

**SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION

22 May 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR  
THROUGH: Chief, SR/FI  
SUBJECT: Responsibilities of DOB

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

1. Problem:

To define the responsibilities of DOB.

2. Facts bearing on the case:

a. Project ABACRE which established a Domestic Operations Base of the SR Division was approved by ADSO on 22 January 1952 and by the Project Review Committee on 4 April 1952. Since that time the facilities and functions of DOB have been expanded under the provisions of Amendment #1 which was approved by PRC on 9 May 1952 and signed by DCI on 15 May 1952.

b. At the present time some questions have arisen concerning the functions and responsibilities of DOB vis a vis the Area Branches.

3. Assumptions

a. REDSOX operations will continue, but by 1 January 1954 the bulk of agent training for this activity will be conducted in the United States by the Domestic Operations Base. It is contemplated that this arrangement will remain in effect for the foreseeable future.

b. The SR Area Branches are vested with the executive authority of the Division, and are entrusted with the conduct of intelligence operations against the USSR.

4. Discussion:

a. After several meetings and conferences Chief, SR/FI together with Chief, DOB and the Area Branch Chiefs, the following conclusions were reached:

(1) The Domestic Operations Base will not become involved in the planning of operational missions or in the control of agents in

the field.

**SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION

the field. However, DOB will accept full responsibility for the implementation of a training unit and will be prepared to assist and advise the Area Branch with any requirement which may fall within its competence.

(2) DOB will be responsible for the spotting, assessment, recruitment (subject to acceptance by the Area Branch) and training of agents. In this connection it is to be pointed out that the responsibility of DOB ends when the agent is delivered to the Area Branch field station for dispatch and control.

(3) Training requirements will be established by the Area Branches. The implementation of this training schedule is the full responsibility of DOB.

(4) Upon the establishment of an operational project, the Area Branch will assign a Senior Case Officer to DOB for implementation of the project. Junior Case Officers and Field Assistants will be assigned by DOB as required. All Case Officers assigned to DOB will be under the administrative and operational control of DOB in order to assure maximum efficiency and proper coordination of effort.

b. The following specific example of the implementation of a project is cited to illustrate the conclusions outlined above in paragraph a.

Upon establishing an operational project the area branch will select a Senior Case Officer who will be assigned to DOB. (It is understood that DOB will hold 3 T/slots open for Senior Case Officers of each Area Branch.) Junior Case Officers and Field Assistants will be assigned by DOB. From this point the Senior Case Officer will coordinate with the appropriate branch, and will act in behalf of DOB. This does not exclude higher level discussion between DOB staffs and the Area Branch Chief when the need arises.

Agent training requirements will be established by the Area Branch. A complete training program will be prepared by a joint meeting of the Senior Case Officer, the Branch Desk Officer, and the appropriate DOB staff officer. The implementation of this training program is the full responsibility of DOB. Necessary changes may be made, but only after proper coordination between DOB and the Area Branch.

DOB's function ceases when the agent is delivered to the appropriate Area Branch field station for dispatch and control in the field.

## 5. Conclusions

**SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION

5. Conclusions:

a. The Domestic Operations Base is serving and will continue to serve a vital function in the conduct of intelligence operations against the Soviet Union.

b. Agreement exists among the responsible Area and Staff Chiefs for the definition of responsibilities.

6. Recommendations:

a. That Chief, SR issue a directive defining the responsibilities of DOB in accordance with the agreements outlined in paragraph 4 of this staff study.

[ Chief, SR/DOB ]

**SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION