

STAFF STUDY

1. PROBLEM: To ascertain the most advantageous operational base for the
25X1A2g [redacted] unit.

2. ASSUMPTIONS:

a. That for political reasons [redacted] will be unable to operate from
25X1A2g [redacted]

b. That the [redacted] will organize a complete unit and will operate from
25X1A6a [redacted]

c. That CHALICE will provide the technical support personnel and equip-
25X1C8a a permanent base in Western Europe or the [redacted]

d. That CHALICE will provide the technical support personnel and equip-
25X1C8a ment to man the unit.

e. That cost of establishing a base will be borne by CHALICE.

f. That [redacted] will be required to conduct prolonged staging operations
25X1A2g at whatever base is selected.

3. DISCUSSION:

Available Bases or Areas:

25X1A6a [redacted] (CAPS)

ADVANTAGES

(1) Base facilities now available, in place, and ready for use.

(2) U-2 already exposed in that area and operational procedures have
been established and tested.

(3) Best terminal weather in [redacted] on year round basis.
25X1A6a

(4) Logistics system established and functioning.

DISADVANTAGES

(1) The US Government would probably take the blame for any overflights
from this base due to our previous activity there. (This could be helped by
25X1C8a advertising fact of [redacted] acquisition and operation of U-2 aircraft).

(2) Aircraft would be operating within the Russian radar net.

25X1A6a

(3) [REDACTED] and is controlled by USAFE which would necessitate their coordination on all activities. It is felt that with this type unit and activities CHALICE should avoid involvement of USAF authority as much as possible.

25X1X7

[REDACTED]

ADVANTAGES

(1) US Government would likely escape blame for any overflights orig-

25X1X7

inating from [REDACTED]

25X1X7

(2) A base in [REDACTED] would not be within the Russian radar net.

DISADVANTAGES

(1) Any base selected would require major construction and modification

25X1C8a

prior to use by the [REDACTED] unit. (\$100,000 to \$200,000) and would require approximately 4 months from start of construction.

(2) Would require special logistic handling and procedures to support the unit which would pinpoint US interest in the unit.

(3) Would require new operational procedures to be laid on with local and area operations officials and with filter centers for radar suppression which, in turn, would considerably widen knowledge of the U-2 [REDACTED]

25X1A2g

25X1A6a

(4) A base in [REDACTED] would be within Russian radar net.

4. CONCLUSIONS:

a. That the only advantage that would accrue to the project as a result

25X1X7

of the unit being located in either [REDACTED] would be the ability to deny responsibility or knowledge of the flight if a protest is made.

b. That some disadvantage would accrue in the nature of financial outlay of some \$200,000, revamp of supply and operational procedures and some loss in security in that a greater number of people would become more

25X1A2g

25X1A6a
25X1C8a
25X1A2g

c. That [REDACTED] could be used as a temporary [REDACTED] training base and [REDACTED] staging base, pending completion of a permanent base.

25X1C8a

d. That in order to take maximum advantage of the main object in inclusion of the [REDACTED] in the U-2 program i.e. US denial of overflight respon-

25X1C8a
25X1X7

sibility, the [REDACTED] unit must conduct operations from the [REDACTED] or other non US controlled areas.

5. RECOMMENDATION:

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25X1A6a

a. That the [REDACTED] unit be permanently based at [REDACTED] for training purposes and operate from [REDACTED] or other bases that are not under US control.

25X1X7