

Canberra KGB – Moscow Center Cables

Cables Decrypted by the National Security
Administration's Venona Project

Transcribed by Students of the Mercyhurst College
Institute for Intelligence Studies

Arranged by John Earl Haynes, Library of Congress,
2011

USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T2021

Issued : /31/ / 973

Copy No.: 501

1. OPERATIONAL MATERIAL TO BE ADDRESSED ONLY TO VIKTOR
2. ENQUIRY ABOUT PROPOSED DIRECT LIAISON BETWEEN "TEChNIK" AND "BEN"
(1945)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: X27

7th July 1945

Reference your No. 49[a].

Address material of an operational nature to Comrade VIKTOR[i] only.

Reference your No. 50[b].

Your reason for proposing to put "TEKhNIK"[ii] into direct liaison with "BEN"[iii] is not understood. Surely "BEN" had not yet met you

[3 groups unrecovered]

transferred to the "FRATERNAL[BRATSKAYA]"[iv] [9 groups unrecovered] him into direct liaison will require

[groups unrecovered]

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

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3/NBF/T202

[B% possibility] of a disruption. According to this

[50 groups unrecoverable]

..." documentary [1 word unrecovered], since a reliable way of keeping them until the time comes to dispatch them from SYDNEY to

[15 groups unrecovered]

No. 4578

VIKTOR

Notes: [a] CANBERRA's No. x97 of 3rd July 1945 (3/NBF/T 79).

[b] CANBERRA's No. x98 of 3rd July 1945 (3/NBF/T32).

Comments: [i] VIKTOR: X Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

[ii] TEKhNIK: X i.e. "TECHNICIAN", Fedor Andreevich NOSOV.

[iii] BEN: X Alfred HUGHES.

[iv] FRATERNAL: V Communist Party.

USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T1983

Issued: /10/6/1971

Copy No.: 501

INSTRUCTIONS AND ENQUIRIES CONCERNING MAKAROVICH ("UCN 44"),
SOLDATOV ("ALEKSEJ") AND CERTAIN PROBATIONERS
(1943)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 124

21st August 1943

[150 groups unrecoverable]

MAKAROVICH[i] - in future "UCN 44". In the course of a year's work for another
FLOOR[ETAZh][ii] he gave a good account of himself, easily established contact
and mastered our work. The arrangements for making contact are as follows:

You: "I knew BOBROV who studied at the MOSCOW Textile Institute

[12 groups unrecoverable]"

"UCN 44": "[D% I have] a brother but he [2 groups unrecovered]. He did
not study at the Textile Institute".

Afterwards give your covername.

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

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3/NBF/T1983

5. State whether SOLDATOV[iii] - in future "ALEKSEJ" - has established contact and in what circles he has the opportunity of working.

6. State [1 group unrecovered] [C% Soviet officials] and probationers[STASHER] in the [C% work] of "KON [1 group unrecovered]"[iv].

7. [3 groups unrecovered] important information, not repeating newspaper slander and [1 group unidentified] reported by [1 group unidentified] in its line.

No. 3694

VIKTOR[v]

Comments: [i] MAKAROVICH/"UCN 44":

Not traced. It is not clear whether this is a surname or a patronymic.

Sergij xxanakovich[ii] FLOOR:
BROV (Jx/xxx)

Presumably indicates another Soviet Intelligence department.

[iii] SOLDATOV/"ALEKSEJ":

Aleksandr Alekseevich SOLDATOV,
First Secretary at the Soviet Legation
in CANBERRA.

[iv] KON [1 group unidentified]:

Presumably a coverword, possibly
KONFEDERATSIYa-CONFEDERATION;
unidentified.

[v] VIKTOR:

Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

3/NBF/T1983

USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T1984

Issued: 16/6/1971

Copy No.: 501

INSTRUCTIONS ON SETTING UP ILLEGAL RESIDENCIES
(1943)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No. 126

21st August 1943

Continuation of telegram No. 216[a].

4. Pay particular attention to the setting up of illegal residencies, selecting as illegal residents the most reliable and qualified agents who are not under suspicion by the local authorities and whose collaboration with us is known to a very limited number of our agents, when setting up an illegal residency, establish the resident's office[BYuRO] independently of the local FELLOWCOUNTRYMEN[i], using *institutions*¹ for this such forms of cover as organization of commercial ~~[1 group unidentified]~~, cinemas, [1 group unidentified], restaurants, fashion houses, handicraft shops; and also the entrée through connections[KONTAKT] into various [1 group unidentified], enterprises etc; and set about creating trustworthy liaison which will ensure the prompt delivery of information from offices[ORGAN] of the FELLOWCOUNTRYMEN [7 groups unrecovered] a system of reliable counterintelligence agents, opportunities [2 groups unrecovered]. No organization[C% al] measures in this matter are to be

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

¹ An extra return was added to accommodate handwritten text.

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taken without our consent.

5. With a view to setting up ~~{1 group unidentified}~~ necessary contacts [5 groups unrecoverable] material our cadre workers are being allowed to join various clubs, sporting and other organizations run by foreign governments, having first obtained our agreement. [~~8 groups unrecovered~~], permitting entry into these organizations
of ~~and~~ other ~~{1 group unidentified}~~ Soviet ~~{1 group unidentified}~~, however only with the permission of the Ambassador, Minister or Consul. Further information to follow.

Note: [a] Previous part(s) of message not available. Probably a circular.
The internal serial number is compatible with the series used for messages from MOSCOW signed by PETROV; this signature would have appeared at the end of the first part of the message.

Comment: [i] FELLOWCOUNTRYMEN: Members of the Communist Party.

3/NBF/T1984

² An extra return was added to accommodate handwritten text.

USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T1985

Issued: 4/6/1971

Copy No.: 501

NEW REGULATIONS GOVERNING SALARIES AND FAMILY
ALLOWANCES FOR RIS WORKERS
(1943)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 140

8th September 1943

Circular[a].

With effect from October a new set of regulations [1 group unrecovered] our workers will be introduced, in accordance with which the basic salary with [1 group unrecovered] percentage increase in accordance with our existing scales [C% will be maintained]. Payment to families will be carried out [4 groups unrecovered].

[34 groups unrecoverable]

estimate [for the][b] fourth quarter the following information [C% is required] individually about each worker:

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

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3/NBF/T1985

1. The post which is being occupied and the basic salary which is being received from his cover in foreign currency and Soviet rubles.
2. [1 groups unrecovered] percentage increase which is being received from his cover with an indication of the precise date from which his seniority is calculated.
3. The exact date from which his seniority in our work is calculated.

No. 3928

VIKTOR[i]

Notes: [a] This message is known to have been sent also to SAN FRANCISCO,
NEW YORK and OTTAWA.

[b] Inserted by translator.

Comments: [i] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

3/NBF/T1985

USSR
[REDACTED]Reissue

From: MOSCOW
 To: CANBERRA
 No: 142[a]

12 September 1943

1. A change in circumstances - and in particular in dissolution of the "BIG HOUSE[BOL'SHOJ DOM]"[i] - necessitates a change in the method used by the workers of our residencies to keep in touch with the leaders of the local FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN[ZEMLYaChESKIJ][ii]

2. Our workers, by continuing to meet the leaders of the FELLOWCOUNTRYMEN, are exposing themselves to danger and are giving cause [1 group unidentified][b] local authorities to suspect that the "BIG HOUSE" is still in existence.

3. We propose:

a) That personal contact with leaders of the local FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN organizations should cease and that FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN material should not be accepted for forwarding to the "BIG HOUSE."

b) That meetings of our workers may take place only with special reliable undercover[ZAKONSPIROVANNYJ] contacts of the FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN [D% organizations], who are not suspected by the [1 group unidentified][b] local authorities, exclusively about specific aspects of our intelligence work (acquiring [1 group unidentified]contacts, leads[NAVODKI], rechecking of those who are being cultivated, etc.). For each meeting it is necessary to obtain our consent.

