

15 October 1948

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MEMORANDUM TO: Assistant Director, Special Operations

SUBJECT: "B" Deputy Personnel, Training and Assessment

1. With the separation of the Office of "B" Deputy from Special Operations, the matter of "B" Deputy's continued use of Training and Assessment facilities of [REDACTED] arises. It is felt that this support is essential for proper functioning of "B" Deputy Office. No where else in CIG is similar support obtainable.

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(1) General

Before sending employees into the field offices it is essential that they have basic training in Washington. These people will be engaged in a semi-overt discreet operation requiring contact with leading business personalities from day to day. They must be familiar with cover techniques, they must understand counter-intelligence problems, the operating methods of hostile counter-intelligence corps; they must have special briefing in the handling of funds, and should be well grounded in physical security problems of field offices.

Courses which give this background are now available in Special Operations Training Branch, and are already proving of great help to "B" Deputy. In the selection of men for field activities, the Assessment program is proving invaluable. "B" Deputy is being made aware of the discreetness of individuals being employed, their personality structure, their ability to meet business executives, their judgement and executive ability, and ability to solve the novel and complex problems that will be faced in the field. It is essential that these characteristics be known in order that the security and success of our field organization will be insured.

(2) Training

a. The following subjects which are presently covered in courses given by the Training Branch are beneficial to all "B" Deputy Officer personnel: Lectures on security, counter-intelligence, vetting, processing of information, political, economic, physical and technical intelligence, as well as lectures on intelligence methods of foreign countries.

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b. Field Officers should attend lectures on the following: Counter-intelligence techniques, cover, briefing, and interrogating, clandestine counter-intelligence, investigation of personalities and handling of special funds. Surveillance is another subject which is of primary interest.

c. In special cases other lectures on reporting will be of particular interest to personnel.

(3) Assessment

Assessment of all personnel is proving invaluable and it is hoped that the present arrangement will be continued in the future. The matter of assessment elsewhere in CIG has been discussed with [REDACTED] who has informed us that his organization will not be able to handle the type of assessment needed by "B" Deputy.

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"B" Deputy will have personnel operating in the field on their own responsibility and since these men will be making decisions of major importance to this organization, it is essential that these men be screened as thoroughly as possible. It is felt that the present system is admirably suited to our requirements, and in view of the lack of any similar support elsewhere in CIG, it is recommended that the present arrangement not be disturbed. From the point of view of the number of personnel to be assessed, it will not constitute a heavy burden on the Assessment Group, probably not exceeding 25 people over the period of the next three months.

2. As expressed above, it is recommended that the training and assessment support received by "B" Deputy from Special Operations be continued. The Personnel and Administration Section informs that the proper allocation of expense for such support can be made to "B" Deputy under the accounting system now being contemplated.

Assistant Director for Operations

Executive Office Registry
Central Records (2)
Return to "B" Deputy

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