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28 Jan. 64

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Visit on 28 January 1964 with Case Officers []
[] to Massachusetts Avenue
TSD Warehouse for Purpose of Examination of AEDEPOT
Soviet Operational Clothing for Priority I Targets.

FROM : [] []

1. The purpose of the conference was to discuss AEDEPOT Soviet operational clothing for Priority I targets and to examine clothing already procured in satisfaction of earlier requirements. Present during the conference were: from DOB, [] [] from TSD were [] [] who heads up the Massachusetts Avenue effort, [] [] related that 23 sets of clothing in answer of the original requirement for 38 sets representing Priority I targets were available for examination. There were 15 additional sets which he considered incomplete, i.e., hats and shoes were missing in most cases. The materials viewed represents for each agent one complete set of clothing: shirt, tie, trousers, under-clothing, belt, suit jacket, stockings, shoes, and cap. Unanimously held was the view that the clothing would not serve operational needs of the agents. This was based largely on the experiences of Exercise SEA RULER (which utilized practically the same type of clothing) and the stark realization that the clothing used during the initial period after infiltration will have to be extremely durable and all-purpose. Also, apparently no thought had been given to seasonal implications of the operation.

2. [] [] indicated that the traditional sources for this clothing (TSD in Frankfurt, Germany) "had dried up" completely and that if the requirement were changed, or expanded, it would have to be levied again with commentary on whether it was mandatory that the clothing be original, or whether facsimiles based on authentic exemplars be produced to satisfy the requirement. He commented that their "facility" in the Far East could do the reproduction job quite easily, and with an extreme degree of authenticity. As to the cost of reproducing such clothing, [] [] stated that he could not be precise, since a cost factor study based on original materials would have to be made. However, he indicated that a pair of shoes might cost anywhere from \$35.00 to \$70.00. These figures might be misleading, since he had just completed an order utilizing American leather and a local

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manufacturer for large number of shoes which cost about \$7.00 per pair. He estimated that a set of clothing of the type already obtained might cost in the neighborhood of \$100.00. He felt that the order, once placed, would take about 6 weeks to fill.

3. Also available was a variety of Soviet clothing of sizes which were inappropriate to the original requirement. This clothing would be available for re-tailoring to fit existing needs of the requirement.

[] made his staff and facilities available for fitting the clothing to the agents as they returned to the Fort Meade training site.

4. On the subject of equipment, [] indicated that no further progress had been made other than the displaying of the TSD-made pack presented at DOB some 18 months ago. The concept of wholly use of Soviet equipment was discussed, and from his point of view, he found it totally compatible with the use of Soviet clothing. Some Soviet equipment was available, including pack and eating gear. He indicated that if a requirement on equipment was to be placed, some urgency be attached to it, since it would take considerably longer to service such a requirement, especially if the concept were totally Soviet.

5. The conference was concluded by a display of identifiable Soviet-origin parachutes retrieved from a beach in Turkey. [] stated that the chutes could easily be reproduced to resemble Soviet chutes.

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