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Briefing for Chief, SE

Jan 1952

Subject: QKBROIL Project

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 25X2H  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

a. What are the objectives for the country:

The objectives of the QKBROIL Project are:

(1) To foster and sustain the hope of liberation and will to resist Communism among the Rumanian people;

(2) To establish a clandestine underground capable, on short notice, of hampering any Soviet/satellite move against Yugoslavia, Greece, or Turkey, and of serving as a nucleus for effective wartime resistance;

(3) To undermine the Communist regime by means of covert operations including psychological and economic warfare;

(4) To obtain a covert operational support arm by developing an effective refugee political organization.

b. What are the current approved plans for the accomplishment of these objectives:

The Project, approved with a T/O of 144 staff personnel, embraces plans for:

(1) Recruitment, training and infiltration of agents for the establishment of underground nets;

(2) Expansion of the broadcast facilities in Greece to include black broadcasts to Rumania;

(3) Working with Rumanian refugee groups in an attempt to form a unified political organization; and

(4) Preparation for guerrilla warfare activity.

In the Project, Greece was designated as the operational base unless arrangements could be made with Turkey or Yugoslavia. It is now planned to base QKBROIL field headquarters in Istanbul. Air drops and PW for 1952 operations will be staged from Greece, and agent training will be accomplished in Germany. Authority to base these operations in Turkey has been requested.

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c. What past and current operations have been or are now mounted to carry out these plans:

(1) Recruiting. The senior operations officer is presently surveying refugee personnel in Europe for spotters and agent material. In addition, a contract agent, doctor, is on duty with ZRELOPE and has initiated recruitment and assessment of potential personnel under Labor Assessment cover.

(2) Guard Company. Establishment of a Rumanian Guard Company to be used as an agent pool has been approved. A Rumanian-speaking Captain and enlisted man are in process of being cleared as CO and NCO. If policy is that agents for current operations cannot be removed from the Guard Company and that this company can be used only as a follow-up force in the event of a hot war situation, it may be advisable to postpone establishment of a QKEROIL Guard Company in Germany.

(3) Training. Three members of the QKEROIL training staff are on duty in Germany, gaining experience in agent paramilitary training procedures prior to arrival of Rumanian agents candidates.

(4) Propaganda Staff. The nucleus of the propaganda staff has been selected and cleared. The chief and assistant have prepared the initial leaflet and possible themes for succeeding leaflets. A symbol to be used on printed matter has been designed. A member of the QKEROIL staff and the three members of the broadcast staff are available for dispatch to Athens as soon as cover can be arranged.

(5) Refugee Political Organization. There has been no single refugee organization representing the Rumanian people since November 1950. In Feb-Mar 1951, a mission was sent to King Michael in Italy inviting him to the United States to assist in uniting the two major refugee groups. The King specified conditions which were unacceptable to OPC and the invitation was cancelled. Continuing efforts to unite Visoianu's Rumanian National Committee and Radescu's Association have been unsuccessful. Col. Yatsevitch is scheduled to go to England in March to try once again to obtain the King's cooperation in settling the refugee unification problem.

d. In general, what is the operations plan for the immediate future:

Recruiting, assessing, and clearing of agent personnel has begun. In recruiting and selecting agents for 1952 operations, the aim will be to obtain a few high level, intelligent personnel rather than a large number of low-level "peasant" types. As presently planned, the first operation will be a three-man team, including a W/T operator, to be followed by other body drops as the situation permits. The proposed operational schedule is as follows:

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Training - June-July

First broadcast - 1 June (15 minutes daily from this date)

First leaflet - c. 15 July

First team drop - August

Second team drop - September

Resupply drop - September

e. As of the present time, to accomplish present operations, what staff personnel at Headquarters and in the Field are committed to these specific country operations:

Assigned to and present in Headquarters:

- [ ] - Branch Chief
- [ ] - Intelligence/Operations Officer

TDX at Headquarters, assigned Overseas T/O:

- [ ] - Operations and Training Officer
- [ ] - Intelligence and PW Officer
- [ ] - Instructor
- [ ] - Asst Intelligence Officer
- [ ] - Asst Operations Officer
- [ ] - Finance Officer

In Process [ ]

- [ ] - Administrative (Ops) Officer

On Duty in Europe:

