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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

24 April 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, DO/DOB

SUBJECT : Communications Training (Status Report)

1. This memorandum is submitted in response to your request of 23 April 1964. The memorandum will cover the training problem as it relates to communications training.

2. Problem. SR, EE, and NE Divisions have requested DOB to provide intermediate speed radio communications training for their assets recruited in response to both contingency and hot war needs.

3. Training Objective. The training objective during the basic 18 weeks training program is to accomplish the following:

a. Train agent assets in the use of the AS-3 radio set.

b. Bring the agent assets to a transmitting and receiving capability which can be indorsed by the Office of Communications with a rating of # 1 or # 2.

c. Give the agent assets sufficient instruction and practical work that they can satisfactorily, within Office of Communications standards, prepare and send messages, receive and break messages, set-up their radios and aeriels, change parts, do basic trouble shooting, charge batteries, understand and observe traffic schedules, etc.

d. Apply proper Communications security.

e. Establish confidence in the minds of the agent assets that their AS-3 radio will work under field conditions.

4. Maintenance of Communications Skill. Following the completion of the basic training program, the divisional assets have their communications competence refreshed, reinforced, or extended through combinations of the following:

a. Summer Refresher training.

b. Advanced Training courses

c. Participation in field maneuvers, i.e., SWIFT STRIKE, SEA RULER, etc.

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- d. Code reception exercises at home.
- e. Use of code speed developing sets issued for home use.

5. Responsibilities of Office of Communications. The Office of Communications is responsible to provide the following in support of the DOB W/T Communications training:

- a. Sufficient experienced communications instructors to enable the capable agent asset to reach a rating of # 1 or # 2 during the basic 18 week course.
- b. Sufficient communications instructors and operators to handle a base station and to monitor agent activities during field exercises.
- c. Sufficient equipment for use in training.
- d. Proper guidance, doctrine, security information, etc. to insure that training and exercises are conducted up to required standards and within Office of Communications requirements.

6. Responsibilities of DOB. The Domestic Operations Branch must assume the responsibility for the following:

- a. Insuring that sufficient time is allotted to the Communications instructors for the conduct of their training.
- b. Provide proper training facilities for classroom and field use.
- c. Monitor the results of the training and assure the consumer divisions that their project objectives are being met.
- d. Make all reasonable efforts to insure that the trainees get practical application of communications training and field employment of the AS-3. This field employment must be as close to operational conditions as possible (i.e., use of sky-waves, black living, schedules, changing crystals, generating own power, etc.)
- e. Making every reasonable effort to build the confidence of the agent asset in his communications training and in the equipment he is provided with for training or operations.

7. Past Experience:

- a. DOB has had two major employments of KE and SR agent assets in field exercises (SWIFT STRIKE III and SEA RULER). In these exercises the radio communications were handled over long distances from the

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agent sets to a base station and return. All signals were on sky-wave over several hundred miles. Most significant is the fact that these exercises produced the most successful field communications experiences to date.

b. Many of the field exercises conducted as a part of DOB basic training or refresher training have been blighted by failures in radio communication. These failures have often been described by the communications instructors as relating to the ground wave. Answers for the failures have been given as follows: "Team is just too far from Base for the ground wave", "Team is too close to Base for the sky-wave", "Team is in a poor position to receive the ground wave - they must move", etc.

8. Recommendations. In an effort to achieve the training objectives of the consumer divisions in the area of radio communications, the following are recommended:

a. It is recommended that all communications training be conducted in such a manner as to develop a sense of confidence in the trainee with regard to the quality of instruction he is receiving, the quality and workmanship in the equipment provided for training and operations, and the plans for operational employment of a clandestine radio system.

b. It is recommended that a minimum of four experienced radio operators, two of whom have instructional experience, be assigned, attached or detailed to DOB for employment in the training courses and exercises.

c. It is recommended that the Communications instructors be responsible to Chief, DOB for administration to include fitness reports, time and attendance, leave, etc.

d. It is recommended that all communications exercises away from Fort Meade be conducted in a manner to as closely as possible resemble operational conditions. The first priority is the use of sky-wave and a separation of base station and agent set which will rule out any possible ground wave problem.

9. Conclusion. It is imperative that we move in the direction of strengthening our communications training. Radio communication is the sole link available to the Agency and its agent asset in the field. The agent must be fully competent to handle all facets of clandestine radio communications. The Agency must provide the finest of equipment which will function under operational conditions. The training program must, with its instruction, equipment, and practical application exercises, insure the motivation of the

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agent trainee toward future operational employment. It would be a greater economy to drop communications training entirely rather than to present it in a manner to fall short of the recommended goals.

CHIEF, TRAINING STAFF, DO/DOB

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