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USSR
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Ref No: S/NBF/T661

Issued: [REDACTED]/10/12/1954

Copy No: 105

REPORT FROM "YURIJ" ON CONVERSATION WITH
SMITHERS, BRITISH NAVAL ATTACHE.

From: MEXICO CITY

To: MOSCOW

No.: 473

5 June 1944

To VIKTOR[i].

The British Naval Attaché SMITHERS[i] told me that, while in WASHINGTON, he conversed [B] with one of our sailors[a] "whose name I cannot tell you". The conversation touched upon ["] the Communist Party" and "STALIN [B]" about whom our sailor spoke in an uncomplimentary and "casual" fashion, explaining to SMITHERS that they [C] were [2 groups unrecovered] [D] said that "[7 groups unrecovered]" SMITHERS [D] said]

[35 groups unrecovered]

In a further conversation[b] I found out that in the apparatus of the Naval Attaché in WASHINGTON he knows only EGORYCHEV[iii], SKRYAGIN[iv], and PASKOV. The conversation could [B. therefore] be only with one of these persons.

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YURIJ[v]

[T.N. and Comments overleaf]

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T.N.: [a] The word for "sailor" [MORYAK] gives no indication of rank, and could be applied to an officer or a rating.
[b] Or "In further conversation".

Comments: [i] VIKTOR: Lt.-General P.M. FITIN.
[ii] Peter Henry Berry Otway SMITHERS, British Assistant Naval Attaché in MEXICO CITY.
[iii] Ivan Alekseevich EGORYCHEV, Soviet Naval Attaché in WASHINGTON.
[iv] Nikolaj A. SKRYAGIN, Soviet Assistant Naval Attaché in WASHINGTON.
[v] YURIJ: MGB Resident in MEXICO CITY. Probably Lev A. TARASOV, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy.

W.S. No.: XY-145