

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations (see separate sheet) should be used in the "To" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "To" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Record and Routing Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

ACCESSION NO.

MBW-A-209

DATE RECEIVED IN S. A.

2 Jun 49

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. []	[]			[]	<p>THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM THE FIELD, and it is entitled to a reasonably prompt reply. It is routed for information and also to elicit comments to aid the preparation of an intelligent and helpful answer. Therefore, please give this document prompt attention and expedite its routing.</p> <p>To 11: cc. retained in [] file. nky.</p> <p>Project has been signed & is being evaluated.</p> <p>This document is part of an integrated file. If separated from the file it must be subjected to individual systematic review.</p> <p>File</p>
2. []	[]		JUN 9	[]	
3. []	[]			[]	
4.					
5.					
6.		DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 8828 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2007			
7.					
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11. OPC Reg			13-6	[]	
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OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: _____
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO.: MGW-A-209

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

DATE: 23 May 1949

TO :

FROM :

SUBJECT: Proposed Project BGABUSE

REF :

This document is part of an integrated file. If separated from the file it must be subjected to individual systematic review.

1. As you will recall from our previous conversations in the home office concerning possible operational outlets for subversive propaganda, I have always been attracted to the idea of gaining access to international mail channels and opening transit mail bags for the two following basic purposes:

- (a) obtaining addresses for operational use.
- (b) inserting in mail bags forged envelopes containing propaganda items.

2. Following considerable study of this problem as it relates to the German mail system, I have found that we can ideally meet all operational requirements by using the authority and organization of the Communications Intelligence Service in this Theatre. We are, of course, already working closely with CIS in connection with the establishment of printing facilities for the Educator program. They are in complete agreement with the proposed operation and will lend it every possible support, including cover, facilities and American supervision.

3. In exploring the practical operational aspects of the project, I have had make a thorough survey, covering several weeks, of the CIS control of transit mail in Germany and the possibility of utilizing that control and their facilities for our operational purposes. The results of this survey are contained in the attached memorandum to me dated 10 May 1949.

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DeLeon
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4. On the basis of Garber's study, my own discussions of the matter with CIS, and the full cooperation which has been assured us by the CIS, I am submitting herewith this proposed operation in project form, together with my recommendation that it be approved by the home office. I have assigned to the operation the project code name BGABUSE.

5. This operation can be activated almost immediately, principally because CIS, which will provide cover for the operation, has a pool of trained and available indigenous personnel from which it can quickly recruit agents for the operation. If the operation proves successful, it should be possible to continue it as long as CIS exercises its present degree of control of international mail intransit through Germany. It is believed that the same type of operation can be established in Austria and I have already had exploratory talks with the Salzburg representative of CIS, in that Theatre. This representative, incidentally, is [] whom we are considering as a field representative at Salzburg under Educator.

6. This opportunity is a real windfall, made to order for our purposes, and if properly developed should become one of our most effective outlets. Safe and continuous access to mail to and from the Iron Curtain represents an operational gold mine, and I am sure you are aware of the great variety of opportunities inherent in this type of operation.

[]

Attachments - 2

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PROJECT BGABUSE

I. REFERENCE:

Attached report, dated 10 May 1949, submitted by

[J. This document is part of an integrated file. If separated from the file it must be subjected to multilateral systematic review.

II. PURPOSES:

To gain access to mail bags crossing the Western Zone of Germany from Western Europe and from Satellite areas and the USSR, the primary operational purposes being to: a) insert prepared propaganda items in the mail bags and b) to obtain from the contents of the mail bags authentic addresses.

III. PRESENT SITUATION:

At present international mail crossing Germany flows through five control points: Frankfurt, Berlin, Munich, Stuttgart, and Nurnberg. In addition to mail going eastward from Western Europe, there is a steady flow of mail westward from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and the USSR. The Communications Intelligence Service, a Unit of ODI, German Theatre, is authorized to inspect all such mail. This authorization includes the right to open mail bags for the purpose of inspecting envelopes as well as their contents.

IV. PRESENT PROPOSAL:

Through appropriate operational arrangements with CIS, to gain access to mail bags traveling the mail channels described immediately above in order to accomplish the operational purposes described in section II "Purposes."

V. OBJECTIVES:

Primary objective: to insert in mail bags going Westward from Satellite and Soviet areas forged envelopes containing propaganda items and addressed to selected addressees in Western Europe and possibly other parts of the outer world. The propaganda inserted in such envelopes can be so developed as to create, in the mind of the recipient addressee, any desired impression concerning conditions in Satellite areas and in the USSR.

Secondary Objective: to acquire authentic addresses of residents in Satellite areas and the USSR, together with any accessible information concerning the exact status of the resident.

VI. AREA OF OPERATIONS:

Operations under the project will be carried on at the five control points indicated above under section III "Present

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Situation." Headquarters will be at the central offices of CIS in Frankfurt.

VII. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

a. Personnel requirements: The operation will require three indigenous operators at each of the five control mail points, a total of fifteen salaried operators. These operators will work under the direction of American CIS representatives at these points and will be, for official overt purposes, indigenous members of the CIS organization. CIS, Headquarters, Frankfurt, will be responsible for implementing the operation in accordance with instructions covertly transmitted to them by Educator and an Educator representative will be assigned to the project as case officer.

b. Technical requirements: The primary technical requirements are: a) ability to open and reseal, in an undetectable manner, mail bags. b) ability to reproduce exact facsimiles of envelopes ostensibly mailed from Satellite and USSR areas, including authentic stamps, post marks, censorship stamps, and all other normal outward features of such mail.

Facilities for accomplishing ~~of~~ both of these technical requirements are available in the laboratory of CIS, Frankfurt.

c. Creative requirements: Ability to produce the required propaganda items in the appropriate language.

This creative requirement can presently be met by Educator in the Czechoslovakian and Hungarian fields and will later be met in the Russian and possibly Yugoslavian fields. If necessary, Polish production can be added at a later date.

VIII. OPERATIONAL COVER:

The operation will be carried on under CIS cover. It will appear to be merely a part of the normal CIS function of mail inspection. Indigenous operators will not participate in any way in the insertion of envelopes containing propaganda items in mail bags. Their duties will be confined to the acquisition of addresses, the physical opening of mail bags and the photographing or typing of addresses. They will be under the impression that their duties are carried on as a part of the normal activities of the CIS. The actual insertion of propaganda material will be done only by American representatives of CIS at the five control points in accordance with instructions received from Educator.

IX. COSTS:

Monthly costs are estimated as follows:

Fifteen indigenous employees at [] West Deutschemarks

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Costs of technical facilities and materials

	-----	☐	☐ DMs
Monthly total	-----	☐	☐
		<u>☐</u>	<u>☐</u>

It is requested that the project be approved on a trial basis for three months, starting from 15 June 1949. The total project estimate on this basis is ----- ☐ ☐ West Deutschemarks.

X. RECOMMENDATION:

Authorization to activate project, as of 15 June 1949, on the basis described herein.

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