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SR/7/DOB No. 615

24 January 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR : CI/OA

ATTENTION : [ ]

SUBJECT : Project AEPRIMER <sup>vice:</sup> AEQUOR

1. Project AEPRIMER has been developed to renew the FI/REDSOX effort against the Byelorussian SSR. The original AEQUOR Project encompassed both the FI and PP functions. In late 1954, the FI portion of AEQUOR was placed in abeyance when it became apparent that the security practices of the principal agent involved in the AEQUOR Project were lax. Therefore, until Project AEPRIMER was developed, there was no FI activity under Project AEQUOR.

2. Analysis of the W/T traffic between AEQUOR Team II and the Agency indicated that the 3 surviving members of AEQUOR Team II were under control. In January of 1955, a lengthy W/T contact was initiated by the team at which time they berated the Agency and their sponsors for leaving them in their untenable position. They stated they would fend for themselves and terminated further W/T contacts. Subsequent attempts to raise them failed and the fate of the team was unknown. In the 19 December 1956 issue of KOMSOLSKAYA PRAVDA, the team was surfaced. With the surfacing of AEQUOR team II, the final chapter of AEQUOR/FI was written.

3. Regarding the memorandum dated 10 August 1954 from FI/Plans to Chief, FI, Subject: Project AEQUOR (Renewal), in which a Security Review of the B. N. R. is requested, the discontinuation of any operational contacts with that organization precluded the need for any extensive review. The contact was limited to the President of the organization. Project AEPRIMER is an attempt to establish a working relationship with the President of the B. N. R. and his New York contact designee exclusively, and does not provide for the reinstatement of any contact with the organization and its outstanding membership. It is planned that operating in this manner

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will afford the Agency an opportunity to screen thoroughly any persons recommended by the President of the B. N. R. and places the control and selection of Byelorussian contacts with the Agency.

4. The PP portion of AEQUOR has been retained by SR/PP under the direction of [ ] SR/7/DOB does not have any knowledge of the status of the PP functions and operational commitments.

[ ]  
Chief, SR/7/DOB

**Distribution**

Orig. & 1 - addressee  
1 - SR/7 chrono  
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