

1- April 1945

MISSION RUPPERT

The following is a summary of the situation presented by the return of Ruppert to Paris and Keila to Switzerland:

A. KEDIA is a high official in the "Georgian Government" (Hitler Puppet Government set up at the beginning of the war to exploit the strong and traditional nationalist and separatist movement in Georgia). KEDIA has worked very closely with the SD, furnishing Georgian recruits for espionage and sabotage missions in South Russia. According to Ruppert, his sole motive in collaborating with the Nazis has been his fanatical dislike of the Communist regime and his traditional Georgian nationalism. He is reputed to be on intimate terms with highly placed SD officials and is in a position to give us the following information either directly or through his contacts:

1. The complete Nazi plans for their clandestine movement in Berlin to be activated after the Allied Occupation of that city.
2. Location of secret files.
3. Information on SD personalities.

B. In order to secure KEDIA'S full cooperation he is anxious to secure certain assurances regarding the treatment of Georgians and others who are compromised in the "anti-Bolshevist Crusade". Specifically he is interested in the following:

1. That Georgian "nationals" when captured by the Americans not be turned over to the Russians. These Georgians include Ost-arbeiters, members of the Wehrmacht, and Georgian civilians who were resident in Germany before the war. He is also anxious to protect 100 officials (of which he has a list) who have been most active in anti-Russian activities. Such persons include Georgians "nationals", SD personnel who worked on the "Russian Desk" and certain Wehrmacht officials. This list will not be known to us until we have seen KEDIA.

Among these 100 persons there are some who are prepared for ideological and nationalistic reasons to continue their espionage activities in our service.

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C. KEDIA is anxious to confer with some "high American officials" who is in a position to give some specific and authoritative assurances on the above matters. He has stated to Ruppert that he would prefer to deal with the British "since the British have a keener political understanding of such matters", but has given Ruppert an assurance that he will contact noone until having had a chance to talk with the Americans.

D. Our Suggestions

1. To talk with KEDIA and find out what information he can give us immediately on the SD and the post-hostilities clandestine movement.
2. Inform him of the treatment accorded to Russians captured by the American forces (both Wehrmacht and civilian personnel) who either do not wish to return to Russia or do not acknowledge Soviet citizenship.
3. Ascertain who are the 100 persons whom he wishes to protect and obtain a list of their names, pseudonyms, jobs, physical descriptions, if possible.
4. Give him passwords whereby the above persons can contact OSS Field Detachments.
5. Indicate to him that such persons will be treated as P/Ws (and will not be turned over to the Russians) but that any other concessions will depend entirely upon their value to us after suitable opportunities for interrogation and screening.

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