

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM: SR/2	NO.
	DATE 9 July 1953

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. Chief, SR/2		JUL 9	1953	[Signature]	RYBATT
2. CSR/DOB				[Signature]	PH - Pb note attached connects gaps.
3. SR Division/Cover				[Signature]	
4. Attn: []					
5. Chief, Concur Division					4-6 Benie: This is well worked out and entirely in order from our point of view. We would appreciate any assistance on donor etc. you can arrange.
6. FI/Plan/Cover	1708 L		7/21	BeR	
7. S-C/S PB			3 Aug.	[Signature]	
8.					
9.					[Signature] SR Cover 21 July '53
10.					
11.					6. Concur subject to modifications outlined in discussion with [Signature] 7/21/53. BeR
12.					
13.					The risk of FBI retention of Agency interest is a major special security problem discussed with [Signature]
14.					
15.					RYBATT

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

9033

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9 July 1953

MEMORANDUM

TO : Chief, Cover Division

FROM : Chief, SR/2

SUBJECT: The Society for the Preservation of the Latvian Heritage

1. In accordance with the approval granted by Cover Division for the creation of the above-named Society for the purpose of covering spotting and recruiting activities in the U.S., steps have been taken to create such a society. During the past six months, the Chairman of this Society, [redacted], has gathered a number of professional people about him and has conducted forums which have served the purpose of banding these professional people together. As originally envisaged, this group of people considers themselves to be a club which would endeavor to keep the Latvian spirit alive. In addition to the task of forming the overt society, [redacted] has also been working at his full-time factory job which has prevented him from forming a net of spotters.

2. Our operational contract agent, [redacted], has been building up a net of spotters for the past two years. These spotters have been instrumental in furnishing this Branch prospective agents. The shortcoming of [redacted]'s net is the lack of cover should such become necessary.

3. The Deputy Chairman of the subject Society is [redacted] who is, at present, in the process of creating a net of spotters. [redacted]'s spare-time activity of conducting a weekly half-hour radio program in Philadelphia further substantiates his cover as a member of the subject Society. It is envisaged that his net will contain approximately ten spotters.

4. The subject Society has now reached the point where it must obtain some funds or else have its members lose interest and become dormant. Because of this fact, as well as the fact brought out in paragraph 2. above, it is felt advisable that a sum of \$ [redacted] be made available to the Society from one or more ostensible donors whose names will not be revealed to the Society until such time as it becomes absolutely necessary. The above sum would cover the following expenditures for six months:

- a. Office Rental -- \$ [redacted]
- b. Telephone, Mail -- \$ [redacted]

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- c. Salary for one full-time clerical employee (typist, translator; file clerk) -- \$ []
- d. Travel expenses -- \$ []
- e. Publication -- \$ []
- f. Incorporation fee -- \$ []
- 6. OFFICE FURNITURE -- []

5. If it becomes at all feasible in the future, [] will also endeavor to create a network of spotters which would provide this Branch with three independent spotting nets under the direct control of three principal agents, who, in turn, will be under the control of the case officer. The spotters themselves will not be witting of government interest wherever possible. None of the principal spotters, i.e., [], [], and [], will know the extent of the other principal's net nor of the individuals working for this net. When a new prospective spotter is proposed by one principal, a PRQ on him will be given to the case officer who will then check this name against the spotters already in other nets and--if there is no conflict--will request clearance. When clearance has been obtained, the principal concerned will be notified and informed that the spotter can now be approached. Should it develop that the prospective spotter is either already being utilized or is unacceptable from a security point of view, the principal will merely be informed that the prospective spotter concerned may not be utilized. Such compartmentalization, it is hoped, will preclude compromising our entire assets should one net become compromised. The compromise of one net should not, under this system, necessarily mean that the Society, as such, is compromised as well, because the Society cannot vouch for the everyday activities of any of its members.

6. Discussions with the General Counsel have brought out that the Society would not need to register with the Department of State as an instrument of a foreign government or an agency working in the behalf of a foreign government. It was also brought out that, for the purpose of better control and tax exemption, it would be beneficial to have the Society incorporate, in which case the Society may procure a blanket tax exemption and would not need to divulge the names of donors. Upon receipt of the aforementioned sum, the Society will begin to publish a monthly bulletin which would carry the various ideas, speeches, utterances, theories of the professional members. This would stimulate the interest and would preserve the ostensible purpose of the society. The bulletin itself will be compiled, edited and translated by the secretary (only full-time paid employee), who would also create a mailing list and handle all correspondence of the Society. Certain additional overt tasks of the Society will also be beneficial to the covert FI effort, i.e., collection of all mail from Latvia received by Latvians in the U.S.; compilation of a roster of Latvians in the U.S. as well as Latvians

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in exile; procurement of photographs, books, geographic and other data regarding Latvia; procurement of clothing originating in Latvia; etc.

7. It is felt that time for expanding the activities of the Society as outlined above is not at all premature but rather needs immediate attention lest the interest created to date wanes. No special security implications can be envisaged at the present time; it is also not anticipated that security problems will arise because the entire matter of expanding the Society will be handled by four extremely competent and cleared persons, i.e., [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and the aforementioned secretary. Although the figure of \$[redacted] is slightly higher than originally anticipated, it is believed that the potential capabilities of the Society warrant this expenditure. Sufficient funds are available in approved Project AECOB.

8. Your approval, suggestions, and assistance on the implementation of this plan are requested. For further information, please contact [redacted], Room 2504 "J" Building, extension 2538.

[redacted]
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