

S E C R E T

Security Information

TO : Chief, SR Division 14 May 1953
ATTN : []
FROM : Assistant Director for Communications
SUBJECT: Project AECOB/PP

1. Subject project has been reviewed by this Office. No Communications facilities beyond those already existing will be required in support of this project.

2. It is intended that this memorandum shall accompany subject project when presented for approval in lieu of a Communications Annex for the project.

FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS:

[]
Chief, Special Subjects Branch

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

S E C R E T

SECRET
Security Information

PROJECT OUTLINE CLEARANCE SHEET

Date 5 May 1953

Project Cryptonym

AECOB (PP)

Amendment No.

Project No. 3420-51-030

(formerly ZRLYNCH)

Sub-Project Cryptonym (where applicable)

Developed by: Case officer

Organization

Date

SR/2

5 May 1953

Reviewed by: Foreign Branch Chief Date

Division Chief

Date

C/SR/

MAY 12 1953

C/SR

14/5/53

Concurrences: FI/Plans/Cover

11/6/53

Date

FI/STC

10 June 53

Date

O/Commo

20 May 1953

Date

Concur Provisional Liaison, necessary to secure US Govt premises w/... tied with Liaison Central Branch

11 June 1953

Date

1/21 PP/PYD

(copy #2)

17 June 53

Date

1/21 AC/PAD

(copy #2)

22 June 53

Approved subject to conditions below:

CHIEF,

Date

Conditions of approval:

~~751746~~

BASIC PLAN

PROJECT CRYPTONYM AECOB PP (#3420-51-030)
PROJECT TYPE Psychological (formerly ZRLYNCH)

1. Authorization: USSR Fiscal 1953 Country Program, PP 41-51;
approved by the DCI on 31 January 1953.

2. Other References: Project ZRLYNCH; Project AECOB-FI

3. Objective and Necessity:

a. Objectives

- (1) To deceive and confuse the Soviet regime in the Latvian SSR.
- (2) To maintain the morale and devotion to the West of the Latvian people.

b. Necessity

The USSR has maintained iron control over the former Republic of Latvia since it first occupied and annexed that country in June-July, 1940. This control was broken only by the German occupation of Latvia during 1941-1944. The United States has not and does not intend to recognize the Soviet annexation of Latvia.

Although the Soviets have killed and deported a considerable portion of the Latvian population, many fled to the West in 1944-45, and the great majority of those remaining in Latvia are thoroughly anti-Soviet.

The policy of the United States is to seek the eventual liberation of Latvia by peaceful means. The objectives set forth above constitute covert implementation of this policy.

4. Proposal

a. Statement of Proposal

- (1) Establishment of a Latvian section of a Baltic psychological warfare panel and workshop. This section, initially

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consisting of one individual, will engage in research and compilation of operational data in support of PW operations directed against the Latvian SSR. It will also assist in the planning and implementation of PW operations. \$1,400 is requested for this purpose for the balance of fiscal year 1953.

- (2) The sum of \$17,250 is requested to cover PP fiscal obligations incurred during the period July 1952 to May 31, 1953 under Project ZRLYNCH.

b. Background of Project

Extensive examination of the problems involved in carrying out sound PW operations into the Baltic States area has led to the conclusion that the possession of an asset such as the panel and workshop mentioned above is virtually indispensable. It is felt that there must be a unit made up of indigenous personnel whose primary task, under staff direction and guidance is the systematic and selective compilation of data essential to such operations. In addition, the members of this unit must be competent, and trained, to assist in the planning and implementation of certain PW operations.

c. Current Status of Project

- (1) Very extensive intra-Headquarters spotting has been conducted for suitable candidates for the Latvian section of the panel and workshop. Several prospects have been developed.
- (2) Application has been made to I&SO/Special Security for assistance in the establishment of domestic official cover for the panel and workshop as a whole.

d. Relation to Other Projects

- (1) Some of the research done by the Latvian section of the unit may assist in the support of operations undertaken in connection with Project AECOB-FI.
- (2) Certain PW material may be transmitted to the Latvian SSR simultaneously with air-drops staged under Project AECOB-FI.
- (3) The Latvian section of the Baltic PW panel and workshop has its counterparts for Estonia and Lithuania under projects AEBASIN-PP and AECHAMP-PP respectively.

5. Operational Outlinea. Area of Operations

- (1) The Baltic workshop and panel, including the Latvian section, will be located in the Washington, D.C. area.
- (2) The target area is the Latvian SSR.
- (3) The target groups in the target area are:
 - (a) The Latvian population of the Latvian SSR as a whole.
 - (b) Certain officials and institutions of the Soviet regime in the Latvian SSR.

b. Duration of Project

This project is viewed as continuing for an indefinite period. It is undertaken in pursuit of U.S. cold war objectives and could continue so long as that phenomenon does. In the event of open hostilities the unit involved could be converted to the support of hot war operations.

c. Cover and Security

- (1) Careful examination of the problems involved in establishing suitable and effective cover for the Baltic panel and workshop has led to the conclusion that domestic official cover would be best. Application has been made to I&SO/Special Security for assistance in procurement of such a cover installation; I&SO has indicated that there will probably be a substantial delay in the procurement of such facilities.
- (2) Pending the establishment of such cover arrangements, the first member of the Latvian section will be placed under private cover - probably research in nature.
- (3) It is important that adequate cover be established and maintained because of the sensitive nature of the operations with which the unit will be associated.

d. Risks Involved

- (1) No major risks are anticipated with respect to the establishment and operations of the Latvian section.

