"BEN's" REPORT ON THE AUSTRALIAN SECURITY SERVICE.

From: CANBERRA
To: MOSCOW
Nos.: 324-325

1 September 1945

[Two-part message complete]

[Part I] To VIKTOR.

"CLAUDE [KLOD]" has communicated fairly detailed information received by him from "BEN" concerning the Australian Security Service. According to these data, there existed before the war a counter-intelligence department [OTDEL], the so-called Commonwealth Investigation Branch. [1 group garbled] during the war a Security Service of police and military [2 groups unrecovered] - although subordinate to EVATT as Minister of Justice. The director of the Federal Department [DEPARTAMENT] of Security is [60 groups unrecoverable]

[Continued overleaf]

Distribution
... TARY[a]. By reason of this subordination
the police have very big rights and powers. It
deals also with the investigation [RAZRABOTKA] of
"the FRATERNAL [BRATSKAYA][1] and carries out
counter-espionage work. It has qualified
permanent staff [KADROVYE] workers, a better
disciplinary set up and secret

[9 groups unrecovered]

[CA work] with the Security Service while the
police [4 groups unrecovered] experience of the
latter. The Federal Police is comparatively
unimportant. Both the above-mentioned services
have departments in each state. The departments
are subdivided into a number of sections. Thus,
for example, in the State of New South Wales the
Security Service Department consists of the
following sections:

1. Investigation of the subversive activities
   of various organisations.

2. Investigation of anti-state activities of
   Germans, [2 groups unrecovered] Indonesians.

3. Chinese section.

4. Investigation of Italians, Greeks and
   people from the Balkans.

5. [2 groups unrecovered] and Navy and [4 groups
   unrecovered]; the investigation of the
diplomatic and consular corps is dealt with
evidently by the Investigation Branch.

Each [CA operational worker] has his own
agency [AGENTURA], about which no one knows
except him. There are both paid and un-
paid agents. For the investigation of
organisations agencies are recruited
within those organisations. Sometimes
directors of sections carry out joint
action on urgent questions of information.
According to "BEN"s" account the Security
Service has no special [1 group unrecovered]
surveillance but constant external sur-
veillance. EVATT has a special worker in
each State department whose job it is to
carry out his special tasks. Thus in the
State of New South Wales the Centre's
deputy is Sergeant WILKE. Soon after the
end of the war in the Pacific SIMPSON

[Continued overleaf]
prepared an order

[7 groups unrecoverable]

he did not succeed; as EVATT [2 groups unrecovered] about the Service, said that they would still have need of it. Instead of liquidating it, it was decided to cut down its establishment. "BEN" has remained at work for the time being. He is considered there an expert on left-wing organisations, in particular on the "FRATERNAL".

Apart from the above-mentioned material, "BEN" handed over to "CLAUDE" a copy of information on a number of organisations which are being investigated:

1. Political Research Society Ltd., a reactionary organisation set up by the Liberal Party to combat left-wing organisations.

2. "The Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen". The enormous influence of the first is emphasised [C% by the] "FRATERNAL".[b]


The documents are of operational value, as they give exact data on political personalities in these organisations. The Ministry of Home Security, which was set up for the duration of the war, was responsible for carrying out camouflage work, all defence [1 group unrecovered], guarding aerodromes and petroleum storage places, protecting the lives and property of the civilian population in wartime, blackout and other tasks. This is reported for your orientation; the materials we are sending by post.

No. 67 EFIM

T.N.: [a] Given in the Latin alphabet in the original. There are some indications that the immediately preceding letters were RE.

[b] While this appears to be what the text says, the meaning of this sentence is obscure.

Comment: [i] BRATSKAYA: the Communist Party.