

NOTIFICATION OF APPROVAL

SUBJECT: Project AEBASIN (SR-2/Estonia)

ACTION:

<u>                    </u>	New Project	<u>                    </u>	Memorandum Request
<u>  X                  </u>	Project Renewal	<u>                    </u>	Termination
<u>                    </u>	Project Amendment		

DATE OF APPROVAL: 25 October 1954

APPROVING AUTHORITY: DCI

AMOUNT: [ ] FISCAL YEAR: 1955

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:

Subject to approval of an Administrative Plan.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

[ ]

- Distribution:
- 1 - DD/P
  - 1 - DD/P-Admin
  - 1 - Budget Division
  - 1 - SR Division Budget Officer
  - 1 - PP/OPS/PP Subject File
  - 1 - PP/OPS/PP Chrono
  - 1 - PP/OPS/PR
  - 1 - RI

PP/OPS/PP Reference No. AUG 0399

SECRET

EXC...  
6-1869

PRC No. DD/P 118-55

PROBLEM

Further to develop existing Estonian emigre groups into effective PP instruments and to use them to infiltrate propaganda material into the Estonian SSR; further, to initiate Estonian language broadcasts from Radio Madrid, possibly Radio Hamburg, and others if practicable. (Project AEBASIN, Amendment 1)

BACKGROUND

At present we have no PP operations in the target area, but do have agents in U.S.-based Estonian emigre groups. Part I, Project AEBASIN, Amendment 1, proposes to continue our influence in the Estonian National Committee and the support of a principal agent. Part II sets up an Estonian language staff to prepare scripts and leaflets for renewed PP efforts in the target area. During fiscal years 1953-54, the previous AEBASIN project has been operating on funds approved by the Director on 31 January 1953 and continued in accordance with NSC Policy Directive 54-12. Part I was included in the SR Operational Program of FY 1955. Part II, although new, also falls within the scope of the Program. AEBASIN requires \$44,000 for FY 1955.

ACTION

Discussion centered on (a) possible criticism of CIA for "internal U.S. operations", because the Estonian emigre groups concerned are largely based in the U.S., and (b) the question of registering our Estonian contacts with the FBI to forestall such criticism. The danger of (a), above, seemed inherent--although the orientation of AEBASIN is toward Estonia, not toward Estonian emigres in the U.S.--and the DD/P representative agreed to study the pros and cons of agent registration with the FBI not only for AEBASIN, but as a generic problem. Thereupon the Project Review Committee approved the project as submitted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Director approve AEBASIN, Amendment 1, at a cost of   for FY 1955.

CONCUR:

SIGNED

Chairman, PRC

R. Helms

Deputy Director (Plans)

for SIGNED Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SIGNED

Deputy Director (Administration)

APPROVED:

OCT 25 1954

Director of Central Intelligence

SECRET

for

**SECRET**

DD/P 1-2646

Executive Registry

6-1084

OCT 1 1954

**MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY OF THE PROJECT  
REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT : Project AEBASIN, Amendment No. 1**

1. Transmitted herewith is Amendment No. 1 to Project AEBASIN for which   is requested for FY '55. It is a continuing project and is included in the SR Division's FY '55 Operational Program in the amount of   Additional funds in the amount of   are now required, increasing the project's FY '55 budget to   Funds are available within the DD/P complex and the Comptroller has been advised accordingly.

2. Project AEBASIN, as amended, is divided into two parts. Part I, the continuing portion, provides for the exploitation of existing assets represented by Estonian emigre organizations and personnel to be developed into an effective PP instrument, and for implementation of operations to infiltrate leaflets and other propaganda material into the Estonian SSR. Part II will provide funds for the initiation of Estonian-language broadcasts from Radio Madrid and will further attempt to secure similar facilities at Radio Hamburg or elsewhere.

3. It is recommended that Project AEBASIN, as amended, be approved in the amount requested, subject to the approval of an Administrative Plan and that no activation of the Hamburg Radio aspects may be made without specific prior approval of the Chief, Psychological and Paramilitary Operations Staff.

(Signed) Richard Helms

FRANK G. WISNER  
Deputy Director (Plans)

Enclosure: 1

Project AEBASIN,  
Amendment No. 1

**SECRET**

SENIOR STAFF PROJECT CLEARANCE SHEET

1. Identification

Project Renewal Per CBI 234-1

a. Project Cryptonym: **AERASIN**

d. Division: **SR**

b. Sub-project Cryptonym:

e. Branch: **2**

c. Amendment No. **/**

f. Desk: **Estonia**

2. STAFF COORDINATION

Element	Signature	Copy	Date	Checked	Date of Memorandum
a. PAFS	[Signature]	1	7 Sep '54		
b. DD/P-Adm (MAG)	[Signature]	1	13 Sep '54		
c. Budget Div.	[Signature]	1	13 Sep '54		
d. Chief, DD/P-Adm	[Signature]	1	19 Sep '54		
e. FP/Radio	[Signature]	2	13 Sep '54	✓	13 Sept 54
f. FP/Press	[Signature]	2	8 Sep '54		
g. FP/ICD	[Signature]	3	24 Sep '54	✓	
h. FP/PAG/PA	[Signature]	3	27 Sep '54	✓	
i. Chief, VE	[Signature]	4	28 Sep '54		
j. Chief, IO	[Signature]	4			
k. AG- FP/PAG	[Signature]	1	23 Sep '54		
l.					
m.					

3. Concurred in and Forwarded to DD/P by

SIGNED

1 OCT 1954

Date

*1) Funds available. Admin plan being prepared. D.B.A.*

Conditions: (This space reserved for CPP and DD/P-Admin)

*2) Subj. to approval of Admin Plan and favorable action by PRC and DCI, KLT, S*

Concurred in and Forwarded to DD/P by

*K. Roosevelt*  
A/DD/P/P

1 OCT 1954

Date

DIVISION PROJECT CLEARANCE SHEET

1. Project Cryptonym: AEBASIN PP

Sub-Project Cryptonym: NA (if applicable)

Amendment No.: NA (if applicable)

Developed by:

Case Office.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Organization	Date
			SR/2	

Reviewed by:

Acting Branch Chief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Organization	Date
			SR/2	
Div. PP Chief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IV/CPF	Date 8/18/54
Div. Chief of Admin. & Log.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date 7/18/54
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SA/OPS	Date 8/18/54

2. Concurrences:

Staff "C"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date 8/18/54
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See memo attached	8/23/54
Office of Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date 8/23/54

3. Forwarded by: Division Chief   Date 8/23/54

Comments (this space reserved for Division Chief):