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27 April 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Operations, DEP

VIA: Chief, CI

SUBJECT: Request for Permission to Sponsor Travel, Brief,
and Utilize Operationally and Unwittingly
AECASSOWARY/39 Via AECASSOWARY/1 (Project
AERODYNAMIC)

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

1. In accordance with CSN No. 10-27, permission is requested to sponsor and utilize operationally AECASSOWARY/39 on a trip to the Soviet Union. AECASSOWARY/39 will be unwitting of United States Government involvement, since the operation will be mounted under the AECASSOWARY/1 alias.

2. a. Background

AECASSOWARY/39 is a forty-six year old American citizen, born in the Western Ukraine (then Austria-Hungary). Early in his life he became involved in Ukrainian nationalist activity and was arrested several times in the early thirties by Polish police for illegal literature distribution. He spent the period 1938-1939 in a Polish prison as a result of this activity.

In 1939, at the time of the Polish partition, AECASSOWARY/39 made his way from the Soviet-occupied area to the German-occupied area. During the war and since, AECASSOWARY/39 has steered clear of any direct involvement in Ukrainian nationalist activity. With the exception of a brief period from 1940 to 1941, when he served as a civilian interpreter for the Luftwaffe, AECASSOWARY/39 made his living in the Ukraine as a businessman, dealing at times in black market foodstuffs obtained from the Germans on various business pretexts. During this period he managed to channel to the anti-German Ukrainian underground army (UPA) foodstuffs and other supplies.

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With the retreat of the Germans from the Soviet Union, **ARCASSOWANY/39** moved through Poland to Czechoslovakia, Germany, and Austria, emigrating to the United States in 1947. Since then he has lived in New Jersey, working primarily as a skilled machinist.

Because of his intimate knowledge of the Lvov area, his native fluency in Ukrainian, and his ability to maneuver, **ARCASSOWANY/39** is regarded as an excellent courier-type agent, which will be his primary task. He is considered by **ARCASSOWANY/1** adventurous but genuinely devoted to the Ukrainian nationalist cause, with feelings of guilt for not having taken part in the nationalist struggle during its critical phase. It is only by reason of this detachment, however, that he can now be sent on the projected operational mission.

A psychological assessment of **ARCASSOWANY/39** revealed possible tendencies toward subjectivity in reporting which will be considered in his training. On the other hand, he is considered more likely to be overcautious than reckless in a dangerous situation, provided he recognizes the danger for what it is. He also tested as intense and dedicated.

ARCASSOWANY/39 has no close relatives in the Soviet Union but has one brother in Poland whom he will visit for cover purposes on his way to the Soviet Union.

b. Previous Intelligence Connections

As mentioned above, **ARCASSOWANY/39** was hired by the Luftwaffe in 1940 as an interpreter with the staff of an intelligence regiment in Warsaw and elsewhere behind the front. He was involved in POW processing.

3. a. Missions

ARCASSOWANY/39 has requested a USSR tourist visa with an itinerary of Moscow, Kiev, Lvov, and Tarnopol for a period of about twelve days, commencing about 20 May.

His ostensible reason for travel to the USSR is to revisit his former homeland, which is a normal motive for such a trip. His father is buried in Tarnopol, and **ARCASSOWANY/39** will visit his

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grave. 1961 is also the year of the Shevchenko Centennial and AMASSOVANY/39 will take a side trip from Kiev to Kaniy, the place of Shevchenko's burial and the site of the celebration.

AMASSOVANY/39 will have an active operational mission only in Lvov, at the very end of his trip. While in Lvov he will visit a museum of Ukrainian art where he will meet a target personality formerly active in the Ukrainian nationalist struggle. AMASSOVANY/39 will carry with him a fountain pen in which there will be concealed a letter (referred on film) from AMASSOVANY/2, the chief of the AMASSOVANY/1 group and a person known personally by the target. AMASSOVANY/39 will present the pen as a gift without mention of the concealed letter. Prior to departing from Lvov and the USSR, he will write a letter to the target, informing her in veiled terms of the letter's presence and how to find it. He will mail the trigger letter which will be received after his departure from the USSR. AMASSOVANY/2's letter to the target is lengthy, building up to a request that the target agree to maintain contact with him in the future. The target is instructed how to signify her decision safely. AMASSOVANY/39 will be instructed to trigger the operation only if the target meets certain requirements on which he will be briefed.

AMASSOVANY/39 will also meet and assess an employee of a Lvov airplane plant, bearing greetings and a gift from a friend who recently immigrated to the United States. He will not undertake any operational action in this case, simply reporting on his impressions upon his return. The target in this case is believed to have anti-regime, Ukrainian nationalist tendencies.

AMASSOVANY/39 will meet and reassess two old pro-war friends in Lvov who are also believed to be Ukrainian patriots. As in the above case, he will elicit and debrief for indications of vulnerability which, if found, will be exploited subsequently.

AMASSOVANY/39 will be briefed on guided missile and other target indications for visual observation and possible elicitation only. He will not have a photographic mission, nor will he be required to enter any restricted area. PI collection in this operation will be of secondary importance.

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b. Training

ABCASSOWARY/39 will be trained, briefed, and debriefed by an ABCASSOWARY/1 PA with previous REBEKIN experience, working directly under the supervision of a case officer. The entire program will be handled under ABCASSOWARY/1 cover, including FI requirements.

4. Cover

ABCASSOWARY/39 will have tourist cover on his trip. He will not deviate noticeably from normal tourist behavior.

As mentioned above, ABCASSOWARY/39 believes the mission is on behalf of ABCASSOWARY/1. He will be encouraged to continue believing this. A United States Government interest or involvement will be denied.

5. Finance

The cost of the operation will be about \$2400. In addition to expenses, ABCASSOWARY/39 will be reimbursed for time away from his job and perhaps given a modest bonus for good work.

Travel expenses will be handled on a cash basis between ABCASSOWARY/1 and ABCASSOWARY/39. Research indicates that it is not at all infrequent for Ukrainian immigrants to do business with a travel agency in cash which they have apparently saved at home. ABCASSOWARY/39 has an income sufficiently high to afford the proposed trip. *See note below.

6. Future Operational Use

There are no current plans to utilize ABCASSOWARY/39 further upon his return. It is hoped that at least one and perhaps several of the internal contacts will eventually become internal reporting sources.

7. Clearances

ABCASSOWARY/39 was granted a POA on 25 April 1961.

~~DELETED~~
 *The traveler has requested that ABCASSOWARY/1 obligate itself to see his 15-year old son through college in the event that he is detained substantially in the Soviet Union because of his operational mission and is unable to return to the United States for a long period of time. Authority is requested to obligate CIA to pay up to \$10,000 through A/1 to the traveler's son under the given circumstances. The money would be dispersed under a scholarship arrangement. If possible, agreement between A/1 and the traveler on this point would be verbal. Only at the traveler's insistence would legal measures be taken before the traveler's departure.

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8. Please refer any inquiries on this operation to
[] 1501 J Building, Extension 4387.

[]
Chief, SR Division

APPROVED:

Chief of Operations, EOP

DATE: _____

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