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11 October 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR/7

SUBJECT : Hot War Plans in Relation
to North Caucasians

1. I received a letter from NOSTRIL on 31 August 1956, outlining his views concerning the spotting and recruitment of individuals to participate in hot war cadres.

2. Subject stated that most of his compatriotes (Circassians) in the United States were of low education because their studies had been interrupted by World War II and that they tended to maintain poor security because they talk too much. He implied that their love for "talk" was a national characteristic. Subject mentioned as a sort of aside that there were a few well educated Circassians in Turkey and Germany.

3. He made the following specific recommendations:

(a) that the selection of candidates for the hot war cadre should be a careful one.

(b) that there should be an especial care in selecting North Caucasian DP's in Germany whose motivation is not always clear and who fear the future consequences of Soviet control.

(c) that anybody who is approached should be approached in an oblique way, that is, we should propose to them that we contemplate their use after the liberation of their country. Subject thinks that the emigration will go along with this fiction and that the Soviets, should they hear about it, would think that our efforts were not realistic.

(d) that it is advisable to train the candidates separately.

(1) It would make it possible to check better on their security as each one could inform on the others about any security leaks.

(2) If any one candidate became disinterested or left the program for other reasons he would not know the others.

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(e) that it is most important to stress in the interviews that we trust "this individual alone" and that he is instrumental to the success of our program. Flattery, in other words, can lose us nothing.

(f) that we should never mention agent work at the beginning of our acquaintance with a candidate. Few of these people have a "die for country" mentality because they really haven't ever heard of it. Any positive motivation on their part at present is really only a material one.

4. I recommend that some thought be given to exactly what method we intend to use in the selection and development of these cadres, and that afterwards we have another discussion among DOB case officers to iron out a firm policy. After this policy has been established, it will be wise for us to discuss with NOSTRIL the question of his providing candidates. It is imperative that we get details on the numbers of North Caucasians living in various parts of the country.

5. NOSTRIL also wanted to know whether we would be interested to pay the expense of therapy for an individual's arm, this individual being considered by NOSTRIL to be good potential for our program. This is the sort of matter that I think must be decided as we go along and not defrayed until later on or until we get a better general idea. I have noticed that the spotters tend to recommend specific candidates whom they think will pass our assessment rather than recommending many names.

6. NOSTRIL is employed as an insurance salesman and if he is to be an effective contract spotter and principle agent for North Caucasian hot war interest, it will be necessary probably to pay him a future salary so that he can get "out on the road." NOSTRIL has been fully assessed by DOB and the results of this assessment confirm my opinion as well as that of the [] Station that he is a man of high caliber and initiative. He would be useful to us not only as a spotter for hot war programs, but as a research man and as an agent trainee and handler. For these jobs he would require training. I further recommend that thought be given to Subject being hired on a full time basis for work with the SR Division and DOB.