THE COVERNAME "KARAS" IN [redacted] TRAFFIC

1. Purpose of the report. It seems desirable to report as the occasion may arise on newly determined covernames, and to translate the messages in which they occur. The present report deals with two messages involving the covername KARAS'. These are of interest, because they illustrate arrangements for a rendezvous made with parties in two different countries.

2. The name. KARAS' means Crucian (Carp) or Prussian Carp (Carassius vulgaris, syn. carassius). Compare the covername OKUN' (Perch) in New York-Moscow 823 of 7 June 1944 (not reported on).

It is true that a Yugoslav name KARAS (not KARASJ!) is on file at CSGAS-95 -- no connection with our man being probable -- but in the view of the technicians working on the problem, the assumption that KARAS' is here a covername is somewhat more probable than the supposition that it is a real surname.

3. The first message. New York-Moscow message 699 [378] of 17 May 1944:

> KARAS' [Crucian (Carp)] (?the elected?) president of the Union of Yugoslav (?Merchant Seamen?) in --1U-- will go to Sidon [London] where he will enter --2F--. --1F-- ...ing in Yugoslav(?ia?) --1F-- with which his --2F-- we --3F-- arrived on --1U--. KARAS' got from (?her? or ?CHIORNOY?[a] [Black(ie)]) information through (?BAB?)IN's wife that --2F-- --1F--ELA SVECIC working with TITO's staff. Telegraph the password agreed upon for liaison with KARAS' in Sidon.
>
> 378
>
> MAY
>
> 17 May

a. Covername; see New York-Moscow message 1403 (798) of 5 October 1944 (Report, "Revised Translation of Two [redacted] Messages on Changes in Covernames").

The message opens without an address.

4. The second message. New York-Moscow message 847 [463 and 457] of 14 June 1944:

To VIKTOR [Victor].

--8F-- IPATOV (?of the ?) cover line etc. what --1F--.

463

[Message break]

KARAS' [Crucian] is leaving for Sidon [London] --43F--[a] GATE LONDON S.W.)[b] Password: Our man in English -- Your friend VLADO[c] sends you best regards. KARAS' replies -- Thank you very much! We have not seen each other for a long time. --10F-- (?any task not --1F-- security.?) --30F-- --1U-- counsels (?as?) (?duties?).

457

MAY

14 June

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a. On a depth of one.
b. The letter preceding the space preceding "GATE" is possibly an S.
c. Serbo-Croatian name.

The task of devising a password evidently devolved upon New York.