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

8 September 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Foreign Intelligence

SUBJECT : Project AEBATH (Renewal)

1. PURPOSE: To procure CE information on Ukrainian emigre groups and personalities in Germany and/or France and to develop leads on RIS activities among Russian emigre groups.

2. PERSONNEL:

a. AECAPELIN, a field agent with oral agreement in lieu of contract, is a Ukrainian who has been working for CIA and predecessor organizations since 1947. He is a priest in the Russian Orthodox Church and is currently in Munich. AECAPELIN has many friends among emigre groups and moves freely among their members. He is an anti-communist who is partially dependent on CIA for his livelihood.

b. AECAPELIN/2 is now carried under Project AEPAGEN.

3. PAST APPROVALS:

Action	Date	Office	Period	Authorization
Approval	4/8/52	AC/FI	1 August 52-31 July 53	\$5400
Renewal	3/11/53	C/Plans	1 August 53-31 July 54	8000
Renewal	24/11/54	C/FI	1 August 54-31 July 55	7992

4. HISTORY: AECAPELIN has provided CE information in Austria and Germany on Ukrainian emigre groups which are exploited under Project AERODYNAMIC. He also has provided information on the activities of the German, British, Vatican, Yugoslav, and Japanese intelligence services and has furnished CE leads and background data on various Ukrainian personalities. Under MOB control he has served as a very discreet, qualified, capable, and well-trained CE informant.

To broaden our information on RIS activities among the emigre groups, the transfer of AECAPELIN to France is being contemplated. MOB has concurred in this move. Since AECAPELIN has a number of friends in France he would have little difficulty establishing

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himself. His cover would be that of a theological student seeking an advanced degree. In France, AECAPELIN will attempt to determine the general orientation of the emigres in relation to the Soviets and develop witting and unwitting sources of information. The final determination on his move has not been made. Whether AECAPELIN moves to France or not, the SR Division believes he will continue to produce information of value. The possibility of AECAPELIN's transfer has been coordinated with WE Division.

- 5. EVALUATION: RQM/RE has reviewed Project AEBATH and finds that one positive intelligence report has been produced in addition to the CI/CE information collected. State and OCI evaluated this one report, dealing with the alleged Soviet campaign to get emigres to repatriate, as being of value. Although the primary function of this project is to produce CE information, RQM/RE finds no real reason why more positive intelligence should not be produced.
- 6. ACTION REQUESTED: Renewal for the period 1 August 1955 through 31 July 1956 with authorization to obligate \$6,770 from the 1956 fiscal year and \$530 from the 1957 fiscal year, assuming that funds will then be available to carry the project through the remainder of the approval period.

Breakdown:	Compensation	\$4,800
	Travel	750
	Operational Expenses	1,750
	Total	\$7,300

Commitments: Headquarters has authorized payment of passage to the U.S. for AECAPELIN and his wife, when they immigrate. Their immigration has been approved under Section 8, PL.110.

[ ]  
Chief, Plans

Approved: [ ]  
Chief, FI  
Date 15 Sept 55

Staff Coordination

AC/FI/OPS	S-	[ ]
For C/CI/OA	S-	[ ]
For C/CI	S-	[ ]
For C/RQM/RE	S-	[ ]