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Air

SECURITY INFORMATION

MSG- 13631

9 April 1952

Chief of Station, Frankfurt  
Attn: FGB/[- ]  
Chief, EE

Control and Motivation of Staybehind Agents

REF: MIFA 6289

1. As indicated in our cable answering reference memorandum, we approve in principle your suggestions as to the most effective means of assuring the retention of staybehind agents. We also agree that the lure of the proposed new German Army is likely to be strong enough to entice away some of our agents unless counter measures are taken.

2. We propose that you develop your plans more or less along the lines suggested in Para 4 of reference:

- A. Work out an indoctrination line which would be mainly a continuation of what you have already been telling prospective staybehind agents; i.e., something which will answer the agent's question concerning his loyalty and which will assuage his grief over not working for the German Army. The fact that the agent's activities will be financed by the U. S. rather than by the Germans does not alter the fact that his loyalty will be toward Germany.
- B. It seems to us that an oral contract with the particular agent might be more suitable than a written one, since the latter will involve headquarters approval in each case and hence will involve more administrative machinery and consequent delay. We leave this to your discretion.
- C. The question concerning the awarding of simulated rank is also a matter for your discretion. Our main interest is in the purely financial arrangements to be worked out between the case officer and the agent and to be included, of course, in the project outline. It may well be, as you have suggested, that some kind of quasi-military rank may have psychological benefits.
- D. We agree that remuneration for work performed should begin upon the agent's activation following the outbreak of hostilities.

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 (2)(B) Methods/ Sources   
 (2)(G) Foreign Relations  Declassified and Approved for Release  
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Since, however, the critical period involved in retaining him against the blandishments of the German Army is prior to the outbreak of hostilities, we favor your plan for putting the agent on "reserve" status during the waiting period. Your suggestion of 5 per cent of the actual salary after activation appears as good a basis as any. The fact that the agent is already receiving token payments may serve to keep him more actively interested during the dull period prior to activation.

3. We are sending you a separate dispatch covering NYRA 6198.

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