

16 September 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with AECASSOWARY-2

1. The undersigned and [redacted] held a personal meeting with the Subject from 1500 to 1630 hours on 19 August 1957. The Undersigned introduced [redacted] as [redacted] a Ukrainian, who would be working with the undersigned as his assistant, and that the Subject should look upon Merlenko as being the undersigned's official representative.
2. The Subject discussed the assault and robbery made upon him by three young hoodlums. Subject suffered 5 cracked ribs, the loss of a small amount of money and a wrist watch. Subject is of the opinion that this was no more than an assault and robbery, that is, that it had no apparent connection with his anti-communist activities.
3. The undersigned brought up the main purpose of the meeting, presenting the point that we had come to a position where an attempt has to be made to ascertain the existence, strength, and locale of the Ukrainian "underground army". Such an operation would, it was pointed out to the Subject, prove to be of more benefit to him, than to us, since he would then be in the position of having known assets in determinate numbers and location. For the future of his liberation movement such information is an unavoidable must. Subject was for this completely and vowed whole-hearted cooperation in every way.
4. The undersigned then sketched the operation to the Subject as a simple infiltration/exfiltration. Subject's agent escorted by one of ours, would travel to a point in Poland, from which point Subject's agent would continue on al one across the border into the Ukraine, meet the underground, establish bona-fides and then escort an underground leader in Poland, meet our escort and then exfiltrate across the curtain into West Germany.
5. The undersigned then broached the subject of agents to the Subject and gained the knowledge that there were three potentials, one in South America and two in Australia. Subject assured the undersigned that he would begin work immediately on obtaining all the data necessary on each of the candidates.
6. Subject then brought up the problem of his budget having been cut, which, as with any one else under a similar situation, has curtailed his activities. The undersigned commiserated with the Subject but did not discuss the budget any further.
7. The concluding item of discussion of operational importance was the coming arrival of AECASSOWARY-3 to the United States. Subject said he was very desirous of seeing AECASSOWARY-3 prior to making any final commitments re: agents, as AECASSOWARY-3 might have more recent information, or other candidates not know to the Subject. The undersigned stated to Subject that a personal meeting with AECASSOWARY-3 at the earliest moment was of prime import. Subject concurred and said this would be arranged.

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
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DATE 2007

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8. After a discussion concerning Subject's daughter, her education, stay at summer camp, etc., the meeting was terminated.

C []] ↘

Distribution

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Orig. - Subject's file
1.- Contact Reports file