[1 group unrecovered]
 [1 groups missing]

representative of the Soviet Union.

No. 4048

VIKTOR[iii]

Notes: [a] This message is known to have been sent also to NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO and OTTAWA.
 [b] The unidentified group is the same in both cases.

Comments:

[i] BIG HOUSE: The COMINTERN.
 [ii] FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN(-MEN): Communist(s).
 [iii] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

17 August 1971

USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T1987

Issued: 18/6/1971

Copy No.: 501

1. REPORT ON SMIRNOV, SMIRNOVA AND KRANIDOVA
2. "AMMARILIS"
(1943)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 150

17th September 1943

The neighbourly relations between SMIRNOVA[i] and KRANIDOVA[ii] [1 group unidentified]. We have informed the "SYNDICATE[SINDIKAT]"[iii] of this. You must deal with [1 group unidentified] the processing and checking of information coming in. For processing what goes out one cannot exclude the possibility of "AMARILIS"[iv], [C% who possesses] full particulars of KRANIDOVA and her role. Through [1 group unidentified][a] warn SMIRNOV[v] that chatter about the work in [1 group unidentified] NKVD may [8 groups unrecoverable] SMIRNOV's transfer to someone from [1 group unidentified] in the capacity of a [1 group unidentified], preferably to our probationer [STAZHER].

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

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3/NBF/T1987

[C% Decisions] on questions of this nature are to be put into effect through [1 group unidentified][a], trade union and physical culture organisations.

No. 4146

VIKTOR[vi]

Note: [a] This unidentified group is the same in both instances.

Comments: [i] SMIRNOVA: Nina Stepanovna SMIRNOVA, wife of Anatolij Nikolaevich SMIRNOV (see Comment [v] below).

[ii] KRANIDOVA: Helen KRONIDOFF (wife of Aleksander Mikhajlovich KRONIDOFF), Russian emigré, became Australian citizen in 1930.

[iii] SYNDICATE: Peoples' Commissariat for Foreign Affairs (NKID).

[iv] AMMARILIS: Presumably the name "AMARYLLIS" (the correct Russian spelling is AMARILLIS); unidentified coverword or covername. First occurrence.

[v] SMIRNOV: Anatolij Nikolaevich SMIRNOV, cashier at the Soviet Legation in CANBERRA.

[vi] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T1988

Issued: 17/6/1971

Copy No.: 501

SECURITY: DETAILED REMINDER TO RIS RESIDENTS AND OPERATIONAL WORKERS
(1943)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 233, 232

2nd December 1943

[2-part message complete]

[Part I] Circular[a]

Once again we direct your attention to inadequate security in the work of leaders and operational workers in residencies. Some operational workers are being initiated into residency matters which bear no relation to the work being carried out by them. Of course this is the result of talkativeness and the inevitable consequences of the close relations existing among our workers. It is necessary for all [6 groups unrecovered] but, as regards the general work of a residency, each individual worker should know only what is essential in order to

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

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carry out the work in his own field. In embassy, legation and consulate buildings (in the private and general offices of residents) and also in private flats, probably fitted with special [1 group unidentified], discussions on operational questions take place. There have even been cases where conferences of all of the workers of a residency have been arranged in a general office, for the collective discussion of directives from the centre. It is categorically forbidden, in the course of briefing and in general during discussions, particularly if held on the premises, to use [1 group garbled] surnames of workers and probationers[STAZhERY], names of towns and countries, of [C% officials] and of other objectives. All this should be encoded.

