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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

29 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ~~State~~ of readiness of SR agent (AEDEPOT) assets

BACKGROUND

1. SR/DOB initiated Project AEREADY in 1957 to recruit, assess, train and hold in a ready status motivated agents of appropriate ethnic background possessing necessary foreign languages or area knowledge to be used during a national emergency or hot war situation in the fulfillment of JCS requirements levied upon War Plans Staff of CIA.
2. AEREADY Class I was conducted for eight trainees during the period February-August 1957.
3. The project has since been renewed annually and the project cryptonym subsequently changed to AEDEPOT.
4. At the request of EE and NE Divisions AEDEPOT has now been expanded to include the recruitment and training of agents for those areas in addition to the original SR requirements.
5. Currently trained available assets under contract number 70 plus 20 agents presently in training, for a total of 90. (SR - 72, EE - 10, NE - 8.) In addition to the 90, 11 others were trained but are not now under contract: 2 OAs were cancelled by CI Staff, 1 terminated (psychiatric) 2 quit, 2 were dropped, 4 did not sign reserve contracts, but could possibly be called upon to serve.

COMMENTS

1. Upon being informed by and Mr. Osborn that I was being considered for appointment as Chief, DOB, I told Mr. Osborn that a considerable number of changes and reviews were considered necessary.
2. In order to clearly define DOB's position and the responsibilities of other Agency components to implement the AEDEPOT Program in time of hot war it was deemed necessary to hold a series of formal and informal discussions with interested parties. In summary, the pertinent points of areas covered are as follow:

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*San Antonio
Camp
Camp
Camp*

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COMMUNICATIONS

Past inquiries made relative to the availability of communication equipment for operational use were always answered to the effect that "Office of Communications will have to furnish the equipment when called upon to do so." Separate checks made with OC revealed that there were no such stockpiles on the shelf from which to draw. Meetings were then held during August and September of 1961 attended by [] of OC, [] of War Plans Staff and [] of SR to discuss the problem. I have since been informed that SR requirements have been levied upon OC and that steps are being taken to provide the necessary communication gear.

TRANSPORTATION

Although many reports have been made relative to the number of trained assets DOB has, nothing had been done to insure the agents' transportation to a specific assembly point for briefing, equipping and dispatch. A meeting was therefore called at DOB on 7 November 1961 to discuss this problem. Present were [] of War Plans Staff, [] of DPD and [] of SR. I then made inquiry as to DOB's responsibility, recommending that we give the students advance notice that under certain hot war conditions they assemble at pre-selected air strips near their respective homes and that DPD effect a pickup. [] agreed to the feasibility and [] assured us DPD could do this. Subsequent checks by DPD revealed that under existing CIA/DOD agreements, DPD would lose their aircraft to USAF in a hot war situation. This situation prompted another meeting on 27 November at DOB with [] of WPS. [] reiterated that this was a WPS responsibility in which someone had been remiss. As a result, DPD, with WPS concurrence, has requested and obtained permission to retain their aircraft in such situations.

Arrangements have now been made for an early April meeting between WPS, DPD, Office of Security, DOB and [] of SR to determine the best procedures for such assembly to be effected.

EQUIPMENT

Since little planning had been done for the stockpiling of operational equipment, two meetings have been held with [] of TSD/PAB who feels TSD can equip the AEDEPOT agents through their world-wide collection program or by fabricating the necessary clothing and so forth.

In a subsequent meeting with [] of TSD, arrangements were made for the acquisition and readying of agent clothing, equipment, documentation and so forth. By memorandum of 14 March 1962, concurred in by CWPS, TSD was requested to furnish this support. Specific details as to agents' sizes, appropriate ethnic area clothing, rations, documentation and other items are being furnished TSD.

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FACILITIES

With the continuing increase in the number of trained agent assets, space available to conduct training courses and summer advance training has become increasingly limited. With the current added requirements of EE and NE Divisions to recruit and train their agents the physical facilities of the basic training site at Fort Meade are considered inadequate. As a result, meetings were called with [] of Fort Meade Post Engineers and [] of Real Estate, Office of Logistics, to consider the rehabilitation of a third Army barrack which DOB has heretofore used as storage space. [] (Engineer) of Real Estate has drawn up blueprints and together with the Post Engineer is working out a breakdown of estimated costs. As soon as such estimates are available, a formal request will be made of Real Estate, through SR/BF and Chief, SR to approach the Army Corps of Engineers [] for the rehabilitation of the building. The request will be contingent on assurance by Army of our continued use of the site for a minimum 3-5 year period.

TARGET STUDIES

At the present, DOB has little beyond basic JCS requirements, insofar as target information is concerned. It is planned that summer advance courses, conducted for ethnic groups, will cover all matters of general area interest. Concurrently, specific target area studies should be compiled and placed in Vital Documents to be available for agent study and briefing prior to an actual dispatch. A request was therefore made of SR/6 through DC/SR on 27 February 1962 that such studies be compiled. It is understood that [] of SR/6 is currently screening existing SR studies and is in contact with ORR and other appropriate Agency sources to acquire and compile subject studies.

PERSONNEL

In general, it is felt DOB personnel are well qualified for their respective assignments; however, since more work is now being performed by less personnel and our over-all personnel strength is even less than the T/O, additional replacements are needed. With the assignment of a new Training Chief an improvement in training has been very evident. This improvement has also been attributable in part to the fine services of [] on loan from CA/PM Staff. However, the level of training desired still has not been reached nor will it be until the appropriate number of well qualified instructors are assigned DOB. Other weak areas include EE Division support personnel. The EE case officer assigned has been a constant turn-over:

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[] was reassigned in EE, relieved by transferred to IO, relieved by transferred to OO, relieved by 701 letter, [] relieved by presently on duty but his name has been submitted to PMC.

EE secretarial typist help was [] [] reassigned in EE and [] [] who quit the Agency to enter private industry. Therefore DOB is presently carrying the bulk of all EE work load of this type. Personnel shortages then are primarily as follow:

- A. DOB Deputy - Vacancy submitted to PMC
- B. Senior Training Instructor - Vacancy submitted to PMC
- C. EE Support Case Officer - Requested of [] [] EE
- D. EE Support Typist - Requested of [] [], EE
- E. Training Support - Requested EE to pick up contract of [] [] on loan from CA/PM Staff, to assist training and EE matters
- F. Commo Support - Requested six month loan of contract employee from SR/6
- G. Additional GI at Fort - Requested PFC or Corporal from MPD
- H. [] [] - 701 - will leave vacancy in Training Staff
- I. [] [] - 701 - will leave vacancy in SA&E

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that serious thought be given to the firm establishment or acquisition of a suitable site which would serve: 1) primarily as an assembly and dispatch point for trained AEDEPOT agents in time of national emergency or hot war situation, and 2) a relocation site for SR/DOB. I would appreciate an early opportunity to discuss this matter in detail with Mr. Osborn, at which time I would be glad to enlarge on any subjects covered in this paper.

[] Chief, SR/DOB []

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