**TNA FO 337/107**

**Findlay to Sir Edward Grey on Adler’s visit of 30 October and the details of genuine papers he displayed.**

**30 October 1914**

Irish conspiracy with Germany

Dft

Sir E Grey

Most Private & Secret

Tel. cypher

 Christiania

 Oct. 30. 1914

Most Private & Secret.

 I forwarded to you yesterday by bag a Memorandum by Mr. Lindley of a conversation with a young Norwegian American who had arrived from New York he said, with a very well known Englishman. The latter had a cypher message from the German Ambassador in Washington to the German Chancellor & a letter to Harden, the Editor of Zukunft. Mr. Lindley saw copies of these papers which seemed genuine. The Norwegian called to see me this morning & showed me papers written by his English friend with whom he evidently has unnatural relations.

 The principal idea referred to in the papers was that an invasion of England was extremely difficult & a desperate adventure, but that a surprise invasion of Ireland by Irish Americans was quite practicable.

 After much pressure my informant told me that his friend was Sir Roger Casement. That he was passing under the alias of James Landy & that the German Minister here received telegraphic instructions this morning to give the two men passports and arrange their journey to Berlin. They are to leave this afternoon & I will endeavour to ascertain whether they do so. I have obtained a card with the alleged Sir R. Casement's writing.

 The papers shown to me appeared to be genuine but were unsigned. The story is extraordinary but I feel pretty sure it is true. The alleged Casement is described as very tall, dark, now clean shaved. formerly had a beard.

 The steamship Oskar II on which these men arrived was stopped by H.M.S. Hibernia. C. gave informer his papers in case of arrest, & directed him to obtain his release if necessary through Francis Joseph Bigger, Solicitor, Ardmore, Belfast. Informer believes this man to be in the plot.

 I am arranging to obtain news of what this man does after arrival in Germany.

 From the papers shown me there appears to be a conspiracy of malcontents in Ireland. [co: ~~as many who are well known in Belfast ?? in Tyrone ?? ??~~]

With Mr. Findlay's ?? ?? ?? & sent Oct 30, obtained Oct 30, /14

My dear Mr. Harden,

 This will be handed to you by the gentleman of whom I wrote you. He can tell you a great many interesting things which I know will be of great value and give you as well the opportunity to help our cause, as well as a people that through a systematic campaign of falsehood has been discredited.

 The bearer is a highly cultured & refined gentleman, & if you listen to him, I have not the slightest doubt that you will receive ?? valuable material to enlighten our people on a subject they know nothing about, as to help our ?? by one of your masterstrokes.

 Yours sincerely

 G E Otty??

Herren?? Harden

??Gruenwaterbei Berlin

Wernerstr 16.

(on stationery)

Tel: Cortland 1910

cable addrs. Laknov N.Y.

a.b.c. code 5th edition

Geo von Skal

5 Bertnan str

New York N.Y.

??Seiner Excellenzy

Dene Reichskanzler

Herr von Bethmann Hollweg

Berlin

Auswärtiges Amt

[page of code]