[Part II] [1 group unrecovered] [C% considering] the cases cited above it is recommended that, instead of audible conversation, notes should be exchanged, which, immediately after such a "secret conversation", [1 group unidentified] will be destroyed. At work and in private life our workers should not [4 group unrecovered] from other [1 group unidentified] of the organization[APPARAT] and [C% group themselves together]: this will inevitably lead to disclosure. [2 groups unrecovered] other [1 group unrecovered] discussion in Russian of [4 groups unrecovered] with them. [5 groups unrecoverable] infringements of the security regulations we shall take severe measures. [1 group unidentified] maintenance of necessary security in our work depends to a considerable extent on leaders of residencies personally. The resident should not share with his subordinates information which they are not required to know in the course of their work.

No. 677

PETROV[i]

Notes: [a] This message is known to have been sent also to HAVANA, MEXICO CITY OTTAWA, SAN FRANCISCO and NEW YORK.

Comments: [i] PETROV: Unidentified MOSCOW signatory; probably a covername or pseudonym.

3/NBF/T1988

USSR

Ref. No.: S/NBF/T219

Issued: 6/8/1952

Copy No.: 202

FINANCIAL MESSAGES

Item 1

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 182

27 July 1944

On 17th July to Comrade VLASOV for you there
was remitted[a] by telegraph an advance for

[11 groups unrecovered]

[D% pounds].

Confirm receipt of the money [D% .]

VIKTOR

[2 groups unrecovered]

25th July 1944

T.N. [a] ADRES TOVARISHcha VLASOVA PEREVEDEN VAM...:
Literally: "to the address of Comrade VLASOV
remitted to you ..."

[Continued overleaf]

Distribution:

USSR

Ref No: S/NBF/T219 [see 27-7-44]
Issued: 6/8/1952
Copy No: 202

FINANCIAL MESSAGES

Item 2

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 214 31 Aug 1944

On 26 August 350 Australian pounds were remitted
by telegraph to Comrade SOLDATOV for you as per estimate
for the third quarter.

Confirm receipt of the money.

No. 4038

VIKTOR

.....
Item 3

S/NBF/T219
[see 27-7-44]

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 29 16 Feb 1945

Today 850 Australian pounds were remitted by telegraph to Comrade SOLDATOV for you [as per][a] account of estimated allowances for the first quarter of this year. Confirm receipt of the money.

No. 933 VIKTOR

T.N.: [a] Inserted by translator.

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S/NBF/T219

Item 4From: MOSCOW
To: CANBERRA

No.: 156 19 Aug 1945

On 17th August of this year 500 Australian pounds were remitted by telegraph to LIFANOV[a] as per estimate for the third quarter. V

V
No. ~~6044~~ VICTOR
6044

-
- * T.N.: [a] Note that in this instance the words "for you" were omitted. It is, however, assumed that this message is exactly parallel to similar ones reported in other items.
-

Item 5

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 184 6 Sept 1945

On 1st September of this year an advance of
300 Australian pounds was remitted to LIFANOV for you to
cover telegraph expenses in the third quarter.

Confirm receipt of the money.

No. 6456 VICTOR
5th September.

[Continued overleaf]

S/NBF/T219

Item 6

T219
[see 27-7-44]

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 253 6 Nov. 1945

On 3rd November 650 pounds were remitted by telegraph to LIFANOV for you as follows: 500 as per estimate for the fourth quarter and a supplementary 150 in accordance with your request.

Confirm receipt of the money.

No. 8050 VICTOR
5 [D% November] [2 groups unrecovered]

Item 7

T219
[see 27-7-44]

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 54 13 March 1946

To EFIM.

On 9th March 350 Australian pounds were remitted
by telegraph to LIFANOV [as per][a] your estimate for the
first quarter. Acknowledge receipt of the money.

No. 1631
12 March

VICTOR

[T.N.:a] next page

[see 27.7.44]

Item 8

From: CANBERRA

To: MOSCOW

No.: 116

16 March 1946

To VICTOR.

Your No. 1631[i].