- (2) Certain operations supported or implemented by the unit will inevitably involve some risks, but no substantial ones are presently foreseen and careful planning and control should minimize those which do develop.

e. Operational Control

- (1) Very close control will be exercised by Headquarters over the operations of the Latvian section.
- (2) Some operations supported by the unit will probably be launched from field installations. In such cases, the field will exercise operational control, subject to Headquarters guidance direction.

f. Personnel

The initial requirement is for one ethnic Latvian who will probably not be a citizen of the United States and who will be employed as a covert associate.

g. Support Plan

- (1) Support required for this project falls into two categories geared to two phases of the project:
 - (a) Support required during the interim in which the Latvian section works alone.
 - (b) Support required when the Latvian section functions as a part of the combined Baltic panel and workshop.
- (2) In the first phase support required will include the following:
 - (a) Procurement of an apartment or house which can be used both as office and home. This will be arranged by the Safe House Procurement Office.
 - (b) Procurement of a limited amount of office equipment and supplies - including a typewriter, Latvian-faced typewriter, safe, shortwave radio and miscellaneous materials.
- (3) In the second phase support required will include the following:

Procurement of office facilities for the entire Baltic unit in a U.S. Government installation in the Washington,

D.C. area. This will be arranged by I&SO/Special Security.

h. Communications Plan

Other than the normal agency cable and pouch communications facilities no communications requirement is foreseen at this time.

i. Reports Procedure

Not applicable

j. Coordination

- (1) An administrative plan is not required for this project.
- (2) I&SO/Special Security has been requested to locate and establish domestic official cover for the workshop and panel. They have indicated there will be a substantial delay.

k. Disaster Plan

Not applicable

l. Evaluation of Results of Project

The performance of the Latvian section of the Panel and workshop will be assessed on a continuing basis. The results of operations carried out with the assistance of the Latvian section will be evaluated to the extent operational circumstances permit.

m. Nature and Extent of Intelligence By-products

Intelligence exploitation is carried out under Project AECOB (FI). Intelligence produced as a by-product of PP operations will be processed through FI channels.

6. Budget Data

- a. Fiscal Year 1953 allotment to Project ZRLYNCH is \$20,000 of which \$17,250 is expected to be obligated. Therefore no additional funds are requested for Fiscal Year 1953.
- b. See attached form 59-25 for detailed financial data.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

PROJECT CRYPTONYM

AECOB/PP

PROJECT FINANCIAL DATA

FISCAL PERIOD COVERED

1 July 1952 THRU 30 JUNE 1953

*MAY NOT EXCEED SECRET CLASSIFICATION

RESPONSIBLE STAFF OR DIVISION

SR

CASE OFFICER

[]

A. PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

Indicate number and type of personnel required and estimated total compensation for salary, allowances, travel and related employee benefits. Include everyone paid from project.

TYPE	NUMBER		ESTIMATED COMPENSATION		
	U. S. PERSONNEL	FOREIGN NATIONAL	BASE SALARY	ALL OTHER	TOTAL
STAFF EMPLOYEES					
STAFF AGENTS					
CAREER AGENTS					
CONTRACT AGENTS		1	\$400 per mo.	300	700
CONTRACT CONSULTANTS					
DETAILED PERSONNEL					
FIELD AGENTS					
MILITARY					
ALL OTHER					
TOTAL A.					700

B. SUPPLIES, MATERIEL AND EQUIPMENT

Indicate amount required in applicable spaces. Attach complete supporting list for each.

COMMO	CHEMICAL	QUARTERMASTER SUPPLIES	OTHER SUPPLIES
\$	\$	\$	\$ 100
MEDICAL	ORDNANCE	SPECIAL DEVICES	OTHER EQUIPMENT
\$	\$	\$	\$ 500
TOTAL B.			600

C. OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

Indicate volume and nature of expenses such as (1) maintenance of two operational houses abroad (2) spot purchase of information, etc.

- 1. Renting of apartment or house to be used as both home and office by agent 100 per mo.
- 2. ZRLYNCH expenditures 17,250

TOTAL C. 17,350

D. SUBSIDY OR PROPRIETARY PAYMENTS

If funds are to be turned over to individuals or groups in large lump sums to be expended by the individuals or groups at their discretion to accomplish an agreed-upon objective, explain the type of financial accounts, factual verification or statements, if any, other than a receipt for the lump sum, which will be obtained.

TOTAL D.

TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENTS (A + B + C + D) \$ 18,650

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SECURITY INFORMATION

E. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

APPROXIMATE DATES AND AMOUNTS OF MONEY REQUIRED

FORM REQUIRED

U. S. DOLLARS

FOREIGN (SPECIFY)

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (SPECIFY)

SPECIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS OR METHODS OF TRANSMISSION

F. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

(Within security limitations, list any other facts or circumstances which will enable Special Support Staff to lend adequate logistical support to this project. Indicate specifically the "RUSH" or "TIME" factors involved.)

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