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CLASSIFICATION SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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INTELLOFAX 7

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY France/Belgium/USSR/Sweden/Switzerland  
SUBJECT Sale of Ship to USSR via Sweden and Belgium

DATE DISTR. 16 October 1951  
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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. A firm owned by V. L. Winkler, the holder of a stateless passport, 33 Avenue des Champs Elysees, Paris, is presently negotiating the sale of the 6000 ton passenger ship SILVERSTAR. The ship was officially sold to Bimco, a Brussels trading firm owned by Banque de Bruxelles. In reality the ship is destined for the Stockholm firm of Swen Du Rietz for the Soviet government.
2. The official price is two and one-half million dollars. The USSR will deliver half this value in manganese, and half in pitprops and soft timber. A 12% guarantee for delivery is to be deposited by Swen Du Rietz in Geneva.

The prices above are based on February 1951 quotations. The value today is three and one-half million dollars.

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[REDACTED] Comment: 1. V. L. Winkler is known for his activities in behalf of the USSR in purchasing all kinds of materials. He has previously been reported as having purchased ships for the USSR.

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[REDACTED] Comment: 2. Swen Du Rietz owns a small export-import firm of the same name located at Artillerigaten 6, Stockholm. He is known to have commercial contacts in the Eastern Zone of Germany and among the Russians. He is probably identical with the individual of the same name who was a member of the Swedish-German Nazi underground in Sweden in World War II.

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[REDACTED] Comment: 3. The firm Bimco is the Belgian Intercoceanic Mercantile Corporation located at 77, avenue de la Toison d'Or, Brussels.

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