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17 October 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMMITTEE FOR FREE ASIA

SUBJECT : FE-2 Comments on CFA Status Report of 9 October 1951

I. General Remarks

A. FE-2 will give below its initial reactions to the CFA Status Report, both in specifics and in general. Many of FE-2's observations and suggestions may well prove to be similar or identical to ideas which CFA has itself considered and then discarded, or ideas whose operational difficulties are too great to allow their activation. This office would, however, enjoy learning in each instance CFA's views on our comments.

B. The fact that certain of FE-2's comments may gaffer from insufficient knowledge of CFA's previous activities points up the need for the fullest possible coordination between CFA and the FE Division. The principal over-all comment which FE-2 wishes to make regarding the CFA is exactly this need for a coordinated effort, which we feel has been lacking in the past but which CFA's excellent Status Report has in part remedied.

C. The primary concern of FE-2 regarding the Status Report, and the approach which is employed below in our comments, is how the CFA, once established as an overt organization, can furnish this office with substantial personnel and physical facilities for future covert operations. These plans outlined in the Status Report offer a considerable and valuable number of such opportunities.

II. Specific Comments

A. p. 1: Objectives of the CFA. Excellent, especially the underlying approach that friendship for the US per se is not the platform of CFA.

1. The objectives as given, however, can be interpreted as being directed only, or chiefly, toward the Far East minus China, i.e. toward areas not yet Communist-dominated. The Status Report as a whole makes it obvious that CFA's activities

are targeted in part

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are targeted in part against mainland Chinese, but, for presentation purposes, it might be well to include such a statement or statements in the p. 1 objectives.

B. p. 3: Projected overseas offices. FE-2 would appreciate having its personnel charged with the operation of covert activities targeted against China placed in the future within offices to be established by CFA. Probably the optimum such locations for this purpose would be Hong Kong, Taipei, Tokyo, Bangkok, Manila, Karachi and New Delhi.

C. pp. 4-5: Projected publications.

1. Good, with a wide quantitative and qualitative audience coverage.

2. What are the CFA's plans for distribution of these publications? Where? How? Does this include the owning of book stores?

3. This field of activity offers excellent opportunities for future placing of FE-2 people.

D. p. 5: Projected refugee interrogation center.

1. What are the plans in specifics for cover, and for circumventing British opposition?

2. Has CFA considered doing this in conjunction with Harvard University, which has some type of refugee interrogation program already started?

3. Once established, excellent for FE-2.

E. p. 5: Text book plans. Excellent. [] reports that there is a fertile field in this area, particularly so for Chinese communities in southeast Asia where the current choice in text books is limited in most instances alone to KMT or Communist.

F. pp. 5-6: Subsidization of newspapers and magazines. Once CFA has gained know-how in this area, FE-2 would enjoy learning if, through covert means, pro-Communist publications might be subsidized, thereby opening great areas for black PW.

G. p. 7: Seminar of Chinese intellectuals. We assume that "conveying a seminar" is a typographical error.

1. CFA program sounds excellent, but what are its exact aims?

H. pp. 7-8. Student contacts.

1. The objectives, as stated, of this branch of CFA sound

too limited,

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too limited, i.e. merely to deny Asian students from joining pro-Communist organizations while in the US. For presentation purposes, these objectives might be rewritten to offer more positive approach.

2. p. 9: Paragraph 3. Finding jobs for Chinese students in American industry. CFA and FE-2 should here closely coordinate their activities to guard against duplication.

3. p. 9-10: Motion picture in Hong Kong. What are plans to gain OK from the British?

4. p. 10: Paragraph 10. Tape recording of refugee statements. Excellent, and should prove a most effective means of PW.

5. Exchange scholarships. CFA speaks only of Asian students in the US. Could not this program be balanced by having US students, both Caucasian and Oriental, study in Asia under scholarships of CFA? This would provide another avenue for FE-2 people.

I. pp. 12-14: Lecture bureau

1. Sounds fine, and worthy of expansion in scope and budget.

2. Would provide another [] for FE-2 people, particularly those who go to the field for relatively short duration on one-shot deals under [].

J. Foreign Organizations. p. 17. Youth organizations. Excellent and most needed. FE-2 people here too.

K. pp. 17-18: Safe haven. Excellent if can be realized. Budget looks much too small. Most careful coordination needed with all FE branches.

L. pp. 18-19: Public relations. Is fund raising from private sources to be included here? This is probably intended, but for presentation purposes should be so included. The \$100,000 already donated sounds most encouraging; this lovely beginning should be followed and exploited to the fullest extent.

M. Radio Free Asia.

1. What is CFA's estimate of the audience within China for these programs?

2. Does CFA have any plans for ultimate covert use of Radio Free Asia? Here FE-2 is most interested.

3. Is it possible to broadcast Chinese programs from Japan?

4. Are there any plans

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4. Are there any plans to broadcast from Formosa?

III. General Comments

A. Present cover of CPA. What is CPA's estimate of the manner in which it has been received on the national scene? Can people safely go overseas with it without immediately being tabbed as covert agents?

B. Relation with VOA, UNIS, etc.

1. Does any liaison now exist?

2. What story will be given, domestically and on the foreign scene, to queries as to why is CPA necessary and how does it differ in nature from similar State Department activities?

C. What other US governmental or private organizations is CPA in contact with, and what is the nature of these contacts?

D. Religious ties. Catholic and Protestant Christian were mentioned in the Status Report. Does CPA have plans to tap non-Christian religious organizations or facilities in the Far East?

E. Need for coordination by both CPA and FE in the recruitment and use of personnel.

F. FE-2 belief that there should be established in the US an American counterpart to the Russians' Lenin Institute. Such an organization, formed under CPA auspices, could later serve as an excellent vehicle for long-range grooming of picked Chinese for a possible future non-Communist China.

FE-2/K] was
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