

6.0.13 Aug 54

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

DATE OF APPROVAL 5 August 1954 BY CRYPTONYM BESMIRCH

EXPIRATION OF APPROVAL 30 April 1955 DIVISION EE

TOTAL FUNDS 1000 AUTHORIZED 1000

DATE OF AMENDMENT None ADDITIONAL FUNDS None

HEADQUARTERS None CASE OFFICER None

ADDITIONAL CRYPTONYMS/PSEUDONYMS Besmarch

CONTRACT INFORMATION None

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: None

OBJECTIVES: None

RESULTS: None

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

PLEASE RETURN TO PLANS/PROJECTS BRANCH

SECRET

58

SECRET

29 July 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Foreign Intelligence

SUBJECT: Project BESMIRGH (Renewal and Amendment)

1. **PURPOSE:** Project BESMIRGH is designed to provide Polish operations with communications links over the Polish-German border through the use of legal travellers.
2. **PERSONNEL AND COVER:** The former principal agent, BESMIRGH/1, was transferred to another Berlin station section on 1 June 1954 and is no longer associated with this project. The new principal agent, BESMIRGH/2 (formerly CAUTER/4), is a railroad worker who is used to debrief refugees and to contact railroad men who travel to Poland. [] an elderly German ex-railroad man, acts as a spotter in refugee camps. [] in the final stages of recruitment, is an East Zone resident who frequently passes through Berlin with the railroad brigades. He is being considered for regular West Berlin/Poland courier service. The agents will operate either under natural cover or under the backstopped cover of a US ~~investigative~~ agency. They will be in direct contact with the case officer, who poses as a member of an unidentified US intelligence agency. All the agents are financially controlled and ideologically motivated.
3. **HISTORY:** Project BESMIRGH was first approved by DG/VI on 17 September 1953, for the year ending 28 February 1954. At the time of its approval, BESMIRGH contained only one agent, []. The project was run by [] for 6 months with marginal results. In September 1953 the operation was reorganized, and the Division hopes that the addition of BESMIRGH/2, [], and the deletion of [], will greatly increase the potential of the project.
4. **APPROVAL PERIOD AND COST:** Retrospective renewal is requested for the 11-month period 1 March 1954 through 30 April 1955, for [] This figure is broken down as follows: compensation, \$2,550; operational expenses, [] travel, [] (Note: Authority is requested to obligate these funds from the DG/VI-EE Division budget for FY 1954, and from the budget for FY 1955 on the assumption that sufficient funds will be available.)

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

5. FI STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: FI/CPS and STC concur without comments. FI/Plans Branch recommends renewal and notes that no current approved Country Plan is in existence.

[]

Chief, Plans

Approved: []

Chief, FI

5 August 1954

Date

Attachment: Project Outline BISMIRCH

FI Staff Coordination:

FI/Plans/Projects Branch/DWD:dw

cc: C/FI
STC/SPB
FI/CPS
RI for Vital Records
Projects Br.

FI/CPS []
C/STC []
STC/SPB []
FI/Plans Br. []

- 2 -

SECRET