

APPENDIX B

SUBJECT: Sterile Headquarters Office Space for SR Domestic Operations Base
(Project AE-ACRE)

1. Project AE-ACRE was approved on 22 January 1952; it is now essential for this Division to establish sterile Headquarters, preferably in or near Washington, D.C., which would operate under U. S. military cover. Security considerations preclude the use of commercial premises unless it should be a part of a commercial building already occupied by another Government agency which would ~~continue to be responsible for the maintenance of the building~~ sublet part of the building to the Domestic Operations Base.

2. The office requirements are as follows:

- a. Office space for 50-60 people with a minimum of two separate entrances.
- b. Parking space for 20 cars adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of the Headquarters building.
- c. Secure storage space, minimum 1,000 square feet. (This could be in the basement of the building).
- d. Projection room to seat at least 25 people.
- e. Dark room.
- f. A secure room containing a water tap, a sink and preferably a gas outlet.

The Headquarters facilities need not be exactly as described above. They should, however, be able to meet the above requirements without extensive changes.

1. PROBLEM

To provide, in or near Washington D.C., secure operational facilities for the assessment, training, briefing and preparation of agents for dispatch into the USSR.

2. FACTS BEARING UPON THE PROBLEM

a. Project AE-ACRE (attached herewith as appendix A) has been approved by AD/SO and is now operational. In its present limited form it authorizes an expenditure of [] for the purpose of leasing and operating for agent training purposes ~~in~~ five safe houses with the necessary transportation (two vehicles per safe house) and domestic help. This project is approved through 30 June 1952.

b. Security considerations have necessitated a phasing out of our USSR agent training program in Germany. A number of these agents and instructor personnel are being transferred to the U.S. to the Domestic Operations Base (DOB). The scope of DOB activities is therefore going to be considerably increased. Eventually all SR Division agent training will be conducted in the U.S.

c. Based upon definitely established requirements, DOB will, by December 1952, operate eight safe houses, seventeen automobiles and eight domestic couples. It will also have to administer and supervise ^{at least} 24 case officers and a smaller number of contract instructors.

3. DISCUSSION

The outstanding problem in providing secure operational facilities for the preparation of agents for dispatch into the USSR consists of the following:

a. Effective operational cover for the personnel connected with the Domestic Operations Base and the registration of vehicles operated by it.

It is felt that this problem could be effectively solved by providing

] such as, for example, [

] for the Domestic Operations Base contract and staff personnel and the registration of vehicles.

The above requirement will require proper [

] Commanding Officer of the CIA

military Personnel Division has concurred with this plan and believes that it could be implemented without undue difficulties.

b. The provisions of adequate field Headquarters.

These headquarters will be the nerve center of DOB. ^{IT} ~~and~~ will handle the administration of the safe houses and of DOB personnel, ^{and the} ~~as well as~~ preparation and coordination of training materials. Security considerations render it essential for these Headquarters to be physically separated from overt Agency establishments. A suitable sterile government owned building should therefore be acquired, [

] in an near Washington D.C.

The office requirements are as follows:

- a. office space for 50-60 people with a minimum of two separate entrances.
- b. parking space for 20 cars adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of the Headquarters building
- c. secure storage space, with a minimum of 1,000 square feet floor

space (this could be in the basement of the building)

- d. projection room to seat 25 people
- e. photographic dark room
- f. a secure room containing a water tap, a sink and preferably a gas outlet.

h. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. It is recommended that the proposals for the acquisition of [] and sterile government-owned Headquarters building as outlined in paragraph 3 above be approved.

b. No funds, in excess of those already authorized for Project AE-ACRE, will be needed for the implementation of the above proposals.

C/SR