because he does not know what effect his actions will have on him and his adherents after a successful coup.

[Part II] [5 groups unrecovered] [C. HEDLER]

[25 groups unrecovered, 38 groups unrecoverable]

do away with HITLER, consider it important [D. that] there should never revive in GERMANY

[12 groups unrecovered]

will be finished with for all time; if HEDLER [3 groups unrecovered] HITLER to the end, [e] then [3 groups unrecovered] chance that he will be done for

[13 groups unrecovered]

chance of saving his life [9 groups unrecovered]

[69 groups unrecoverable, 25 groups unrecovered]

and make a gesture that would be to his own advantage.

6. The enmity between RIBBENTROP and HEDLER continues. A struggle is also going on between these two and [6 groups unrecovered] between HEDLER and BORMANN. The latter is the man who is most loyal to HITLER. He has lately taken over many key positions

[24 groups unrecovered]

lately been pushed [C. considerably] into the background. A struggle for power at the top is going on at the moment between HEDLER and BORMANN. BORMANN now has under his command the direction

[11 groups unrecovered, 65 groups unrecoverable]

[Part III] HEDLER assumed command of the central sector of the front as the result of BOBMAN's initiative. HEDLER refused [5 groups unrecovered], but BOBMAN insisted upon it, and

[13 groups unrecovered]

HEDLER in S.S. and Nazi circles.

[29 groups unrecovered, 60 groups unrecoverable]

HEDLER not only on the part of [2 groups unrecovered], but also the U.S.S.R. All the same I think it possible to recruit IDLER, so as to act against

[12 groups unrecovered]

No. 37
16th March

[D. VALERIAN][11]

Notes: [a] 'Logation' or 'mission'.

[b] A negative may be contained in the preceding two groups.

[c] This passage may be: 'If HEDLER follows HITLER's path to the end, then ...'

Comments: [i] IDLER : Unidentified cover name.

[11] VALERIAN : Vasilij Fedorovich RAZIN, First Secretary at the Soviet Embassy in STOCKHOLM.

