

EE/4

SECRET

22 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: EE/Plans
SUBJECT: Conversation with Prof. Bergstrom

1. I have requested Prof. Bergstrom to prepare for us an analytical survey of the political, economic and sociological conditions in Central Asia and the Caucasus, with particular emphasis on the type of psychological war/are approach that should be made to the Moslems inside and outside of the USSR.

2. During the course of the conversation, it became apparent that Prof. Bergstrom is personally acquainted with many individuals who have considerable knowledge on the Caucasus and Central Asia. Most of these individuals are still in Germany, although a few of them have emigrated to the U.S. Inasmuch as some of them may be of considerable use to us at a later date, I have also requested Prof. Bergstrom to prepare a list of these individuals, including a brief biographical sketch of each.

3. In talking with Prof. Bergstrom, it occurred to me that perhaps it would be a good idea to request him to prepare for us a series of booklets, similar to the ones used by the Armed Forces during the last war, describing the people, customs, conditions, etc., within those ethnic areas of the USSR where our troops may be fighting. Since very few people know anything about the Caucasus and Central Asia, and Prof. Bergstrom appears to possess unlimited knowledge of these two strategic areas, it may be advisable for us to consider the preparation of such a booklet. This project does not have to be undertaken now and will not require the use of classified material. Prof. Bergstrom thinks he can prepare the first booklet within one month after his return to Seattle. In this connection, it may be advisable to prepare booklets on the following areas:

- a. Northern Caucasus
- b. Trans-Caucasia
- c. Central Asia
- d. Ukraine

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4. If this idea appeals to you, we should provide Prof. Bergstrom with an outline of the subjects which he should develop. Personally, I strongly recommend that serious consideration be given to the preparation of these booklets while we still have the time. If successfully accomplished, these booklets will be extremely useful not only to us for operational purposes, but to the Air Force, which can use them to brief its air men who may be downed in these areas.

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220/126
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5. If this suggestion is accepted, EE-4 will start working on the preparation of an outline for these booklets.



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