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Security Information

MAR 17 1953

COVERT PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE OPERATIONS FOR EXPLOITATION OF STALIN'S DEATH

angending 1 - COVERT ANNEX - USSR

I. PURPOSE

- A. To make immediate maximum use of existing covert psychological warfare assets and facilities to exploit opportunities created by Stalin's death and thereby endeavor to:
 - 1. Impede the orderly transition of power and establishment of authority by the new Soviet regime.
 - 2. Create a psychological climate of confusion, uncertainty, suspicion and doubt within the areas under direct Soviet control.
 - 3. Intensify disaffection and passive resistance to the regime.
 - 4. Induce defection of Soviet military and government representatives stationed abroad.
 - 5. Promote conflict and division between the Soviet Union and its satellites.

II. TARGET AREA

Soviet Union and those areas of Eastern Europe and Asia where large concentration of Soviet military and civilian personnel are found.

III. TARGET GROUPS

A. Soviet Military

- 1. Soviet military personnel serving with the Soviet forces of occupation.
 - 2. Soviet military personnel on diplomatic duty abroad.
 - 3. Soviet military all ranks inside the USSR.

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B. Soviet Official Representatives

- 1. Diplomatic and official representatives stationed abroad.
- 2. TASS and similar categories of Soviet personnel stationed abroad.
 - 3. Dependents of the Soviet personnel stationed abroad.
- 4. Soviet representatives on temporary assignments to the UN and other international organizations.

C. Soviet Population Inside the USSR Borders

- 1. Great Russian ethnic group.
- 2. Non-Great Russian ethnic groups.

IV. ASSUMPTIONS

In addition to the basic assumptions listed in the PSB plan, the following assumptions should be included:

- A. It is assumed that the new Soviet leadership is acting within the framework of a comprehensive plan designed to assure the orderly transfer of power after Stalin's death.
- B. It is assumed that within the framework of such a plan, the new Soviet regime will initiate a series of provocative military, diplomatic, psychological and economic warfare measures, short of starting a general war, designed to throw off balance western efforts to interfere with or impede the consolidation of the regime's power.
- C. It is assumed that the new Soviet regime will undertake specific measures designed to test the reaction of the West to the new regime. These measures will be aimed at exacerbating the disunity of the West and preventing the formation of a united western effort against the new Soviet leadership.
- D. Finally, it is assumed that the new Soviet regime will make tactical peace overtures to the West for the purpose of exploiting the neutralist sentiment in many countries and gaining the time required for consolidation of its rule.

V. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The general strategic objectives to be served by the short range program of covert psychological operations for exploitation of Stalin's death are:

- A. To establish the Soviet Military as the patriotic guardian of tradition and protector of the people against the tyranny of the Communist Party rule.
- B. To instill within the Soviet Military the desire to seize the opportunity to liberate the peoples of the USSR, and encourage the people to incite and support the armed forces to struggle for liberation.
- C. To undermine the confidence of the Soviet peoples in the new regime by:
 - 1. Fomenting conflicts and prompting fission within the top command of the Soviet Government.
 - 2. Destroying the effectiveness of the new regime by compromise and character assassination of its key persons.
 - 3. Promoting fear, confusion and disaffection among the peoples of the USSR.
 - 4. Emphasizing that the course which the new regime is determined to follow leads to further worsening of the standard of living, new purges and a probable war.
- D. To weaken the effectiveness of the State Security apparatus by emphasizing that the day of reckoning is approaching and everything they do against the people will be held against them.
- E. To bring about defection of Soviet military and official representatives stationed abroad in order to undermine the confidence of the new regime in its officials.
- F. To encourage the peoples of the USSR to take advantage of the present situation through intensification of their anti-regime activities. Such activities should be limited to:
 - 1. Intensification of passive resistance.
 - 2. Intensification of slow-downs in production.
 - 3. Collective efforts to neutralize the informant system.

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G. To intensify deviation of the non-Russian peoples in the USSR by emphasizing the Great Russian complexion of the new regime.

VI. TASKS

In the attainment of general objectives, all existing covert assets and facilities will be exploited. Additional capabilities, whenever practicable and possible, will be developed to exploit all targets of opportunity.

Task A To establish the Soviet armed forces as the protector of the people, and to encourage them to liberate their country from the tyranny of Party rule.

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·	Task B	To undermine the confidence of the Soviet peoples in the new regime.
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	Task C	To weaken the effectiveness of the State Security apparatus.
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	Task D	To bring about defection of Soviet military and official representatives stationed abroad.
		1. Same as described under TASK A.
	Task E.	1. Same as described under TASK A. To encourage the peoples of the USSR to intensify their
		anti-regime activities.
		1. Same as described under TASK A.

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	Task F	To intensify deviation of the non-Russian peoples from the new regime.	
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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

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