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Memoranda Registry

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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OFFICE OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

27 AUG 1955

Honorable Wilber M. Brucker  
Secretary of the Army  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Brucker:

It is with a sense of warmest appreciation that I wish to call to your attention the outstanding and invaluable service rendered the Central Intelligence Agency by Major Lucien E. Cosein, 01322769, Infantry, for the period of his assignment with this Agency and predecessor organizations. This period covers 26 July 1943 to 31 July 1955.

During this entire period he has been continuously involved in intelligence duty. Specifically, after receiving training in industrial sabotage, cryptography, agent recruiting, parachute and reception committee operations, Major Cosein was dropped into France in 1944 on a 5-months mission resulting in the reorganization of elements of the French resistance movement (Maquis) in the Toulouse area. For this service, his records here indicate superior leadership, initiative, and resourcefulness. He also received the French Legion of Honor, the Croix de Guerre with Palm, and British Bronze Oak Leaf Emblem (Kings Commendation).

Upon Major Cosein's return, his services were immediately required as a staff officer at OSS/Hanoi until October 1945. While on this assignment, Major Cosein parachuted into Kwansi Province, China, proceeding into French Indo-China as Commanding Officer of a combined American, French and Chinese Commando team engaged in the gathering of intelligence and harrassing the enemy. As C.O. he selected, trained and organized commando teams which he led in attacks upon Japanese headquarters and garrisons. For this period of duty, records indicate that Cosein's actions were pointedly instrumental in discouraging and disorganizing the enemy forces thereby halting their advance towards threatened portions of China. For this service, he received the Bronze Star. These actions again indicated him to be an outstandingly well developed leader of troops, completely versed in field intelligence operations. His initiative, leadership, attention to duty and inspiration to other personnel was rated as superior.

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Hon. Wilber M. Brucker, Secretary of the Army, Washington 25, D. C.

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[redacted] Major Consein's excellent performance of duty was marked by his persistence, persuasiveness, and his energetic and versatile approach to complex problems. Here the note is also found in Agency records that he was sometimes impulsive.

[redacted]

[redacted] Esprit de corps was greatly improved as well as organisational efficiency and net results. Special mention at this time was made of Major Consein's exceptional personal courage, activities, tendencies, strong personality, devotion to duty and level-headed approach to the job, indicating him to be an officer with outstanding potential.

[redacted]

[redacted] It is noteworthy as well that General Lucien K. Truscott Jr., Senior Representative in Germany, formally commended Major Consein for his "valuable contribution to a difficult work" in connection with his services as Chief, Nurnburg Operations Base.

[redacted]

[redacted] he was responsible, within this major headquarters, for formulating, coordinating and directing field intelligence operational plans and policies. Agency supervisors praised him for his handling of people, aggressive leadership qualities and inspiration to others. Major Consein definitely was classified as an extremely valuable officer.

During the period 16 June 1954 - 25 June 1955, because of his versatility and exceptional ability in operational intelligence activities, Major Consein was assigned to the Agency Saigon Military

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Mission in Indo-China, as an operational staff officer, responsible for the area planning, directing, interpreting and evaluation of intelligence information, as well as conducting liaison with other intelligence units. This duty, performed under adverse conditions within Asia, required above all else: an extensive intelligence background, leadership and initiative. During this period, and under circumstances mentioned above, he again proved himself to be of inestimable value to this Agency. His manner of performance was superior.

To summarize Major Consin's qualifications: he has had an unusually extensive and well diversified experience at all levels of field intelligence operations; the positions held were consistently higher than his military grade; although slightly weak in detailed administration he has obtained a consistently high Agency efficiency rating of superior. His services here have been of great value to the Agency and his parent service in the furtherance of national security.

It is requested this communication be included in Major Consin's permanent file, both in TAGO and Infantry CMD, to record this portion of his exemplary professional career.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

C. F. Cabell  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Deputy Director

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