

VENONA
~~TOP SECRET~~



USSR

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"KLOD" REPORTS ON:

1. A BRITISH DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE DOCUMENT
2. HIS FRIENDS IN THE "POOK"
3. ASHBY'S TRIP TO VLADIVOSTOK
4. REACTIONS TO EVENTS IN CANADA
5. CAPTAIN MITCHELL OF COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE
(1946)

From: CANBERRA

To: MOSCOW

No.: 101

8th March 1946

To VIKTOR[?].

1. Having found out some [C/ details] of the document which you know about, "KLOD"[ii] stated that it was signed by three members of the British Defence Planning Committee and that there was one copy of it in the War Department here,

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[Continued overleaf]

held by the Permanent Secretary, Frederick SHEDDEN[a]. The document found its way into the "NOOK[ZAKOULOK]"[iii] where it is to be studied and it will be possible to get hold of it once again in the middle of the month.

2. In reply to your No. 1305[b]. The information sent by us about ASHBY's[EShBI][iv] trip to VLADIVOSTOK is at present being rechecked by KLOD through his friends in the "NOOK". As the technique of KLOD's meetings with the latter is rather complicated and takes a long time, the clarification of this matter has been somewhat delayed. It is also possible that the friends will need some time to find the required information.

3. Nothing in KLOD's behaviour has changed. In spite of the fact that he recently suffered a great personal sorrow (his wife died), he is still full of fight, [2 groups unrecovered]. In connection with the events in CANADA he declared: "We must not become inured to these provocations; we are always on the alert and nothing is going to confuse us." He reports that his friends in the NOOK are also in good spirits and are behaving with great caution. They have recently learnt that a certain Captain MITCHELL[MITCHEL'] [v] is working in the Department as a representative of counter-intelligence. So far they

[13 groups unrecoverable]

No. 15
8th March

EFIM[vi]

Notes: [a] Spelt out in the Latin alphabet as Frederik SHEDDEN, *Frederik Seddon SHEDDEN*
[b] Not available.

Comments: [i] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.
[ii] KLOD: *X* i.e. "CLAUDE"; Walter Seddon CLAYTON.
[iii] NOOK: *✓* Foreign/External Affairs; *Off/Dep* this case the Australian Department of External Affairs.
[iv] ASHBY: *✓* Professor Eric ASHBY, who was Scientific Attaché at the Australian Legation in MOSCOW from November 1944 to December 1945.
[v] Captain MITCHELL: *✓* Not traced.
[vi] EFIM: *✓* Semen Ivanovich MAKAROV, at the Soviet Legation/Embassy in CANBERRA from April 1943 to June 1949.