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Internal Ref No
04 - 117

DECLASSIFIED by the *SP-6*
Auth. of *Reg. 1.27*
by A.R. Stirling, CWO, W-4 USA
date *30 MAR 1960*

MPU No, 1223
15 Jul 58 *ll*

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(SOVIET INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY)
Col V.I. KONOVALOV

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Source: A clandestine source of established authenticity.
Date of Information: August 1955 - 1956

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report, based on information available from this source as of 11 Jul 58, is one of a series on senior military intelligence and KGB officers in East Germany.

II. BACKGROUND

2. Name: X Vladimir Ivanovich KONOVALOV

Rank: Colonel

Date of Birth: Estimated 1900-1905

Assignment: Chief of a technical military intelligence department, BERLIN (Details on the nature of KONOVALOV's duties will be the subject of a separate report).

3. Family Details: No positive information has been supplied by source on KONOVALOV's marital status. A possible reference to his wife was contained in a conversation on 7 Oct 55 with Maj Gen N.V. SHERSTNEV, Chief, Operations Department, Sixth Directorate, GRU, in which KONOVALOV stated that he "and Galina Fedorovna" had waited in vain for the general the previous day. The general, who was on an official visit to the DDR, explained that he had been "in your area", - KARLSHORST, but not until late in the evening and then had to rush off. It was not clear, however, whether KONOVALOV was expecting a purely social visit from the General.

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- 2 -

4. In the exchange of greetings and congratulations for Red Army Day, Maj Gen G.K. TSINEV (See Para 17) sent his greetings to all KONOVALOV's family.

III. MOVEMENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

5. Throughout the period covered by this report references in source material to movements by KONOVALOV are limited to two trips to the KGB Third (CI) Directorate, POTSDAM, one visit to HQ, GSPG, to attend a party meeting convened by the C-in-C, Marshal A.A. GRECHKO, and one period of leave. This short list should be qualified, however, by source's restricted coverage of KONOVALOV's activities.

6. On 30 Sep 55 ^{Chief} KONOVALOV was asked by Col L.A. SERGEEV, a Military Intelligence officer and of the Soviet Liaison Office with Foreign Missions, whether he ever came "to these districts" (i.e. POTSDAM). KONOVALOV replied that he had been to TSINEV's, place twice and that was all. The grounds for one of these visits was amplified by KONOVALOV during a conversation with TSINEV on 2 Aug 55. He said that he had just been to TSINEV's place in connection with Lt Col D'YATLEV (fnu, probably KGB, LEIPZIG) since Nikolai Ivanovich (probably Col N.I. VISELOV) subordinate to KONOVALOV) was leaving early the next day. TSINEV replied that the order had already been given "there", but Nikolai Ivanovich should apply not to D'YATLEV, who was on leave, but to his deputy Capt I.M. FOMEN (KGB, LEIPZIG), to whom TSINEV had spoken.

7. On 12/13 Dec 55 an unidentified officer from KONOVALOV's unit remarked to Col V.I. SMIRNOV of Intelligence Directorate, HQ, GSPG, that KONOVALOV had gone on leave. At least some of his leave was spent in the DDR, since, while still on leave, he telephoned Maj Gen TSINEV on 31 December from BERLIN. There is evidence that at some previous date KONOVALOV had enjoyed the amenities of the "Fabritsius" (Sanatorium or Hotel) at SOCHI: he agreed with Maj Gen G.K. TSINEV, who had returned from a vacation there, that it was "a fine place".

8. KONOVALOV was one of the officers informed by the duty officer, Intelligence Directorate HQ, GSPG, that a party meeting convened by Marshal A.A. GRECHKO, C-in-C, GSPG had been postponed for two days to 12 Mar 56. The marshal was going to "give an account of his impressions," presumably of the 20th Party Congress.

9. On 23 Nov 55 KONOVALOV said that he had received an invitation and intended to go to the Party "aktiv" at "Comrade PUSHKIN's place" (Soviet Embassy, BERLIN).

10. KONOVALOV received invitations to both the 1955 reception in connection with the October Revolution, held at the Soviet Embassy, and the reception on Red Army Day, 1956, organised by the Soviet garrison, BERLIN.

