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SECURITY INFORMATION

FI BASIC PLAN

CRYPTONYM: AEBASIN

HEADQUARTERS CASE OFFICER:

DIVISION: SR

[ ]  
Room No. 2506-J  
Extension 3264  
Date: 5 February 1953

STATION: Washington, D.C.

The attached basic plan is presented for approval.

1. The Plan includes all planned FI operations into the Estonian SSR and all activities connected with this objective which are the responsibilities of the SR Division.

2. The cost of anticipated FI activities under this Plan for 12 months period from the date of approval is estimated at [ ] including the expenditures of support branches.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, STC

[ ]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, SR Division

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

7 Mar 53  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Plans

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, FI

*Approved to  
Official -  
January 1990*

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## SECURITY INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

17 March 1953

SUBJECT: Basic Plan AEBASIN

1. Basic Plan AEBASIN is constructed to cover all FI operations into the Estonian SSR and all activities connected with these objectives which are the responsibilities of the SR Division as defined in the USSR - Country Strategic Plan. Within its framework, this basic plan proposes to:

(a) Organize, develop and execute covert operations for infiltration into and exfiltration from the Estonian SSR of non-American personnel for the purpose of establishing clandestine support points and for the procurement of operational and strategic intelligence;

(b) Determine and assess as to where and what resistance nuclei exist in the Estonian SSR;

(c) Establish in the Estonian SSR covert resident agent personnel who will assist in and facilitate operations mounted against targets in the USSR.

2. The spotting and recruitment of FI action agents will take place in Europe and in the Western Hemisphere. FI principal and sub-agents will be recruited in the United States to spot and develop agent candidates in this country. The training of Estonian FI agents will be conducted primarily in the United States. While in training, FI action agents and indigenous instructors will be physically controlled under DB rules, regulations and facilities under the direction and supervision of the Headquarters case officer.

3. The cover used by case officers in the United States is that of an unidentified U.S. government agency. Agent cover legends will be prepared to fit individual requirements and will be based on available documentation.

4. AESTEM, a contract covert associate, has taken out first citizenship papers and intends to become a permanent resident of the United States. As president of an Estonian veterans organization in this country, he is in a position to facilitate spotting, motivation and recruitment efforts. Cover Division has been requested to provide AESTEM with a cover which will permit him to expend fairly large sums of money (\$3,000 per year) in his spotting and recruiting efforts. Another indigenous agent instructor, AELUNG, was recruited in Germany and will be brought to the United States under CIA sponsorship, this Agency having arranged his entry and immigration for permanent U.S. residence.

5. As individuals are recruited, trained and readied for dispatch into the Estonian SSR, separate projects are to be written and submitted as project outlines for approval prior to their actual implementation.

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6. The estimated annual cost of this project is \$73,900, broken down as follows:

Compensation (maximum \$5,200,  
minimum 1,800)  
Supplies, material, equipment  
Operational intelligence procurement  
Transportation  
Bribery and barter items  
Operational funds - AEBASIN STEM  
Entertainment

\$37,900



(An additional   will be spent for Communications equipment.)

Special Commitments: To prospective agent candidates from Sweden, help in reestablishing themselves in Europe or the Western Hemisphere after completion of missions is authorized. A bonus of up to \$5,000 to each agent after two years of satisfactory duty in the denied area and death benefits of \$10,000 are deemed appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Basic Plan AEBASIN for the period 1 March 1953 through 28 February 1954 is recommended.

Chief, STC   \*  
*for* Chief, Operations  
 Chief, Plans x

Approved:   13 May 1953  
U DI Chief, FI Date

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
DD/P

ATTACHMENT: Project Outline AEBASIN  
cc: STC/SPB  
RI for Vital Records

\*Concur provided that SR closely coordinates with STC the security aspects of the spotting and recruiting phase of this project, particularly with respect to the possibility of a penetration of the Estonian veterans organization and to a potential compromise of CIA activities to the FBI.

