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USSR

Ref. No: 3/NBF/T861 (of 15/10/1956)

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RE-ISSUE

"MAY" ORDERED BY "VIKTOR" TO ASCERTAIN ATTITUDE OF METROPOLITAN THEOPHILUS TO DECISION OF A SYNOD OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (1945)

From: MOSCOW

To: NEW YORK

No: 267

23 Mar. 45

To MAY[MAJ]. [1]

Since his return to the United States, Metropolitan BENJAMIN[VERIAMIN] has been sending to Patriarch ALEXIS[ALEKSIIJ] anxious and obscure telegrams about the attitude of Metropolitan THEOPHILUS PASHKOVSKY[FEOPIL PASHKOVSKIJ] towards the decision of the Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church concerning the conditions for uniting THEOPHILUS' Churches with the MOSCOW Patriarchy. Metropolitan BENJAMIN [8 groups unrecovered] sent [D% by post]

[38 groups unrecoverable]

Metropolitan THEOPHILUS, it is necessary to ascertain urgently through the agent network[AGENTURA]:

1. The attitude of Metropolitan T. [F.] and his closest supporters to the decision of the Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church concerning the conditions for uniting THEOPHILUS' Churches with the MOSCOW Patriarchy.
2. [11 groups unrecovered] supporters of THEOPHILUS [10 groups unrecovered] been put forward by the Synod of the Russian Church.
3. The contents of the report by THEOPHILUS, which he sent recently to Patriarch ALEXIS.

Distribution

[Continued overleaf]

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4. Between what dates do the supporters of THEOPHILUS intend to hold their council to discuss the MOSCOW conditions?
5. The behaviour of Metropolitan BENJAMIN and Bishop ALEKSI PANTELIEV and the results of the negotiations which have been going on [2 groups unrecovered] about this question.
6. [22 groups unrecovered] [31 groups unrecoverable] stopped.

No. 1803  
22nd March

VIKTOR<sup>[11]</sup>

Comments: [1] MAY : Stepan Zakharovich APRCSYAN, Soviet Vice-Consul in  
NEW YORK.

[11] VIKTOR : Lt. Gen. P. M. FITIN.

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