I confirm receipt of cash remittance for the sum
of 350 Australian pounds.

No. 18
16 March 1946

EFIM

Comment: [i] Message reported in Item 7.

Item 9

T219

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 134

9 June 1947

To EFIM.

ON 5th July 175 Australian pounds were remitted
by telegraph to LIFANOV as an advance for expenses in the
second quarter. Acknowledge receipt of the money.

No. 5288

GENNADIJ

Item 10

V

T219

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 199

17 Sept 1947

On 11th September 117 Australian pounds were remitted
by telegraph to LIFANOV for you for expenses.
Acknowledge receipt of the money.

No. [C% 82]13[a]

YuR'EV

T.N.: [a] Or [C%83]13

S/NBF/T219

USSR

Correction to
Ref. No.: S/NBF/T182 of (29.4.1952)

Issued: 2/2/1955

Copy No.: 202

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 191

3 Aug. 1944

CORRECTION

In the second line of the text, please alter "[67 groups unrecovered]"
to read "[67 groups unrecoverable]".

Distribution

USSR

Ref. No.: S/NBF/T182

Issued: /29/4/1952

Copy No.: 202

REFERENCE TO A MEETING IN AUGUST 1944.

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 191

3 Aug. 1944

To EFIM.

V
Your No. 29[a].

erable
[67 groups unrecovered]

[D%.] Please once again think out a more convenient place and time of
meeting. Telegraph your suggestion.

[No.] 35**.
V

VICTOR

T.N.: [a] Not available.

Distribution

USSR

Ref No: S/NBF/T181

Issued: /28/10/1952

Copy No: 202

REISSUE

REFERENCE TO NEW DUTIES FOR "EFIM"

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 193

8 August 1944

To EFIM.[a]

On [D% 20th][b] July of this year in the line of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Affairs [PO LINII NKID] instructions were given that you are being transferred to a post [D% of probationer of the Legation [STAZHER MISSII]].[c]

No. 3571

VICTOR

T.N. : [a] Enciphered at the end of the message after the signature instead of in the normal position at the beginning.

[b] Or [D% 25th].

[c] The last part of the text has been graded D% because a reversal of two digits of cipher text has been assumed.

Distribution

USSR

Ref. No.: S/NBF/T213214

Issued: /26/6/1952

Copy No.: 202

NOTIFICATION OF IMPENDING ARRIVAL IN SYDNEY OF "PALM".

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 212

29 Aug 1944

To EFIM.

At the beginning of October of this year there will arrive in SYDNEY the French Consul-General and Trade Adviser ~~xxACHEFF~~ EL'YaShEV Boris L'vovich (in future "PALM[PALM]"), born 1892, Russian, [D% in 1917 France] [1 group unrecovered] [D% .] From [1 group unrecovered] ~~he~~ he worked in [D% a section] of a French Ministry; in 1940, being in Columbia[i], he represented DE GAULLE's movement there; in 1942 he was appointed a member of the Free French Mission in the U.S.A. and was posted to SAN FRANCISCO, [D% where] [2 groups unrecovered] Consul-General right up to January 1944, when he was recalled to ALGIERS to take up a new appointment. He was recruited for our work at the end of 1943. "PALM" [B% is not]

[10 groups unrecovered]

Forbid him to establish with our diplomatic workers closer [B% connections] than is customary in the diplomatic world. To put the matter in such a way [D% that] [2 groups unrecovered] ~~to~~ to [c] PARIS through him [7 groups unrecoverable] institutions one ought not ~~to~~. According to "PALM's"

[Continued overleaf]

Distribution

- 2 -

S/NBF/T~~213~~214

words, the French Intelligence Service (~~RAZVEDKA~~) suggested to him that he should co-operate in the collection of intelligence information, to which he, on the basis of the alleged expediency of such a step for our work, gave his consent.

We are informing you of these facts in order to determine the line of conduct and work with "PALM" in future.

