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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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January 30, 1946

BX-625

X-25-20952

To: Saint, Washington  
From: DB5  
Subject: Michel KEDIA, Georgian Nationalist

XARZ-26814  
31 JAN 1946

1. We refer to our BX-193, BX Memo dated 25.9.45, BX-564, BX-575, and cables Bern 399, dated 13 Nov 45, and Bern 104, dated 28 Jan 46.

2. In view of the recent offer by Michel KEDIA of the use of his "Georgian Chain", we herein summarize what information we have on the man. As we believe this man to be extremely well known, we would appreciate traces on him and his alleged chain, from any field stations and/or Washington-London.

3. DB7 first contacted KEDIA at the request of the American Consul in Geneva, who had received a request for information from the Commercial Section of the Legation at Bern. KEDIA, who was born in Georgia in 1902, is living at 1 Rue des Granges, Geneva. During the interview KEDIA proved talkative and appeared ready to answer all questions. He apparently assumed that DB7 had approached him in regard to his part in the SKARJINSKA case— SKARJINSKA being an SI agent dispatched to Berlin in 1944 by Lt. JOLIS (SI-Paris) to contact various members of the Georgian group in Berlin. (SI here is acquainted with KEDIA, but have regarded him as a long range proposition which they at the moment are not anxious to assume.) KEDIA told DB7 that he had always been active among Georgian refugees, but claimed that he had never been interested in any political activity until the German army arrived in Paris.

Shortly thereafter a Dr. KRAMER approached KEDIA, stating that KEDIA had been recommended by various Georgians in Berlin. KRAMER asked KEDIA's collaboration. Apparently KEDIA needed little convincing, for 1941 saw him in Berlin. He stayed in that city through out most of the war. KEDIA mentioned as his principal contacts Dr. GREFFE, of the SS I.S. (SD?); Dr. WEBER, of the Abwehr; Prof. Gerhart von MENDE, of the ROSENBERG ministry. (KEDIA states that a Georges METREVELLI, now in Munich working for the Americans, is in reality, vom MENDE.) During this period in Berlin KEDIA was aided by a Dr. MARTI of the IRC in Berlin.

4. Most of these people, according to KEDIA, were convinced anti-Hitlerites. Some of them were aware that SKARJINSKA was an American agent, but allowed him to continue to function in the hope that he would be able to present the Allies with a list of anti-Nazis in Germany. During this time, however, KEDIA admits recruiting 195 Georgians for the German army. After seeing these

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men were treated, and how Russian PW's fared, KEDIA states that he spent much of his time attempting to alleviate their distress. He also claims to have protected various Georgian Jews. For this work the Jews supported his wife and children who were left in Paris when KEDIA went to Berlin. (His family is now in Megeve, France.)

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In an episode that is not clear to us KEDIA reportedly saved BERICZE from the Germans. In gratitude for this BERICZE has been financing KEDIA for some time. While in Germany, for example, KEDIA received 11,000,000 French francs from BERICZE. Through Dr. WEBER, KEDIA met Eugen LANG (with whom he now corresponds in Spain) of the OTTO Organization in Paris. WEBER instructed LANG to set aside a part of the profits from the OTTO organization for KEDIA. FEHRMANN, also connected with the LANG, BERICZE group in Paris, lent KEDIA 5000 marks at one time.

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5. In this first interview DB7 gathered that KEDIA believed himself being kept in Switzerland by the Americans for some future use. Four days later, however, KEDIA again called at the Consulate to inform DB7 that he, KEDIA, had been informed by the Swiss that he and three friends DJAMALIAN, KANTIMIR and ALIBEIKOFF, were to be interned by the Swiss-- the reason being their early political activity. (DJAMALIAN, KANTIMIR and ALIBEIKOFF are representatives of the exiled Georgian government and are in Geneva.) Lt. JOLIS had previously told KEDIA that in event of any difficulty with the Swiss he should contact Mr. MELLON (former SI representative in Geneva). KEDIA suggested to DB7 that the Americans intervene on his behalf with the Swiss. The reason for this action would be that we should have the use of his Georgian intelligence network, with it's outposts allegedly reaching as far as Moscow. KEDIA stated that it would be impossible for him to run this chain from an internment camp.

6. Another source, who is not aware that this office has had any contact with KEDIA, has stated that BERICZE, who is receiving money from Turkey, is perturbed about KEDIA's coming internment. BERICZE has continued to finance KEDIA and his chain here in Switzerland. Our source states that while KEDIA is a politician and interested in the omnipresent Georgians, BERICZE is interested in little but money. BERICZE is afraid that the chain will be broken if KEDIA is not able to contact them. He refuses flatly to have anything to do with any of the Georgians other than KEDIA.

7. This office has received two warnings concerning KEDIA and his alleged contacts with the JE-landers. Prince Theimouras BAGRATIAN, himself highly suspect as a former German agent, reported voluntarily to DB1 that KEDIA was in contact with

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JE-land service and was a dangerous man. An excellent source, whose mission is penetration of JE-land groups in Switzerland, has also declared KEDIA to be dangerous and to be in contact with the JE-I.S.

8. In view of this confused story, our incomplete information on KEDIA and his Georgians and their many contacts, DBI is leery of the whole situation. For, if KEDIA, who appears to be a professional White Russian, is actually in contact with the JE-land service and is offering his network in a penetration attempt, any action on our part would involve a triple agent operation.

9. Enclosure "A" is a report by KEDIA originally prepared for Lt. JOLIS, a copy of which KEDIA gave DB7. Enclosure "B" is a statement, apparently a routine handout, which KEDIA also presented to DB7 during their interview.

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Approved by: *DBI*

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