EZBey QUESTIONED ON THE DESTRUCTION AND HANDLING OF CIPHER MATERIAL AND THE EQUIPPING OF THE CIPHER OFFICE (1946)

From: MOSCOW
To: SAN FRANCISCO
No: 57

To EZhov[1].

Telegraph an answer to the following questions.

1. In what way are you destroying the draft materials of cipher telegrams and secret correspondence [44 groups unrecoverable] has access to the safes in which cipher documents are kept?

2. Have you finished equipping the SSto[11] and secret [16 groups unrecoverable]

DISTRIBUTION: [Continued overleaf]

3/N6F/T1956

VENONA
Comments: [i] ZHOV: Nikolaj Efremovich Ezhov, who replaced I.I. Fedoseyev in June 1945 as cipher officer in SAN FRANCISCO. Ezhov is possibly also referred to by the codename ZhaNOV in SAN FRANCISCO messages Nos. 32 and 34 of 30th January 1946 (3/NBF/T1283 and 1289), 36 of 31st January 1946 (3/NBF/T955) and 48 of 1st February 1946 (3/NBF/T1513).

[ii] SSHO: Secret Cipher Office [SEKRETNO-SHIFROVAL'NYJ OTDEL].