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USSR

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SPECULATIONS BY MINTER, AMERICAN CHARGÉ  
D'AFFAIRES IN CANBERRA, ON THE IDENTITY  
OF THE GPU REPRESENTATIVE IN CANBERRA.

From: CANBERRA

To: MOSCOW

No.: ~~237~~ 169

1 June 1945

To VICTOR.

The other day ZAJTSEV<sup>[i]</sup> visited MINTER, the American Chargé d'Affaires [POVERENNYJ] in CANBERRA, on consular business. The latter in the conversation with him under the guise of a joke began to speculate upon the representative of the "mystical"<sup>[2]</sup> Chief Political Directorate [GPU] abroad. "Only two countries in the world have a secret service abroad - Germany and Russia," said MINTER. Of this, he thinks all are convinced and here in CANBERRA all they had to do was to pin down who exactly on the staff of the Soviet Legation is the representative of the Chief Political Directorate<sup>[b]</sup>. At first they supposed that ALEKSANDROV<sup>[ii]</sup> was the said worker [RABOTNIK], but after his rapid departure it seems they became convinced that they had made a mistake and in the end apparently [1 group unrecovered] certain that SOLDATOV<sup>[iii]</sup> is the secret worker. The latter he thinks

[14 groups unrecovered]  
the proof that SOLDATOV is the one in question, [2 groups unrecovered] that he [D. everywhere]

[162 groups unrecoverable]

[T.N. and Comments overleaf]

Distribution

- T.N.: [a] The Russian reads "MISTICHESKOJ" which does not agree in gender with GLAVNOE POLITICHESKOE UPRAVLENIE [GPU]. "MISTICHESKOJ" is a word with a rather ironic connotation.
- [b] The tenses of this sentence are muddled in Russian, probably due to the fact of being twice-reported speech.

- Comments: [i] ZAJTSEV, Viktor Sergeevich: Second Secretary at the Soviet Legation in CANBERRA March 1943 to September 1947.
- [ii] ALEKSANDROV, Aleksandr Mikhajlovich: Counsellor at the Soviet Legation in CANBERRA May 1943 to April 1944.
- [iii] SOLDATOV, Aleksandr Aleksjevich: at this time Chargé d'Affaires at the Soviet Legation in CANBERRA.
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