

Col Cordona

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From: Kabul (PILGER)
To: Berlin
9 August 1944
GEC

297

Secret Government Matter.

In connection with telegram of the 9th, #S/7^a.

Evaluation of the report.

"As reported by radio, we are hastily sending our man to bring us instructions from BOSE and to discuss with you and the Japanese how radio communication with BOSE can best and most quickly be established. We are sending at the same time a rather short report, of which R.K. is to give a copy to the Japanese who would like to have certain information from us.

"RAHMET^b told us of the Russians' knowledge, RASMUSS^{en} having been informed by someone on his return trip to Germany through India that the Russians were fully acquainted with his connections and know the content of the reports as well as about TOM and OLIVER's radio communication. This is very serious, more so for us than for you, for if the Russians ever informed the English we would be in grave danger. - We have thought over all the possibilities for the supposed breach of confidence. According to R.K.'s information, this is why you have sent no communications from BOSE for such a long time, which fact we understand to some extent if it is actually believed that the Russians can read our code. But how could you believe this story and who is this man who could convince you in a brief meeting under the eyes of the British police? We want readily to believe what you tell us, for so much depends on mutual confidence; but we assume that the traitor ~~was~~ belongs to your inner circle.

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Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 11-14-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

WAR DEPARTMENT
German

TEMP-607

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We have examined all our people but find no suspects. Only our trustworthy people know of the radio communication with you. How could it be otherwise? Our lives depend upon it. You say the Russians know of our relations, the content of the reports and the radio contact. These three things are known only to Committee Members whom we can trust. We are revolutionaries who are staking our lives to abolish British rule in India and we trust only actual enemies of England. If Russia wanted to help us and BOSE in our revolutionary work when she was on friendly terms with you, we would not have hesitated, just as we did not hesitate to ally with the Japanese who gave our leader shelter and aid. When Russia allied herself with our arch-enemy, we had no chance for friendship with her because the Communists are cooperating with the English. We could never have in the Committee anyone who sympathized with the enemy. If the Russians know of our relations with you, then we and not you are in great danger and it is primarily we who must know how the breach of confidence occurred. But we are certain that it did not occur among us. We do not believe that you have told us all the facts, for we learn that RASMUSS passed through India in the spring, but our good radio contact ceased much earlier, so that we have not been able to make use of this contact since then and have only run great risk, as we still do now, to maintain radio contact. And therefore we do not understand the plan which W.^c proposed to R.K. and which has now been submitted to us with the personal communication concerning our radio contact which he has sent to R.K. since the latter's arrival."

Continuation follows.

How R. K. could tell the Committee that RASMUSS learned of the Russians' knowledge in India on his trip to Germany is incomprehensible. R.K. was told here that a Russian informed RASMUSS right here in Kabul of their exact knowledge of all the connections.

- a- Not available
- b- I.e., R.K.
- c- WITZEL

Inter 10 Aug 44
 Rec'd 11 Aug 44
 Trans 15 Aug 44 (2619-0)

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