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SECURITY INFORMATION

NLE MR Case No. 2001-34
Document No. 4

5 October 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHARLES NORBERG, OCB

SUBJECT: BW Refutation Material

EO 12958 3.4(h)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

1. Since [REDACTED] the germ warfare refutation material provided by the repatriated U.S. airmen until it has been released overtly, we would like to make the following recommendations for overt handling of the material:

- a. A "White Book", including sworn denials by all airmen involved in germ warfare propaganda as well as point by point explanations of why each submitted to participation in the campaign, should be prepared and released by the Defense Department or the United Nations Command. Copies of this "White Book" should go to every member country of the United Nations as well as to the press;
- b. Concurrent with the release of the "White Book" the Secretary of Defense or even the President, as Commander in Chief of the armed forces, should announce the book's release, review the entire propaganda campaign and condemn the Communists;
- c. A film dramatizing the physical and mental coercion which led to the airmen's "confessions" of waging germ warfare should be made by a competent commercial firm. In this film, each airman's story should be developed individually and he should be allowed to refute his confession in detail rather than simply to state that it was all false. While the film should be in English for domestic showing, arrangements also should be made for sound tracks in foreign languages;
- d. Shortly after release of the material mentioned above the president of the American Academy of Sciences should write and release to the press a letter to each member of the so-called International Scientific Commission which investigated the charges for the Communists demanding retraction of their "findings";

e. As part of this

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e. As part of this campaign, we believe that the United States should take an aggressive stand when the bacteriological warfare item on the UN General Assembly agenda comes up for debate and demand a resolution condemning the Communists for the false campaign. There appears to be some fear that such a stand would jeopardize the truce negotiations but since such fears have not deterred the Communists from continuing to make charges against us, it seems appropriate that we now adopt a realistic attitude in propoganda, particularly since our charges will have the added attraction of being true.

f. After the airmens' stories have been thoroughly developed, those who present the best case should be made available for radio and television exploitation.

2. In view of the fact that the British, at least, have indicated a desire for strong BW refutation material, we should request that all 16 UN nations which supported the BW resolution in the General Assembly take a positive stand in the UN and at home when this material becomes available.

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