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**SECURITY INFORMATION**

30 June 1953

**SR Domestic Field Station**

(Project AE-ACSE, Amendment No. 2)

**I. PURPOSE:** To provide authorization and funds for the continuation and expansion of an agent training base (the SR Domestic Field Station formerly known as Domestic Operations Base) in the United States during Fiscal Year 1954 in support of operations against the U.S.S.R.

**II. BACKGROUND:** The basic Project AE-ACSE, which established an agent training base in the United States was approved by ADBO on 22 January 1952 and by the FBC for the remainder of Fiscal Year 1952 on 4 April 1952. Amendment No. 1 which continued and expanded this project for Fiscal Year 1953 was approved by ADBO on 7 May 1952, by ABFC on 6 May 1952 and by ND/P on 8 May 1952.

**III. PROPOSALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1954:**

A. It is proposed to continue the Domestic Field Station and to expand its facilities during Fiscal Year 1954 to include the following:

1. A central headquarters removed from the regular CIA buildings. (Already procured).
2. Ten safe houses (these include apartments in town as well as farms within a 150 mile radius of metropolitan Washington, D. C.
3. A safe office for contract indigenous employees.
4. A building for SAOP. (May be combined in one building with safe office, see paragraph IV-D).
5. Twenty (20) contract instructors. (twelve are presently on duty).
6. Three (3) house trailers.
7. Thirty (30) vehicles to include: one 2½ ton truck, three panel trucks, 26 sedans and station wagons. At the present time there are 17 vehicles assigned to the Domestic Field Station.

B. It is estimated that the total cost to provide the above facilities and other expenses of the station will require a budget of [ ] for Fiscal Year 1954.

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**IV. DISCUSSION:**

A. Additional operational requirements have been placed on the Domestic Field Station (Project AE-ACRE) by the shifting of additional responsibilities from the Munich Agent Training Station in Germany to the SR Domestic Field Station in the United States. As indicated above, the total budget is estimated at [ ] for Fiscal Year 1954. Justification for this sum is reflected in the attached Budget Annex.

B. During the past three years agent training for SR Division missions, whether based in Asia or Europe, has been conducted principally in Germany. Several factors militate against continuance of this practice:

1. The ruthless energy of the Soviet Intelligence Service has penetrated and unmasked our principle training areas in Germany.
2. The vast manpower pool of displaced persons which was the principal source of recruits for SR missions has largely dissipated due to emigration abroad. As a result of this, emphasis is being placed upon recruitment in the United States and the Western Hemisphere.

C. During the past eighteen months, the Domestic Field Station of the SR Division has been developed and is now functioning as the principal agent training establishment of the SR Division. During this time the following concrete and tangible results have been achieved:

1. A cadre of exceptionally well qualified operations officers has been assembled, and is presently functioning as a nucleus of experience for REDSOX and REDSKIN training programs which will be conducted during Fiscal Year 1954.
2. A total of 23 agents has been trained by the Domestic Field Station. Of this number 8 have been dispatched to the U.S.S.R., 7 are still in training, and 8 have become disposal cases.
3. A recruitment and assessment team has been created by the [ ] for the Domestic Field Station to recruit and screen prospective agent candidates for REDSOX and REDSKIN missions. In view of the increased program to recruit agents in the United States and the Western Hemisphere, this team will continue to gain in

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F. The Project Administrative Planning Staff, DD/A, has been working on the new Administrative Plan since March 1953. This plan should formalize [redacted] of the Domestic Field Station and elaborate on the degree of responsibility and autonomy to be exercised by the Chief, Domestic Field Station.

G. The operations of the Domestic Field Station were considered as joint FI and FP in FY 53. Half of the funds were provided for FP function on the assumption that agents trained in FI/~~HEBOK~~ methods would be available for FP methods at the target site. It has been determined by experience that the FP interest is small and secondary. Although some training is of para-military nature and some of the staff are career military personnel, it has been determined that the FM interest is also small and secondary. In Fiscal Year 1954 all operations are primarily of FI interest.

V. CONCLUSIONS:

1. The continuation and expansion of Domestic Field Station is necessary in order to provide proper support for SR Division operations against the U.S.S.R.
2. An Administrative Plan to give the Chief of Domestic Field Station the necessary latitude of authority to cover the inherent problems in sensitive agent training is requisite for efficient operations.

VI. RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the station budget for FI operations of Domestic Field Station be approved in the amount of [redacted] for Fiscal Year 1954.
2. That Domestic Field Station be given [redacted] status with special provisions to be detailed in proposed Administrative Plan.

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