- [ ] - Asst Operations Officer, ETA Istanbul 11 Feb. 52
- [ ] - Senior Operations Officer, ETA Istanbul 14 Feb.
- [ ] - German Training Station

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[ ] - German Training Station

[ ] Cosmo, Athens

[ ] - Cosmo, Athens

[ ] - Cosmo, Athens

In Process: Six

f. What agent personnel are committed. This is all-inclusive regardless of where the personnel are located if they are administratively a part of this Division:

[ ] - W/T instructor on duty in Germany

Brutus Coste - Chief Broadcast Staff, scheduled for Greece

Titu Pogonaru - PW Staff, scheduled for Greece

Constance Coste - PW Staff, scheduled for Greece

Rica Georgescu and Mircea Innitiu - Covert Consultants in U.S.

[ ] - Training in Wash., scheduled for Germany

[ ] - Interpreter in training, scheduled for training staff, Germany

g. How much money has been budgeted to the country, generally broken down by type of activity:

Approved Budget for Fiscal Year 1952:

Salaries \$603,000

Equipment [ ]

Holding Areas, safehouses  
and remuneration for 500  
OW personnel [ ]

Total Approved Budget [ ]

h. What is the extent of the approved plan:

The Rumanian Project was approved by the Consultant Board on 2 August 1951. This Board includes representatives from the Departments of State and Defense. Sub-projects have not been submitted.

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i. What is the relationship with refugee organizations:

Although the NCFE has supported the Association, QKBROIL has taken the position that neither the Rumanian National Committee nor the Association of Free Rumanians as presently constituted is acceptable for our use. Our continuous efforts to effect unification have been unavailing.

j. With whom in other U. S. agencies does the Branch Chief have liaison:

[ ] and members of the Plans Section contact Mr. Dolbeare of the NCFE, and Mr. Berry and Mr. Campbell of the State Department. The Branch has contacted Mr. Devins of the State Department with reference to cover for one of our agents.

k. What liaison is carried on with any other foreign service:

The QKBROIL Project is not linked with any foreign service. [ ] has had discussions with the British on matters relative to King Michael, but no operational details have been exchanged.

l. What important or unusual commitments to other U. S. agencies, foreign groups or committees have been made:

QKBROIL has no commitments to other agencies and has made clear to the NCFE and the Rumanian refugees that no commitment would be made to either refugee group unless some type of unification is achieved.

m. What problems affect the successful outcome of this mission:

Administratively, one of the biggest problems is the length of time involved in obtaining clearances for staff and agent personnel. If clearances for the operational agent personnel take three to four months, recruiting and training will be delayed beyond the time operations should start.

In connection with the refugee problem, NCFE's open support of the Association has made it extremely difficult for us to convince the refugees that unification is the only way to obtain American backing. NCFE's partisanship has widened the breach between the two groups and has done nothing to alleviate the personal differences that existed prior to the break and that have developed since then. This has also affected the attitude of the King toward us. To date, it has been our position that neither refugee group will be selected to the exclusion of the other, as both groups have assets which could be useful to us. As neither the RNC or the Association appears willing to initiate conciliatory action, the onus falls on us, if we desire a united refugee front organization. There are, therefore, two courses of action open to us. The first and preferable course appears to be the following:

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- a. Propose to the RNC and the Association that two members from each organization form a council, under the King, which would operate as an advisory and front organization for our operations.
- b. Reopen discussions as soon as possible with the King. This should be carried out by an American who would point out some of the reasons for our not accepting either the RNC or the Association and again invite the King to the U. S. for discussion.
- c. Designate an American cut-out to handle this Council on a full-time basis. Candidate for this position is   who is presently being cleared.
- d. Inform NCFE of this plan and require it to deal equitably with both groups, displaying partiality to neither.

An alternative measure would be the formation by OPC of a third organization as outlined below:

- a. Request selected refugees to form a Council of Liberation, which will have as its raison d'etre the liberation of Rumania through OPC covert methods.
- b. Commission an American to lay the details of this council, our reasons for forming it, and general information on our operations before the King, and urge him to support our plans and to come to the United States for further discussion.
- c. Control and guide the creation of the Council and its subsequent career through a permanent American cut-out from OPC.
- d. Inform NCFE of our plan and of how it can assist in carrying it out.

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