

OFFICIAL DISPATCH *MG Q-W*

VIA: AIR
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DISPATCH NO. 15928

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

TO : Chief of Station, Frankfurt
FROM : Chief, SR
SUBJECT: Chief, ~~REB~~
GENERAL: Operational/Redsox
SPECIFIC: Name Traces
REF : a. MGMA-8646, b. MGQA-2061

DATE: 14 August 1952
FD 3 of [unclear] with [unclear]

1. Headquarters files reveal the following information on an individual that may be identical with Major-General Johannes **SOODLA**:

a. MGMA-1178, 18 May 1949
Subject: CAPRIFORM's contact with Russian national minorities

"Capriform is in contact with these groups and individuals - Estonians - members of the war-time collaboration government such as Oepik, Soodla, Angelus, and Jakobsen. Estonian academic authorities. Former leaders of the various "voluntary" Estonian military formations.

(It is interesting to note that other Russian and Baltic groups are mentioned in this particular dispatch.)

b. T-2617, 20 October 1944
Source evaluation: C-3
Subject: Estonian Refugees in Sweden

The Swedes were registering Estonian refugees in Sweden and listing them according to those who favored the allies and those who were opposed to them. The black list of names were said to include a) pro-German politicians, b) gestapo agents and Gellarius men, c) pro-German higher officials and d) personal friends of politicians and officials mentioned in a and c. The most notorious collaborationists would be interned in the camps previously occupied by the Soviet war prisoners in Sweden.

One, Klesment, was listed as a pro-German political, "wire puller", adviser first to Pres. Pats; dictator of Estonia from 1932, then to the Communists; later, legal adviser to Dr. Wendt, Director of Ec during the German occupation, and lastly, adviser Minister of independent Estonia. They accused dem
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of providing the Soviets with vital information concerning the military strength of German Baltic forces. In the spring of 1944 he organized a whispering campaign against arrested Estonians, and later conspired with Kent, Wendt and Soodla (S.S. Oberführer for Estonia during the German occupation), against members of the Underground National Committee. He has always been anti-democratic."

c. WSSA-2397, 5 March 1951 (copy to MCB)

Tiberius was approached for suggestions for a potential operations chief. He suggested Col. Johannes Soodla, former inspector-general of the Estonian troops which fought with the Germans. He stated that Soodla was now located at Osnabrück Training Camp, Germany as manager of a disabled soldiers' home.

2. Our files also show information on one, fnu SOODLA, who, it is believed, is not identical with Col. Johannes SOODLA. This fnu SOODLA was a Soviet agent of Estonian nationality operating in Stockholm, Sweden from 1944-45. The following information in our files refers to fnu SOODLA:

a. T-2406, 17 August 1944
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Source Evaluation: B-3

"Estonian SOODLA, (young man of 35, blond, of middle length, stout) is a Russian agent in Stockholm."

b. Another report, no number
Sweden, November 1944

"According to several usually well-informed and generally quite reliable Estonian informants, fnu SOODLA is in the service of local Russian secret intelligence and is known among the local Estonians as the organizer of the Swedish Branch of the Estonian section of the RIS.

On November 13, 1944, subject and another Estonian called at the Legation to inquire if it was a fact that if an Estonian could produce evidence of possessing 1000 Swedish Kroner, he would be given an entry visa for the U.S."

c. OO-B-16680, 5 June 1950
Date of Info: 1944-50
Source Evaluation: F-6

Source of this report is described as an Estonian DP who in 1950 was 30 years old, a refugee in Germany from 1941-43, and a refugee in Sweden from 1943-45. He was an intelligence operator for the British in Sweden. He collected information on organization, strength, morale and armament of the German Army.

"A Mr. fnu SOODLA, an Estonian, was employed as a railway inspector in Stockholm, Sweden, SOODLA was an active espionage agent and evidently in a high position in the local Soviet organization. He spoke Swedish and English fluently, and was still operating in Sweden when source left there in 1944."

d. The files also reveal that one, Heino TANAV, was interviewed in the U.S. in October 1951. This individual stated that fnu SOODLA, had admitted

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he was doing intelligence work for the Soviets in Stockholm in 1944. He had told TANAV that a fnu MAGI was a clever individual who was working for and receiving money from the Soviets; and that he was engaged in intelligence work for the USSR. TANAV informed the interviewer that fnu SOODLA remained in Sweden when TANAV left that country in 1945 and the informant later heard from a source, which he has forgotten, that SOODLA has since returned to Soviet controlled Estonia. TANAV believes that the British Intelligence in Sweden was well acquainted with fnu SOODLA and his activities.

3. Additional information on a fnu SOODLA is reported in:

T-1363, 23 March 1944
Date of Info: 27 February 1944
Subject: Two Estonians in Sweden

"Mr. Sinivere came to Sweden last week from Finland; he was an officer before the war in the Estonian Army. At the time the Russians were in Estonia, Sinivere was a Russian agent for the secret service in Estonia.

SOODLA was an Estonian who came to Sweden 14 days ago. While in Estonia SOODLA was in the German military transport service in the Railroad. Sinivere asked SOODLA how he liked to be in Sweden and also what SOODLA knew about the German's military transport in Estonia territory. He also inquired of SOODLA what he knew of the military, ammunition, and naval bases. Mr. SOODLA did not answer because he was afraid Sinivere was a spy."

4. We wish to call to your attention para la of ref b, in which it is stated that Colonel SOODLA "according to local Estonians in Sweden, is the organizer of the Swedish branch of the Estonian Section of the RIS". From analysis of the information reported above, available at Headquarters, it is evident that the document citing this information refers to fnu SOODLA and not Colonel SOODLA as erroneously stated in MGRN-5347, dated 26 June 1950. It appears more likely that the individual is identical to the RIS agent of Estonian nationality, fnu SOODLA, whose physical description has been included in this dispatch.

5. No information on Major Ellandi can be found in Headquarters' files.

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