

31 December 1953

MEMORANDUM: CSR/3

SUBJECT: EGMA-8983

1. Although there are several other points that I would like to take up at a later date, in this memorandum I would like to confine myself to certain remarks made in para 3d of subject dispatch.

2. It is apparent that the guidance and support material provided to CAMBISTAS 2 and 5 is serving a useful purpose. Continuation of this effort will lead to a general improvement in our relationship and also assist them in improving their publications. We should, therefore, make every effort to make available to them on a regular basis all the support material and guidance for this purpose.

3. I do not agree with the reasons given why merger of the two CAMBISTA papers cannot be accomplished. Reference to the conservative format of the New York Times is not pertinent. What we originally had in mind in suggesting the merger of the two papers was not to transfer all the satirical aspects of The Hornet to The Fatherland, but rather, through a process of careful weeding out of all the marginal satirical material, to select only that material which would enhance the interest of The Fatherland readers. Most of the newspapers carry cartoons. There is no reason why The Fatherland cannot also improve its format by including a few satirical cartoons on current developments. It does not mean that we have to take everything that has been published in The Hornet and transplant it into The Fatherland.

4. The merger of the two papers is essential not only as an economy measure but also as a further justification for our support of the CAMBISTAS. With the Fiscal '55 budget coming up we will have a difficult time in justifying continued support of two publications neither one of which serves our principal purpose, i.e. getting behind the Iron Curtain. Obviously, CAMBISTAS would be reluctant in merging the two papers for this would mean a reduction in staff. However, they must also be made to understand that we mean business in this case and that whatever is being done at this time is done for both their and our own benefit.

5. Inasmuch as CAMBISTA 2 has been requested to prepare a pro and con statement on the subject of the suggested merger, I would suggest that we wait until such a statement arrives. However, I also believe that we should be prepared to take a strong position on this issue.

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