

TERMINATED

16 January 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Plans Staff/PI

THRU : Projects Branch, Plans Staff

FROM : EE/COP

SUBJECT : Termination of Project BESMIRCH

1. Approval to terminate Project BESMIRCH is hereby requested.

2. This project was intended to establish HEDOX support routes to Poland through the utilization of East German railroaders. The major task of the project was to screen escapee railroaders for the purpose of obtaining leads to other East German personnel who travel to Poland with the transit brigades. The latter were to be recruited to serve as HEDOX support agents. The project developed numerous agent leads though only one agent was recruited through the efforts of this project, namely [] . BESMIRCH activities began to lessen in the spring of 1954 when rumors began to the effect that German railroaders traveling across Poland would be replaced by Polish personnel. In August of 1954 these rumors were confirmed by an official decree, and all German railroad brigades have now been removed from the run across Poland.

3. The four agents previously covered by this project have been transferred to other projects as indicated below:

a. [] : 55-year old ex-railroad man who provided leads to escapee railroaders in West Berlin. (OC granted - 10 July 1954.) As of 1 June 1954, this individual became Dispatcher-49.

b. BESMIRCH-2: 66-year old spotter and recruiter who sifted through the leads provided by [] . He was cleared 16 February 1954 for BESMIRCH use and more recently, was granted Operational Clearance #0-21923 on 6 January 1955 under the cryptonym BECRIPPIE-2 for use as a spotter and interrogator in Project BECRIPPIE.

c. [] : 59-year old spotter and contact man in West German re/ugee camps. A new operational clearance for Subject as [] was submitted on 21 December 1954 for use as a spotter and legman in Project BECRIPPIE.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 2020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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d. [] A young German railroadman who collected positive intelligence on Poland. Subject has been transferred to [] to develop contacts and to act as a spotter in the East German railroad network. Operational clearance for this new use was requested on 21 December 1954.

h. There are no outstanding commitments or obligations remaining to any of the above agents under Project ECKMIRCH.

[]
ER/COP

Approved:

[]
Acting Chief, Plans

1 February 1955
Date

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