

BRIDE

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USSR



Ref No: S/NBF/T224

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25X1
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REFERENCES TO "THE POLECATS".

Item 1

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No.: 727

*This item
missed*

20 May 1944

*11/1/45 kinda Miller, it
has no problems with release
of this earlier version.*

[5 groups unrecovered] KhE...[i] is ready to depart [3 groups unrecovered] making use of the fact that KhE... has recently been ill with bronchitis [9 groups unrecovered] DAK[i] LEWITT[iii] in order that the staff of the POLECATS [KHOR'KI][iv]

[30 groups unrecoverable]

which according to available information will consent to a two months' trip for treatment. KhE... has advised us that if the business goes normally he will be able to leave in two weeks time.

The staff of the POLECATS will decide on Monday the 22nd of May the question of where KhE... is to stay in the COUNTRYSIDE[v]: if KhE... agrees [5 groups unrecovered] house, the POLECATS will arrange for KhE... to stay with him; in this case, as a new man, [D% KhE...] will be under constant observation and will not have complete [C% freedom] of movement; if we do not agree to this, KhE... will persuade the staff of the POLECATS that it is better for him to stay in a hotel. Please telegraph your consent to

[continued overleaf]

Distribution



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ITEM 2

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

Nos. 751-752

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the decision [C% not later than] 9 a.m. on the 22nd of May.

No. 395
20 May

MAY [MAJ][vi]

Comments: [i] KhE...: previously recovered as HENRY [KhENRI], but now known to be a name beginning KhEJ, KhEK, KhEL or KhEM. Identified as Floyd Cleveland MILLER (known in Trotskyite circles as Mike GORT. (see Item 3 of this report).

[ii] DAK: James P. CANNON, national secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party, sent to prison on 31 Dec 1943.

[iii] LEWITT, Morris: organisational secretary of the S.W.P. and acting national secretary after CANNON went to prison.

[iv] KHOR'KI: Trotskyites.

[v] COUNTRYSIDE [DEREVNYa]: Mexico.

[vi] MAJ: Pavel Ivanovich FEDOSIMOV.

W.S. No.: XY-60.1

Item 2

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

Nos.: 751-752

26 May 1944

[Two part message complete]

[Part I] To VICTOR.

Rose KARSNER[i] has received a letter from the POLECAT [KhOREK][ii] Duncan FERGUSON[iii] (lives in the OLD WOMAN's [STARUKHA][iv] house) in which is described the situation regarding the alterations to the OLD WOMAN's house, her finances [and][a] health, [C% and which] says: " I tried to persuade her to go for a rest to CUERNAVACA, ACAPULCO or some other place, while the

[continued overleaf]

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alterations to the house were going on, but she would not agree. Judging by what various persons have told me, it is essential that she should go away somewhere at the end of the summer or at the beginning of the autumn." LEWITT[v] on receipt of the letter (the detailed contents we got from SATYR[vi]) called up KhE...[vii] and told him that in view of the rainy period which would soon begin the climate of the capital of the COUNTRYSIDE [DEREVNYa][viii] was hardly suitable for medical treatment and after that quoted Duncan's letter. KhE... replied that he could not of course go there for treatment at such a time, but that he would go to one of the above mentioned dry places in the COUNTRYSIDE or to his mother's property [IMENIE] in TEXAS, adding that he could go to the COUNTRYSIDE and take the OLD WOMAN off for a rest to ACAPULCO, to which LEWITT agreed. At the same time KhE... said that he could arrange for the O.W.'s [S][ix] rest on his mother's property in TEXAS. We propose for [C% your decision]:

[Part II] 1. As the POLECATS know that the climate of ACAPULCO is dry and warm KhE... to go there for treatment and on the way call in at the O.W.'s [S.] and together with Duncan persuade her to go for a rest. This will enable KhE... while in her house to acquaint himself with the surroundings [OKRUZHENIE][b] and [1 group unrecovered] [D% about] [C% important] POLECATS of the COUNTRYSIDE. On the return journey from ACAPULCO to the COUNTRY [STRANA][x] KhE... breaks his journey for about 10 days to carry out the task (of the editors of the magazine "Fourth International"[xi][c] of collecting information for articles on the Sinarquistas [SINARKISTY][d]. This will allow him to collect additional data on the POLECATS [on][a] our task.

2. KhE... to refuse the trip for treatment to the COUNTRYSIDE. Instead of this to go for treatment to his mother's property. After [4 groups unrecovered] rest [B% to occupy himself] in carrying out the task of the magazine "Fourth International" and on this pretext leave for the COUNTRYSIDE for two weeks. In this case he will not be able to acquaint himself in detail with the O.W.'s [ix] surroundings though he will be able to collect the basic data about the POLECATS of the COUNTRYSIDE and the O.W. ; Wire your decision not later than 10 a.m. on the 29th of May. At the same time please send a detailed task for KhE... while in the COUNTRYSIDE and at [B% the O.W.'s]. KhE... 's mother has expressed a wish to pay the expenses of his trip for treatment.

No. 408

MAY [MAJ][xii]

[Continued overleaf]

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T.N.: [a] Inserted by the translator.

[b] OKRUZhENIE: the word may have a slight technical flavour. Compare its use in the [] messages published in S/ARU/T2772, where, in the context of agent nets working among the Frontier Troops in Estonia, some informants are recruited IZ OKRUZhENIYa ("from the surroundings" or "surrounding district") as opposed to those recruited among the personnel of the units concerned and their wives.

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[c] Unless the parenthesis beginning after "task" is the result of a garble, it seems probable that the end of the parenthesis has been omitted after the close of the quotation marks.

[d] Sinarquistas: a Spanish portmanteau word derived from "syndicalist-anarchists".

Comments: [1] Rose KRASNER: Mrs. David Fulton KARSNER (née GREENBERG), by this time married to James P. CANNON ("DAK"), national secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party, who was Dec 1943.

[ii] KHOREK: Trotsky

[iii] Duncan FERGUSON went to Mexico: Walter ROURKE as secretary to Nat

[iv] STARUKha: Natal'y

[v] LEWITT, Morris: of the S.W.P. and after CANNON went

[vi] SATYR: unidentifi

[vii] KhE...: Floyd Cleveland MILLER, alias Mike CORT.

[viii] DEREVNYa: Mexico.

[ix] The O.W. [S.]: i.e. "the OLD WOMAN" [STARUKha].

[x] STRANA: the United States of America.

[xi] Magazine of the S.W.P.

[xii] MAJ: Pavel Ivanovich FEDOSIMOV.

W.S. No.: XY-60.2

[Continued overleaf]

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