

School for Western Collaborators is located 7 kilometers from the village of Khimky near Moscow. The school is well guarded by MVD units and German detachments, and the camp entrance and exit are strictly surveilled. Passes to leave the area are issued to school personnel only by the camp commandant, and to guards by the Officer of the Guard. Camp is surrounded by a double barbed wire fence with watch towers at each corner. Two kms away the camp is guarded by an external MVD network instructed to shoot without warning, signs around to this effect. The administration, commie personnel guards and faculty live in 11 small villas while the trainees live in nine wooden barracks, poorly equipped and furnished. Older trainees live better, and villas are comfortable.

In general medical attention and facilities are very good, abundant and varied diet. New men live 18-20 in a room, older ones 1-2 in a room. Service personnel are qualified trainees.

Qualifications for Selection: Agents are recruited from German pws, internees and the civilian population of the Sovzone of Germany, predominately the youth. Recruiters prefer the following groups: Commies, Waffen-SS nco's, former members of the NSDAP and Hitler Jugend, and unscrupulous adventurers. While still in the reception centers ("general camps* on German soil) they are subjected without their knowledge to strict and careful observation by so-called "recruiting specialists". Those who refuse to work for the Soviets are isolated and shot, the rest are transferred to the Staging Camp 192/III at Minsk, where the process of screening and sorting is continued. Agents- provocateurs are planted among the recruits to trap persons into compromising themselves. When the final selection is completed, the group is shipped to Khimky.

Faculty and Administration: Faculty is composed of Russians, Germans and others who speak perfect German. Teachers are known only by cover names which they change every 10-12 days. The camp commandant is appointed for a 3-4 month period, after which he disappears. No commandant is known by his true name. The director of training, however, remains unchanged. Guards, orderlies, etc. are not permitted any contact with trainees.

Enrollment: Total # of trainees in school at any given time is from 7-800.

Trainees are assigned cover names as soon as they leave the reception center. Real names may never be divulged, and thus they become used to living under a false identity and remain ignorant of their fellows' identity. Each person gets a new nickname after completion of a course. Contact between persons undergoing different courses is strictly forbidden. In the preparatory course there is a large # of "secret collaborators" or informants who gradually disappear and return again with the next shipment from Germany.

The first stage is planned to cause complete moral degeneration of the trainees. Mutual suspicion, spying, informing, provocation and trachery from the basis of personal relationships and characterize the atmosphere... Disobedience is punished by shooting. During this period, many vanish leaving no traces. Questions re them forbidden. Intermediate and special groups enjoy greater freedom, have access to the library and athletic facilities, and can associate with their fellows. Trainees in the preparatory course are ordered to their quarters, which must be obeyed. Cases of older trainees disappearing are comparatively rare.

201

Private conversations between teachers and trainees are strictly forbidden. identifying insignia - intermediary trainees wear a red single braid; special trainees, two red braids on the left sleeve.

Training program - consists of three parts and lasts 8 months.

a. Preparatory course - 1 month. Screening of trainees, political indoctrination and demoralization. Subjects: History of VKP (b) Aims of the CP; World importance of Bolshevism; History of the USSR and other countries; The Soviet Army; Program of other political parties.

When the subject of national socialism arises, certain of its precepts are criticized, but it is never condemned as a whole. All abuse is heaped on Hitler himself, and a concentrated effort is made not to offend the Germans.

b. Intermediate course - 2 months. Intensification of indoctrination along lines outlined in the preparatory course. Review of basic academic subjects; examination of trainees as to their knowledge of military and scientific fields. Military and physical training.

c. Special course - 5 months. Theoretical and practical.

1. Propaganda and agitation.
2. Military economic and political espionage.
3. Intelligence systems of the enemy (i.e. all other) countries.
4. Counterintelligence.
5. Conspiracy.
6. Courier Duty.

In addition, special trainees are given individual coaching in their own line of work in accordance with their level of education in the chosen field. Professional and specialized knowledge is thus brought into harmony with material covered by the training program.

Outstanding members are kept after the regular 8 months training period - physicists, chemists, engineering technicians and linguists, for further training in economic and scientific espionage.

After completion of the courses, agents are assigned and sent to their future stations after having signed an oath, and are given complete papers with a new identity. Hq to which agents are usually assigned are Berlin and Vienna or they may also be placed at the disposal of the Central Intelligence Service (MGB).