Conditions of meeting: a week after his arrival in SYDNEY "PALM" will go out systematically every Monday and Wednesday at 11 o'clock in the morning to a meeting at the "Arthur Philip [ARTUR FILIPP]" Memorial, around which he will stroll for ten minutes. In his hands he will hold a pale blue Russian book - "Diplomatic [B% Commentaries]", author Filipp KUDZIROV. The password for you will be the following phrase spoken in Russian: "Excuse me, I think you lived in Malyj Zlatoustinskij Pereulok?" "PALM" will reply to this: "Quite right, evidently you know Aleksandr Aleksandrovich." After this you can go on to the actual conversation.

Telegraph after contact with "PALM" has been established.

V
No. 3959
29th August

VICTOR

T.N.: [a] ~~Possibly 1931 or 1933.~~

[b] Possibly "all the information".

[c] Or "in".

[d] Assuming this to be all one sentence, the expression "one ought not" should probably be placed at the beginning - i.e. before "To put the matter....".

Comments: [i] As given. Apparently "Columbia" is meant.

S/NBF/T~~213~~214

USSR Ref. No: S/NBF/T185 (of 8/5/1952)

Issued: 4/5/56

Copy No: 202

RE-ISSUE

REFERENCE TO "GRANDSON" (1944)

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No: 213

30 Aug. 44

To EFIM. [i]

Your No. 35[a].

We agree with your suggestion.

V

We confirm our orders about the use of "GRANDSON[VNUK]" [ii] only in the dark [VTEMNUYu] [b]. By personal observation try to discover the real intentions of "GRANDSON", his interest in further work with us. [B% Initiative]

[19 groups unrecoverable]

T.N.: [a] Not available.

[b] it appears that
this expression refers to the "unconscious" use of a source.

Comments: [i] Semen Ivanovich MAKAROV.

[ii] First mention of this unidentified cover-name.

Distribution

USSR

Ref. No.: Amendment to:
S/NBF/T219 (of 6/8/1952)

Issued: /8/1/1953

Copy No.: 202

FINANCIAL MESSAGESItem 2

From: MOSCOW

To: CANBERRA

No.: 214

31 Aug 1944

AMENDMENT

It is now known that the internal serial number
of this message should be 4038.

NSA Study

Names in Canberra Traffic

[undated]

Copy #2

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

NAMES IN [REDACTED] TRAFFIC

1. A certain amount of 1946-1947 traffic between Moscow and Canberra in system [REDACTED] has been partially exploited, and a few points of possible interest concerning names and covernames occurring in this traffic have emerged.

2. The Canberra signature continues to be a name in the range of YEFIM (Joachim) (see Special Report #1, section 8). "KLOD" (Claude) continues to be the chief purveyor of intelligence (see Report #1, section 10).

Moscow

3. The signature (and address as long as it can be traced, i.e., through 8 May 1946) was, as before (See Report #1, Section 7), VIKTOR or VIKTOR, 8 OTDEL (Division). This is last traced as a signature in a message of 27 June 1946. On 26 September 1946, a Moscow signature begins to occur that falls within the range of, say, GENRI (Henry), and from 24 October 1946 this alternates with a signature that falls within the range of, say, IVANOV.

4. Material for 1947 is rather sparse, but a Moscow-Canberra message of 9 August 1947 (serial 171) is available which reads as follows:

Henceforth all directions and inquiries
- 9F - Comrade YURYEV (?).
 ## (?IVANOV?)
 8 August

The recovery of the signature is not certain. Messages of 5, 10, and 17 September 1947 signed YURYEV (?) are extant.

5. There is no sure way to determine whether YURYEV is a real name or a covername. Previously, however, "Comrade" (TOVARISHCH) has seemed to occur only before genuine names. Note, for example, that in 1946 Moscow-Canberra messages dealing with finances, the name of the Minister to Australia occurs frequently, always as "Comrade LIFANOV."