

Conversation of the Foreign Commissar of the USSR V. M. Molotov  
with the German interim Charge d'Affaires in the USSR von  
Tippelskirch  
04.10.1940

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Tippelskirch, having declared that he is authorized by Ribbentrop to answer the questions of Comr. Molotov raised by him in a conversation on September 26, read out these answers (see the appendix No. 1)<sup>1</sup>.

Comr. Molotov declared to Tippelskirch, on the first issue regarding the German-Finnish agreement that, as is well-known to Tippelskirch, between the USSR and Germany there is an agreement under which Finland treats "the sphere of interests of the Soviet Union". Therefore, it is quite clear that the Soviet government is interested in obtaining timely and rather concrete information. The Soviet government wishes to know whether all German troops are sent to Kirkenes, their number, the duration of this agreement.

Tippelskirch answered that, at the request of Finland, an exchange of notes was made between Germany and Finland, and read out the copy of the note of the Finnish government concerning the transit of German troops through the territory of Finland (see the appendix No. 2)<sup>2</sup>. Besides, Tippelskirch noticed that the Finnish government, apparently, informed the Soviet government about the agreement.

Comr. Molotov told that the Finnish government informed very briefly, almost simultaneously with the German government, but also after when information about disembarkation of the German troops was already placed in the press. Any answer for the questions raised by Comr. Molotov to the Finnish envoy he has not received yet.

Furthermore, Tippelskirch declared that all German troops were on their way Kirkenes and would not remain in the territory of Finland. On other questions raised by Comr. Molotov he referred to lack of data and told that he would ask Berlin.

On the second question, Comr. Molotov said that in view of the fact that the question of understanding by the German government of the articles 2 and 4 of the non-aggression pact, he needs to study the answer in more detail.

Wrote down Lensky

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Draft machine assisted translation by Pauli Kruhse