X Support of Estonian Vets. Org. is subsidy which will require preparation of administrative plan in coordination with PAPS/DDA **TOP SECRET**

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BASIC PLAN

CRYPTONYM: AEBASIN

1. Purpose

This Basic Plan is written to include all FI operations into the Estonian SSR and all activities connected with these objectives which are the responsibilities of the SR Division as defined in the USSR-Country Strategic Plan.

2. Background

The originally approved LCHOMELY Project OPC/EE, 32-CMGFG, 30 November 1950, aimed to utilize Estonian emigre groups, leaders and organizations for the purpose of contacting underground resistance forces in the Estonian SSR; and to infiltrate agents into the area. Upon receipt of AEBASIN approval, the former OPC Project LCHOMELY will be terminated.

3. References

- a. OPC/EE-II Project LCHOMELY, 32-CMGFG, 30 November 1950.
- b. USSR-Country Strategic Plan (Top Secret Document Ref. #59961, 1 May 1952).

4. Objectives - FI

- a. To organize, develop and execute operations for infiltration into and exfiltration from the Estonian SSR of alien personnel for the purpose of establishing clandestine support points in the Estonian SSR and for the procurement of operational and strategic intelligence.
- b. To determine the locations and composition of resistance nuclei which may exist in the Estonian SSR and which may be utilized in support of FI operations.
- c. To establish in the Estonian SSR covert resident agent personnel who can assist agent infiltration and exfiltration to and from the neighboring target areas of the USSR, and who can assist in the coverage of long-range intelligence objectives.

5. Targets

Specific intelligence targets in the Estonian SSR are outlined in:

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- a. Top Secret SR Memorandum, Control #73433, 21 March 1952, "Intelligence Targets for 1952."
- b. Top Secret SR Memorandum, Control #84795, 24 November 1952, "Priority Targets in the Baltic Republics, East Prussia, Karelo-Finnish SSR, Murmansk and Leningrad area."

6. Tasks

- a. Dispatch trained agent personnel into the Estonian SSR.
- b. Develop W/T, S/W and courier communications with the Estonian SSR.
- c. Accumulate operational data and documentation.
- d. Spot and recruit local agents in the Estonian SSR.
- e. Financially support certain Estonian Veterans Organizations in the U. S. in order that their membership may be used in spotting and recruiting agent candidates and, further, insure the necessary motivation on the part of these persons to undertake hazardous missions.

7. Implementation

- a. Spot, assess, recruit and train Estonian personnel for use in operations directed against the Estonian SSR.
- b. Spotting and development of agents in the U. S. for dispatch into Estonia will be handled by principal and sub agents recruited for that purpose in the U.S.
- c. Recruitment of Estonian agents outside the U. S. will be implemented through the facilities of the CIA area stations involved.
- d. Training of Estonian agents will be conducted primarily in the U. S.
- e. Agent candidates will be selected on the basis of area and language knowledge, physical and mental fitness, and psychological motivation.
- f. While in training, agents and indigenous instructors will be physically controlled under DGB rules, regulations and facilities under the direction and supervision of the HQ staff case officer. After infiltration, Headquarters plans to maintain contact with agents via W/T, S/W and courier facilities.
- g. The cover used by case officers in the U. S. in contact with

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principal and operational agents is that of an unidentified U. S. government agency. The prospective covert associates probably are aware of being contracted by "American Secret Service." Agent cover legends will be prepared to fit the specific agent requirements and will be based on available documentation.

8. Coordination

- a. Coordination of this plan has been effected with the Office of Communication, TSS, and Procurement and Supply. Consultations are in progress with the SR Logistics, Air and Maritime Support Offices.
- b. All activities under this Plan which will affect the areas of WE and/or WH Divisions responsibilities will be coordinated with these Divisions.
- c. Training of alien instructors has been and will continue to be coordinated with the Office of Training and DOB.
- d. The problems of entry of aliens, etc., has been and will be coordinated with the Alien Affairs Staff, Inspection and Security Office.

