

WHAT DO WE HAVE IN AEVIRGIL

1. Project AEVIRGIL provides this Agency with a controlled, anti-communist emigre organization whose facilities, personnel and cover can be used against the Soviet target in any way we deem appropriate. Throughout the last ten years, the opportunities to reach the Soviets and our needs have changed; our use of the group we created has changed accordingly. In the early fifties when the Soviet target was far less accessible than it is today, we had ~~XXXXXXXX~~ AEVIRGIL personnel qualified to produce Russian-language leaflets; we had AEVIRGIL facilities to balloon leaflets to the Soviet Union and the DDR; we had AEVIRGIL cover for our FI collection office in Berlin. As the thaw began, we had available a malleable organization through which we could exploit the increased opportunities of getting to the Soviet audience. Through the group we began producing more books, brochures and pamphlets and began distributing these works by ~~the~~ mail and at personal meetings with Soviets visiting the West. When the opportunity arose, we had a qualified man available to work in the Russian Section of Radio Nacional Espana and personnel able to prepare scripts for his use. Later, this ^{Munich} Radio Section could prepare material for both Radio Rome and the BCC, Taiwan. Now, when the Agency wishes to exploit travellers to the Soviet Union for both CA and FI purposes, when the emphasis is on intelligence collection, we are attempting to develop AEVIRGIL into a real operational asset. We are training selected leaders of the group in operational techniques. We are trying to establish chapters outside of Munich, chapters headed by trained witting operators through whom local case officers can guide the group's activities and get the leads coming out of it. (One added feature of this arrangement is that these people are often able ~~to serve~~ ^{was} to serve the local station in other capacities. AEVIRGIL 106, for example, sent to Madrid as a radio propagandist, but at the same time has developed as a good informant. We plan to have these operators, ^{themselves} under our direction, ~~themselves~~ exploit travellers who would refuse out and out cooperations with an American Intelligence Service. Through these ^{men we} ~~men~~ are trying to capitalize even more than we have in the past on the organization's potential for meeting Soviets travelling in the West.

We are emphasizing that people who had ^{ve} the language ~~capability~~ capability to talk to visiting Soviets, who can describe to them conditions in the West, and who have a reason to offer literature, can also turn the conversation to subjects of PI interest. So far, we have not tested AEVIRGIL in the operational field. We anticipate, however, that the next year will show us what the group can do in this respect.

2. We hesitate to judge the AEVIRGIL project in terms of what it did last year or what it will do next year even though both of these questions are discussed below. We would prefer to consider the following:

How valuable to this Agency is a controlled organization which provides us the capability to produce Russian-language propaganda, the contacts to distribute it, a contingent of over 200 Russian-speaking members and sympathizers, and any number of entrees into circles which this Agency ~~cannot otherwise penetrate~~ *might not be able to otherwise.* How much does it mean to us to have this asset available at all times?

WHAT DID IT DO LAST YEAR?

3. Briefly, the following was accomplished by AEVIRGIL during the past year.

a. Literature Production. The group produced three periodicals, as well as 29 books, brochures and pamphlets. The periodicals are Svoboda (monthly), Die Freie Rundschau (bi-monthly) and Mosty (printed three times yearly).

b. Radio. The Radio Section produced 1241 scripts and 72 15-minute taped programs. Of these 297 scripts were used by Radio Rome, 822 by Radio Nacional Espana and all the tapes were transmitted by the BCC in Taiwan.

c. Literature Distribution. AEVIRGIL mailing operations were considerably expanded. Reports show an increase from 272 pieces mailed in August 1960 to 950 in February 1961. (Some responses have been received.) Moreover, although we have no exact figures ~~on this~~, the AEVIRGILITES who met and talked with Soviets visiting the West passed literature to them at every possible opportunity. AEVIRGIL literature was also sold and distributed in such unconventional ways ~~as inserting books in~~ ^{as insertion into} packing cases bound for the USSR.

d. Legal Travel. AEVIRGIL had no real production in this field. From June 1960 on, however, field case officers have been training selected operators to exploit legal travel opportunities.

e. Development of Local Chapters. During the year the group attempted to settle the organizational difficulties in the Belgian chapter, expand the French chapter, and begin an Austrian chapter.

WHAT DO WE PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR

~~xxxxxxx~~ 4. We have recently forwarded to the field a dispatch which asks the field what they expect to get from AEVIRGIL in the coming year and indicating what we want. In summary our requirements were/as follows:

a. Literature Production. We would like AEVIRGIL to maintain its current level but not expand its literature production.

b. Radio. We are pleased with AEVIRGIL work in this field, especially with the way AEVIRGIL 106 is working out in Madrid. As mentioned by the Madrid case officer, we anticipate that the AEVIRGIL 106 influence may eventually help to improve the ^{general level} ~~total output~~ of the ^{Spanish} ~~Spanish~~ Radio.

c. Literature Distribution. We would like AEVIRGIL to continue expanding the mailing operations and we expect them to give specific reports on the literature distributed in personal meetings. Up to this time, the AEVIRGILITES have not been reporting the figures for hand-to-hand distribution.

d. Contact Operations. We would like AEVIRGIL to turn its meetings with Soviets into real contact operations from which the Agency can derive PI information or at least information of political interest.

e. Legal Travel. From the beginning, we expect AEVIRGIL operations to be extensions of Agency operations. Unless we can derive solid intelligence information of value to this Agency, an AEVIRGIL legal travel operation will not be worthwhile.

f. Development of chapters. We expect the ^{an} Belgians, French and ~~X~~ Austrian chapters to develop ~~it~~ into disciplined, well-organized groups which can serve the local station.

COST

5. Listed below is ~~a breakdown on~~ ^{an} ~~the~~ AEVIRGIL budget for FY 1961. ^{estimate}
provided by the field.

and explanation

These are the only figures available. We might emphasize ~~ix~~ the impossibility of judging the ~~xxx~~ relative cost of each AEVIRGIL activity. The largest sum of money goes, by necessity, to maintain the AEVIRGIL organization--not for any specific operation. Yet, were there no organization, there could be no operation. The cost of the stamps necessary to sent anti-Soviet literature to the Soviet Union is minimal; but the emigres who do the mailing on a volunteer basis must have the stimulation and the reason to do it--the organization. The travel costs of three or four Belgian emigres from Liege to Antwerp is negligible; these emigres, however, would not be going to the docks to meet incoming Soviets were they not members of an anti-communist group. The major question is, to repeat from Paragraph 2 above: How valuable to this Agency are the knowledge, the facilities and the personnel available to us because we ^Support and control AEVIRGIL?

Field and Headquarters Admin expenses \$ 1,800.00

AEVIRGIL Berlin (*No specific breakdown available*) 36,000.00

AEVIRGIL Subsidy-Munich []

TOTAL: []

Breakdown of Munich Subsidy:

Field Agents (Salaries of varying sums for 36 people) []

Fees for Editing Work 19,000.00

Travel 12,000.00

Transportation of Things(?) 5,000.00

Rents and Utilities 17,000.00

Printing and Reproduction 35,000.00

Supplies 7,500.00

Equipment 2,000.00

Operational Entertainment 1,000.00

Vehicle Maintenance 2,000.00

Operation of Radio Studio 500.00

Special Propaganda Meetings 2,500.00

Taxes & Employer Share of Compulsory Insurance 5,500.00

Miscellaneous Fees	1,500
Fees for Propaganda Interviews	200
Currency Conversion & Bank Changes	500
Local Chapters in Germany, and France, Belgium, Etc.	17,900

