

Telegram No.

Dated: May 12, 1944.

D'ETAT

SECSTATE

WASHINGTON

WATCH.

For 109 Jackpot and Carib. Breakers. My 2718. Messenger from Breakers recently brought important oral message to 512 and Gorter. As reported to me essence of message was that military group including Tucky, F. and R. mentioned my 2718-2722, Ladder, also Zeta, Eta and Theta were prepared to facilitate entry our armed forces into Germany provided we would acquiesce in their continued holding of Eastern Front.

Technical details of plan as developed by above military circles said to include

- (1) landing of three Allied parachute divs in Berlin area with cooperation of local military commanders
- (2) large scale amphibian landing operations on German coast at or near Bremen and Hamburg
- (3) cutting off of Hitler and high Nazis in Obersalz-
burg area by reliable German troops stationed in Munich area
- (4) this would be followed by landing on French coast but initial arrangements for landing here would be difficult because Rommel cannot be relied upon for any collaboration.

Above mentioned military group said to recognize war is lost and that American-British occupation of as much of Europe as is possible is last hope of avoiding Bolshevizing Germany and that this can only be achieved by letting us in before the East Front breaks.

512 who received above messenger sent him back North with statement that in his opinion condition interposed re any collaboration on our part regarding holding of Eastern Front would render it useless to discuss program. This was

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done without prior consultation with me and merely on basis his realization we would entertain no suggestions which involved any breach of faith or of honorable dealing with Russia. Subsequently 512 received brief telegraph message that "Vorläufig" nothing further should be done by him.

However 512 and Gorter feel that matter is still open. They recognize that idea of our entering Germany while Wehrmacht continues to hold Russian front is unrealistic and they believe that essence of Breakers idea is merely that we should get firm military foothold throughout Germany before Russians.

I said that I felt that our people would probably view suggestion of parachuting troops in interior of Germany as German trick and inclusion of Zeta among names of those working with Breakers would certainly cause surprise. Regarding first point they said that as they were not military men they could not pass judgment but that if anything could be worked out we would have ample opportunity by direct prior contact with their military people to insist ^{on} all necessary safeguards. As regards Zeta they said that Eta and Theta had brought him around, that his military outlook related solely to Eastern Front and looking to his own future he would be willing to collaborate on any plan which would permit orderly military liquidation Eastern situation so as not to have responsibility for feared débacle.

512 and Gorter argue that if certain German generals desire facilitate our invasion European continent and themselves to endeavor to handle Nazi Govt. this is purely military matter and should be handled solely on military basis assuming of course any conditions re Eastern front eliminated.

I merely listened to their presentation but re-emphasized as previously that we would adhere to both letter and spirit of any understandings with Russia.

My personal view based on above is that there exist in reality certain German generals who would like to liquidate their responsibility toward history by facilitating building an American-British bulwark against Russian domination of Europe. I am convinced that 512 and Gorter have contact with this group. I am skeptical as to whether, when time for action comes, this group would have courage to move effectively but

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their activities might be used to cause weakening of military morale in high command.

If any phase of this situation has any interest it can be explored further and I do not think that at this stage we should dismiss as mere trickery idea that there are German military leaders who, faced with the present situation, have turned to program of facilitating occupation of Europe by Western powers rather than Russia. I have been assured that no similar suggestions have recently been made by this group in other quarters as their access to Switzerland and contacts here are safer than elsewhere.

N.P.

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