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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Operations, DD/P

AUG 13 1954

SUBJECT: Project AEQUOR (Renewal)

1. The attached project, originating in the SR Division, is herewith presented for your renewal in the total amount of [ ] for the period 1 July 1954 through 30 June 1955.
2. Authority is requested to obligate these funds from the DD/P-SR Division budget for the Fiscal Year 1955.
3. There is attached a memorandum prepared by Plans Staff dated 10 August 1954, summarizing the important factors involved and stating the recommendations of the FI Staff.

[ ]  
Chief  
Foreign Intelligence

Approved: [ ]

COP-DD/P

13 Aug '54  
Date

Attachment: Project AEQUOR Outline

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
CLASSIFICATION ~~TOP SECRET~~  
Changed to *Secret*  
BY AUTHORITY *o/sr/sop*  
DATE *12 JUN 1961*  
MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Foreign Intelligence  
SUBJECT: Project AEQUOR (Renewal)

10 August 1954

1. PURPOSE: This project is designed to use the facilities of the Byelorussian National Rada (BNR), to support resistance movements in the Byelorussian SSR, support and utilize an agent team now in the BSSR and eventually to expand into other areas.
2. PERSONNEL AND COVER: At the present time the only active agents are the following:
  - a. AECAMBISTA/5, liaison officer in London between CIA and BNR. He will become principal agent after coming to the US for training. AECAMBISTA/2 has been relieved of his principal agent duties and will act as operations consultant. A local recruiter and a training assistant will be selected after AECAMBISTA/5 has been trained and returns to Europe.
  - b. CAMPOSANTO/6, /8, and /9; members of the agent team now in Byelorussia.
3. HISTORY: Project AEQUOR was first approved 22 September 1951 by ADSO for the period ending 30 June 1952. It was renewed by CFI 5 December 1952 for the period 1 July through 31 December 1952, and again renewed by Chief/Plans 31 March 1953 for six months through 30 June 1953. On 23 November 1953 the project was again renewed by CFI for the period 1 July 1953 through 30 June 1954 with certain conditions designed to improve its security. In the fall of 1951 an agent was dropped into the target area, but no word has been received from him. Late in 1952 a four-man team was dropped in. The leader was killed, two are now living black, and the fourth has established himself legally. Radio and S/W contact have been established but little information has been received. Efforts to ascertain whether the agents are controlled are continuing. CAMPOSANTO/6 and 8 have been requested to exfiltrate, and CAMPOSANTO/9 has been requested to remain and legalize himself.

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If possible, he would maintain both W/T and S/W contact. It is not known yet whether the agents will accept these instructions, or even be able to exfiltrate at all.

4. APPROVAL PERIOD AND COST: Renewal is requested for the period 1 July 1954 through 30 June 1955, for [ ] This figure is broken down as follows: compensation, [ ] AECAMBISTA/5, \$3,600; AECAMBISTA/2, \$900; recruiter, \$900; training assistant, \$1,800; travel and exfiltration, \$9,000; operational expenses, \$4,000; foreign currency for exfiltration or other purposes, \$9,352; materiel, \$7,648 (see attached Logistics Annex). The above funds do not include a yearly total of \$7,815, the combined salaries of CAMPOSANTOS/6, 8, and 9, which is held as a contingency expense and will be requested only when needed.

5. FI STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a. The comments of DC/FI/OPS are set forth in an attached memorandum dated 9 July 1954. In summary, FI/OPS concurs subject to (1) continued testing of the bona fides of the team now in the BSSR, (2) an attempt to exfiltrate two of the team members, (3) bringing AECAMBISTA/5 to the US for P/A training, (4) no further operational activity to be initiated until the security review of our relations with the BNR is completed and AECAMBISTA/5 has been assessed as suitable for his proposed P/A work, and (5) that further operational activity be presented, by amendment to this project, when plans are formulated, and not under the authority given at this time.
- b. The comments of STC are set forth in the attached memorandum dated 29 July 1954. STC notes that the desk is attempting to fulfill the FI Staff recommendations of 23 November 1953; the BNR security review is almost completed, and efforts are continuing to establish the team's bona fides. STC concurs with the understanding that after exfiltration of CAMPOSANTO/6 and completion of the BNR study, either more specific direction will be given to this effort or outright termination will be considered.
- c. FI/Plans Branch concurs and recommends an RQM survey of customer interests, as an aid to evaluation of objectives and a basis for long range plans.

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- d. RQM notes that, while 14 reports were received and two disseminated, the project is mainly operational. No recommendation based on production can be made. In addition the transmittal to the team of requirements which are not in accord with the original project concept may disrupt the work now being done.

[ ]  
Chief, PLANS

Concur per paragraph 5 (a),  
(b) and (d) above: [ ]  
Chief, FI

12 Aug 54  
Date

Attachment: Project Outline AECUOR

FI Staff Coordination:

DC/FI/OPS [ ]  
C/STC [ ]  
STC/SPB [ ]  
FI/Plans Br. [ ]

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