

~~TOP SECRET~~

27 September 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Plans Staff, FI
SUBJECT: AEQUOR/FI, Extension of

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
CLASSIFICATION
~~Secret~~
Changed to *Secret*
BY AUTHORITY OF
DATE 12 JUN 1961
W/SR/SUD

1. It is hereby requested that the FI portion of Project AEQUOR be extended on a limited basis for Fiscal Year 1956. Funds required are in the amount of \$2,000 to provide for two months' salary to be held in escrow for the three (3) surviving members of the original four (4) man AEQUOR Team II, and for small administrative expenses. Escrow deposits cease as of 31 August 1955.

2. The request for a limited extension of the present project is intended only to cover the administrative and financial requirements of the agents now located physically within the USSR and no other activity is intended or implied under the extension. In the event, however, agent candidates become available during the Fiscal Year 1956, a project amendment will be submitted to provide for the new assets.

3. HISTORY: Project AEQUOR was first approved 22 September 1951 by ADSO for the period ending 30 June 1952. It was renewed by Chief, FI 5 December 1952 for the period 1 July through 31 December 1952, and again renewed by Chief/Plans 31 March 1953 for six (6) months through 30 June 1953. On 23 November 1953, the project was renewed by Chief, FI for the period 1 July through 30 June 1954 with certain conditions imposed to improve its security. On 13 August 1954, COP/DDP approved the project for the Fiscal Year 1955, subject to the recommendations of DC/FI/OPS, Staff C and RQM.

4. COMMITMENTS: A commitment made to the agents prior to their dispatch in August 1952 provided for a monthly payment of \$213 commencing from the date of dispatch. Each agent designated a certain percentage of his salary to the sponsoring group which, in this case, was the governing body of the Byelorussian National Republic. The rest of the salary was placed in escrow, payable to the agents upon their exfiltration. In the event of death, which would be assumed automatically if no contact was made two (2) years from the date of the last communication, the sum of \$10,000 American dollars for each agent would be paid to the aforementioned sponsoring group.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2B
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5. This request for a limited extension is based upon the following factors:

a. no contact has been made with the team either by S/W or W/T since 9 January 1955, despite the fact that an effort was made to raise them;

b. from the general tenor of the latest messages received, as well as factor "a" above, it can be presumed that contact with the team will not be re-established;

c. aside from the present team, there is very little possibility, at this time, to recruit new agent candidates for REDSOX-type or support missions.

6. For further information regarding the details of Project AEQUOR/FI, please direct inquiries to [redacted] extension 2967 or 2688, Room 1047 J.

[redacted]

Chief, SR/3

SR/3W2 [redacted] /nc

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1 Attachment

FI Operational Authorization (SECRET)

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