IV. OTHER PERSONAL PARTICULARS

11. Career:

KONOVALOV joined the Red Army in November 1930. On 6 Nov 55 he gave a party in BERLIN to celebrate his 25 years' service. This event had evidently made little impact on Main Intelligence Directorate, MOSCOW, however, since it required the unsolicited efforts of Maj Gen P.N. CHEKMAZOV, chief of another military intelligence unit in BERLIN, to get KONOVALOV's name submitted to Cadres Directorate, Main Intelligence Directorate, for a decoration.

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Col E.A. YULUSOV, Deputy Chief of the Intelligence Directorate, HQ, GSEFG, said that KONOVALOV could not expect to receive his decoration until May 1956 because it took six months to formalise the papers.

12. There was evidence that KONOVALOV had been an instructor at a school or establishment at one time. This was borne out by a conversation between KONOVALOV and Lt Col N.K. GONAGO, another military intelligence officer in the Soviet Liaison Office, POTSDAM, in which a former instructor-pupil relationship clearly emerged. This former role may have a bearing on KONOVALOV's interest in the well-being of Lt Gen M.A. KOCHETKOV, Chief of the Training Department, Main Intelligence Directorate, which was expressed during a discussion with Maj Gen SHERSTNEV.

13. Education and Accent:

No information is available from source on KONOVALOV's educational background other than that he is a well educated man apparently belonging to the better class of Soviet Society. He speaks in a very polished manner, with a Great-Russian (MOSCOW) accent and never indulges in vulgarity or swearing.

V. CHARACTER AND EFFICIENCY

14. An assessment of KONOVALOV's character, based on source material, establishes considerable independence and self-assurance in his make-up which is probably coupled with modesty where it concerns personal achievement. This latter characteristic was attributed to KONOVALOV on one occasion by Maj Gen CHEKMAZOV (See Para 11) who, when suggesting that a decoration might be awarded to him, explained that KONOVALOV "feels shy about saying anything himself". Although this is only a single piece of rather tenuous evidence it is perhaps supported by KONOVALOV's consistency in the role of an attentive and good listener. That his politeness does not descend to servility when conversing with his superiors, however, is clear from his discussions with Maj Gen A.E. CHECHENTSEV, Chief, Intelligence Directorate, HQ, GSEFG, with whom he spoke on equal terms, and Maj Gen SHERSTNEV.

15. KONOVALOV proved to be quick and efficient in answering verbal questions put to him by Col V.I. SMIRNOV, Chief, Operations Department, Intelligence Directorate, HQ, GSEFG, with whom he was in frequent contact. No material is available from source, however, which permits an accurate assessment of his abilities, in general.

VI. FRIENDS AND CONTACTS

16. Source material provides no information on KONOVALOV's more intimate friendships; those who do not appear as friends or contacts of a sort were with one exception, confined to his own service.

17. The exception concerns Maj Gen TSINEV, Chief, KGB Third (I) Directorate, POTSDAM, who was obviously a good friend and highly regarded by KONOVALOV. This can be concluded from the fact that on the eve of each of the three celebration days, October Revolution, New Year, and Red Army Day, KONOVALOV telephoned TSINEV and warm greetings were exchanged. In addition, TSINEV was invited to KONOVALOV's party to celebrate his completion of 25 years'

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army service. TSINEV on his part offered to raise a question (unidentified by source) in MOSCOW on behalf of KONOVALOV who had not had a reply from there. Although both used first names and patronymics only TSINEV used the familiar style of speech.

18. On 1 Apr 56 Col M.M. SMIRNOV, Chief, Cipher Department, Sixth Directorate, Main Intelligence Directorate, arrived from MOSCOW with a visiting commission. The next day he had a most friendly conversation with KONOVALOV in which he told him that the following sent their greetings and wished to be remembered to him:

Lt Gen A.A. KONOVALOV, Chief, Sixth (Operations) Directorate,

Engr Col MELKISHEV (fnu),

KOLOKOL'NIKOV (fnu - u/i), and

VDOVIN (fnu - u/i).

VDOVIN had already been mentioned by KONOVALOV when speaking to Col V.I. SMIRNOV in October 1955. SMIRNOV, who was proceeding on leave, asked whether he could take anything to MOSCOW. KONOVALOV said he wanted to send the spectacles for Col Gen M.V. SHALIN, Chief of the Main Intelligence Directorate, adding "you will be able to see him there, or you can give them to VDOVIN".

19. Maj Gen SHERSTNEV (See para 3) was subjected to some good-natured chiding by KONOVALOV for failing to visit him during a trip to BERLIN, and their subsequent conversation on business matters was informal and suggested a friendly service relationship.

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