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15 October 1952

SECURITY INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief, IO/TOKYO

FROM: Chief, SR/2

SUBJECT: Candidates for Membership in the Latvian Consultative Panel

In response to your verbal inquiry with regard to Valdemars BOSTJANIS and Vilis HANBERS, candidates for membership in the Latvian Consultative Panel, the following information is presented and opinions expressed:

1. We approve the nomination of BOSTJANIS and disapprove the nomination of HANBERS. BOSTJANIS is considered the best Latvian Social Democrat in this country. Some checking of BOSTJANIS may reveal ostensibly derogatory information. If this should occur SR/2 would like to be consulted.

2. It is not believed that HANBERS can obtain admission into the United States under present law. He is believed to be barred from the U.S. because he was a volunteer in the Latvian division of the Waffen S.S., and because he obtained the rank of major in the Waffen S.S. In addition we would regard HANBERS' membership on the Panel as undesirable in its possible effect on our own plans for Latvian Unification. SR/2 will be glad to expand on this latter theme if you so desire.

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