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10 July 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: SR/COP/PP

SUBJECT : Project AEQUOR (PP) Activities Report for
Period 1 April to 30 June 1958.

CASE OFFICER : []

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

RENEWAL DATE: Waiver of the AEQUOR (PP) Project renewal granted by Chief, PP on 27 December 1957 is still in effect. A conference was held by the project case officer with [] PP/PRD/RB on 23 June 1958 to discuss the renewal of AEQUOR. The decisions attained were: that AEQUOR is not to be phased down in FY 59 but will remain at [] and that the AEQUOR project is to be re-documented to conform with latest data.

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA: No changes.

PERSONNEL MATTERS: AECAMBISTA/4 departed from New York City, N. Y., aboard the LIBERTE, on 21 May 1958, for his home in Paris, France.

A subsequent thorough search of the AEQUOR files has disclosed that Frederick K. VONEL had at one time been contracted to do a Byelorussian study. At that time he was AECAMBISTA/16. In so far as the project case officer is cognizant, AECAMBISTA/16 has not been used operationally by AEQUOR for two years. His contract has been terminated as of June 1958 by SR/PP.

[] assumed responsibility as AEQUOR Project Case Officer on 14 May 1958, vice [] who was transferred to SR/3.

SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS: AECAMBISTA/4, prior to his departure for France expressed to the Case Officer his great concern over the safety of his family and himself because of the then tense situation in France. AECAMBISTA/4 feels that it is entirely possible that the Soviets might take advantage of another such situation to cause harm to his family, his files and records, or to him, personally. AECAMBISTA/4 was counseled by the project case officer to communicate immediately with his contact, [] should realization of his fears seem eminent. AECAMBISTA/4 feels that the United States is the sole remaining country in which he can enjoy the freedom from possible Soviet attempts so necessary for his anti-communist work. AECAMBISTA/4 renewed the subject of emigration to the United States and was advised in this matter to have AEPRIMER/1 (a BNR adherent) approach those Congressmen from New York State, with whom he is acquainted, with an appeal for a Private Bill in behalf of AECAMBISTA/4. Admittance to the

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United States under so obviously a political cloak would preclude the possible disclosure of a connection with U. S. Intelligence as could be the case were he to immigrate under Agency aegis.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES: The Project Case Officer discussed a letter "gimmick" with AECAMBISTA/11 to be played via the AECAMBISTA newspaper. The scheme has been forwarded to C/SR/PP for evaluation and discussion.

AECAMBISTA/4 passed to the Project Case Officer a number of letters received from Poland and the Byelorussian SSR attesting to the receipt of the AECAMBISTA Newspaper and congratulating the scope, policy and content of the newspaper. Copies of these letters are in the AEQUOR files.

A financial accounting was received from the field for the months of January, February and March of 1958. In brief:

Sale of Newspapers	1124.00 D.M.'s
Allotment	13800.00
	<u>14924.00</u> D.M.'s
Expenses	15340.00
Deficit for the period	<u>415.00</u> D.M.'s

On 26 June, information was received from the field via FROB 1270, (IN 46523) dated 25 June 1958, that a letter was received in the AECAMBISTA/1 newspaper post office box from a person who alleges to have defected from Byelorussia via Poland. This person is anxious to contact his "former friends", AEPRIMER/1, Chief, Byelorussian Desk TPLINGO and 16 other members of AECAMBISTA/1 and AETOMAC/1. FROB is dispatching AECAMBISTA's 13 and 15 to debrief and ascertain if this person is of interest to us.

EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS: Project AEQUOR has shown visible proof in the past few months of an increase in the dissemination of its subsidized newspaper within BYELORUSSIA and POLAND. Recent letters attesting to the receipt of the newspaper by persons resident in both of these countries are on file at SR/DOB. These letters, coming as they do from denied areas are a far better indication of the increasing effectiveness of the project than any other indicator on this side of the "curtain". It is contemplated to have the AECAMBISTA's place greater stress and effort upon an increase of the distribution in both POLAND and BYELORUSSIA.

As a tangent benefit of the newspaper subsidy, SR/DOB has received the identity of a personality contemplated for use in a REDSOX mission (AETRELLIS) in BYELORUSSIA. Sufficient facts are not available at this time to delineate the tasks to be assigned to this agent/candidate beyond that of establishing a net which, of course, would be mutually interesting FI and PP - wise.

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Conditions in POLAND at present are so favorable for this type of a third country operation that the AETRELLIS project, if it is launched in the near future, should be able to incise itself into the BYELORUSSIAN SSR to such a degree as to be capable of withstanding changes in political conditions in either POLAND or the BYELORUSSIAN SSR.

Another contemplated activity, and one more directly PP, is that of the letter ploy as outlined in SR/DOB memorandum to SR/COP/PP. It is felt that this ploy will generate interest within the AECAMBISTA organization and the BYELORUSSIAN emigration itself. Further, it should do much to enhance our control of the AECAMBISTA PP effort by diverting it from some of its inter-factional disputes to honest, productive, PP objectives.

[]

Chief, SR/DOB

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