

~~TOP SECRET~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

12 November 1952

TO: Chief, SR
Via: Acting Chief, STC

FROM: STC/SPB []

SUBJECT: Project AEQUOR

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	
CLASSIFICATION	
SECRET	<i>Secret</i>
BY AUTHORITY OF	
<i>CSA/003</i>	[]
12 JUN 1961	

Reference is made to STC memorandum dated 10 September 1951 commenting on the proposed operation submitted at that time for approval. It was requested that as plans were developed in sufficient detail to enable evaluation that the operation be coordinated with STC and that the BNR leaders and agent recruits be processed for operational clearance. This request was apparently overlooked.

The advisability of carrying out the new proposal for the establishment of a political indoctrination and assessment center for the BNR in Belgium is questioned. It is understood that the AEQUOR case officer is to discuss the problem this month with []
[] The inherent risks in establishing and supporting a foreign ethnic group with political aspirations, in friendly countries acutely sensitive and reactive to such activities should now be well appreciated. To presume this proposed establishment would not come to the attention of security forces of the host country in short order, and other intelligence services as well, seem overly optimistic.

It is also understood that should it be decided that the proposed operation in Belgium is not feasible, consideration will be given to establishment of the center in the U.S. In this event it is requested that the plans be fully reviewed with STC to coordinate any necessary backstopping which maybe required with other U.S. agencies.

It is reported that consideration is currently being given to the recruiting of Radislaw Ostrovski, long associated with the British sponsored BCR. Considerable doubt exists as to the advisability of accepting Ostrovski. It is recommended that no commitment be made prior to full operational clearance being granted.

It is recommended that that portion of the project pertaining to the currently active phases only be approved to provide funds for meeting outstanding financial and operational commitments and that such approval be contingent upon the Division submitting an adequate project outline of current operations for staff review and processing appropriate

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requests for operational clearances. It is recommended that approval for the establishment of a political indoctrination and assessment center be withheld until the security implications have been carefully assessed by the field and Headquarters and a detailed plan for implementing the proposal has been formulated and received staff approval.

cc: Plans Staff
Ops Staff
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