9. Requirements

a. Personnel

1 U.S. Principal Contract agent	\$ 5,200.00
2 U.S. Contract Sub-Agents	4,800.00
2 Contract alien Instructors	9,000.00
6 Operation Agents	18,900.00
	<u>\$37,900.00</u>

One alien contract instructor has been trained and is currently occupied in translation of tradecraft material. One alien contract instructor has been granted covert security clearance and an admission to the United States under Section 8, Public Law 110.

Both of these instructors have had previous CIA connections abroad, and experience in covert operations.

The Principal Contract Agent in the U. S. has been recruited and is under contract.

Six agent candidates have been spotted. Of the agents, three have covert security clearances and will arrive at the training area on/about June 1, 1953. The other three are expected to be recruited by July 15, 1953.

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b. Equipment

Special equipment will include W/T, S/W, compasses, binoculars, personal arms, cameras, "I" tablets, Soviet type clothing, writing paper, concentrated foods, medical supplies, equipment for document falsification, rubles and articles of value for bribery and barter.

c. Other Support

- (1) Documentation and S/W requirements will be determined in coordination with T/SS during the course of agent training.
- (2) The personnel and safe house facilities and training equipment for the training area will be provided by SR/DB.
- (3) Agent infiltration and exfiltration facilities are developed in conjunction with other related projects.

d. Financial - FI

Estimated Cost of the Plan  
(per 12 month period)

- (1) Personnel compensation - with a maximum salary \$5200.00 and a minimum compensation \$1800.00 p. a. \$37,900.00
- (2) Supplies, material and equipment (including Commo equipment)
- (3) Operational expenses of the Principal Agent in the obtainment of operational intelligence and for spotting and recruitment of agent personnel
- (4) Travel and transportation and living expense of potential recruits, agents and staff personnel
- (5) Bribery and barter items for agents under operational conditions

\* This amount includes Commo equipment, medical, chemical, ordinance, quartermaster and other supplies and devices in the course of training and for infiltration.

\*\* This estimate does not include the cost of SR/DCB, TR, Commo, and other support branches' personnel costs to the CIA, nor the costs of establishment of operational support points outside Estonia.

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10. Special Problems and Commitments

- a. No commitments are made to other organizations under the AEBASIN Plan.
- b. No disposal problems exist with the contract agents so far recruited. The Principal Agent is a first paper U. S. citizen and does not represent a disposal problem. The prospective agent candidates from Sweden will be promised help in reestablishing themselves in Europe or the Western Hemisphere after completion of their missions.
- c. Contracts have been signed with two alien agent instructors, one of whom will also act in a consultant capacity.

AELUNG's contract was signed effective 5 September 1952 for one year for the period of his stay in Germany to the amount of \$4200 per annum, with the understanding that upon his arrival in the U. S., a new contract is to be signed with an increase in salary up to \$4,800 per annum. The present contract also includes disability and death benefits up to \$5,000.00 and is to be included in the renewed contract. CIA has sponsored AELUNG's immigration into the U. S., and immigration permit for a permanent U. S. residence has been granted.

AENOTE is a contract covert associate, has taken out the first U. S. citizenship papers and intends to become a permanent resident of the U. S. His contract dates from 22 September 1952 for one year, at the annual salary rate of \$4,200, subject to termination on 15 days' notice.

This office has authorized the [ ] to make commitments to the recruits up to \$350.00 per month salary, up to \$5,000 bonus to each agent after 2 years of satisfactory duty in the denied area, and death benefits of \$10,000.00.

In the case of agents recruited in the U. S., compensation, bonuses, insurance and other benefits will be requested on the merits of each case. A \$10,000 policy for death benefits is considered to be appropriate in most cases.

- d. More stringent border and internal controls as well as renewed mass deportation of the Estonian population will adversely affect the operation.

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