

Termination

CADROWN

EE

G

SSA-DD/S

Budget Division

PP/QPS/PR

C-PP/OPS

(SIGNED) COLWELL E. BEERS
FOR

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3 October 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)
VIA: Chief, Psychological and Paramilitary Operations Staff
SUBJECT: Request for Termination of Project GADROWN.

1. Approval is requested to terminate Project GADROWN effective 30 June 1955.

2. Developmental activity towards the creation of a paramilitary apparatus under TPIEMER (now GABROIT) began early in 1952. GADROWN was approved on 6 June 1952 under Amendment #3 to Project TPIEMER for the purpose of developing a paramilitary stay-behind network in East Germany. Beginning with FY 1953, separate budget authorization was approved for GADROWN activities.

3. GADROWN reached its maximum size about February 1953 when it consisted of some 595 East Zone agents (4 Area Chiefs, 485 members organized into 81 cadre groups, 15 W/T operators, and 51 singletons). The chief accomplishments of GADROWN consisted of the planning and selection of cadre groups for evasion and escape and sabotage nets, the gathering of information on drop zones, and the caching within the East Zone of W/T equipment. As of January 1954, the project had fifteen W/T operators all of whom had received at least basic training. A limited amount of tradecraft and paramilitary training had been given to East Zone personnel.

4. a. Following the 17 June 1953 riots in the East Zone, a number of GADROWN members were arrested by East German security forces. As a result of these arrests, a detailed security investigation of GADROWN was conducted. As a result of this investigation, it was agreed that the project should be terminated. GADROWN terminations were carried out in accordance with a plan submitted by the field in May 1954. East Zone personnel were terminated by Berlin GADROWN staff members. The GADROWN staff was terminated by the American case officer. Means of contact with the few East Zone assets which were judged to be "uncontaminated" during the security investigation have been established.

b. During the summer and fall of 1953 both ZIPPER and the West German Government were informed in general terms of the project and of U. S. interest in it. This step was taken because of the strong possibility that the German Government and ZIPPER either had become aware of the project or would soon find out about it.

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SUBJECT: Request for Termination of Project CADROWN.

c. Some of the W/T caches in East Germany are known to be compromised. The remainder must be assumed to be either compromised or lost.

5. Expenditures through 30 June 1955 total [] and are broken down as follows:

FY 1953
FY 1954
FY 1955

[]
[]
[]

In addition, [] was authorized for expenditure under TPEBER during FY 1952. There are no unliquidated obligations. An allotment of [] for CADROWN has been approved for FY 1956. To date, however, no funds have been expended and Headquarters has been informed by the field that no further expenditures will be required. In addition, there are no outstanding commitments or obligations for personnel or material.

6. a. CADROWN is being terminated because it can not fulfill its original purpose. The concept under which the project was organized (that of a large-scale paramilitary force-in-being) was based largely on World War II experience and was then believed to be adequate to fulfill during the cold war period CIA's responsibility for peacetime preparation for support of the military in time of war. Subsequent experience has proved this concept to be generally unsuitable for cold war purposes and it has now been replaced in favor of the creation of widely scattered nuclei which are fully compartmented, generally on a singleton basis. Due to the tension of the international situation and the resulting sense of urgency to put CIA in a state of readiness for wartime support of the military, the project expanded too rapidly. This rapid expansion, along with insufficient American case officer strength for control of the project, resulted generally in the lack of proper compartmentation and other security weaknesses.

b. It is expected that limited unilateral East German war-preparatory activities can be carried on under GACINMAR (project for development of general hot war resistance nuclei in East Germany). Headquarters has authorized the utilization under GACINMAR of one former CADROWN staffer and a few of the East Zone unexamined assets created under CADROWN. It is possible also that ZIPPEL, after legalization and introduction into the NATO clandestine planning structure (HDEBATE), may extend its war-preparatory efforts into East Germany.

[]
Chief, Eastern European Division

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Brief Description, Project CADROWN, Termination, EE/Germany

1. CADROWN was developed under Project CADROIT (formerly TPEMBER) and was broken out as a separate project on 6 June 1952 under Amendment No. 3 to TPEMBER. It has subsequently been budgeted for separately.

2. CADROWN was the development of a PM staybehind network in East Germany. It reached its maximum scope around February 1953, consisting of 555 East zone agents organized into 81 cadre groups with 15 W/T operators, and 51 singleton agents. Cadre groups were selected and trained for E&E and sabotage nets. Following the 17 June 1953 East zone riots, a number of CADROWN members were arrested by East German security police. A detailed investigation of the project was carried out and it was determined the project should be terminated for security reasons. Some W/T caches are known to be compromised and the rest are considered compromised or lost. Means of contacting uncontaminated assets have been established. Termination was accomplished by 30 June 1955 and there remain no outstanding commitments for funds, personnel or materiel.

3. The project was based largely upon WW II experience, that of a large-scale PM force in-being. Subsequent experience has proved this

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concept to be generally unsuitable for cold war purposes and it has been replaced in favor of widely scattered fully compartmented nuclei, generally on a singleton basis.

4. It is expected that PM obligations in Germany can be satisfied through Project CACINNABAR and ZIPPER operation.

Request Termination effective 30 June 1955.

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