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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

Termination of CA Project DTLINEN

1. Project Name: DTLINEN - Kampfgruppe gegen Unmenschlichkeit
2. Brief description of original project objectives: The DTLINEN Project included KUBARK subsidization of both the overt and covert activities of the KgU. The former was made up largely of welfare services such as advice assistance and tracing facilities for East German visitors and refugees. The latter included production of various regular, periodic and special propaganda, the distribution by mail, hand and balloon of this propaganda, and the maintenance of a distribution and informant net in the East Zone of Germany.

The project as originally approved was designed to (a) harass and weaken the Soviet Administration of East Germany and East Berlin and its German collaborators; (b) retard East German economic development; (c) promote and sustain popular anti-Communist resistance within East Germany; and (d) expose conditions within the Soviet Zone to the Western World.

3. Explanation of Reason for Termination: Numerous public charges have been made by official, political and journalistic organizations and individuals accusing the KgU of illegal, criminal, insecure and unscrupulous practices. These charges, followed by the publicized trial of Werner Heinz Stephan ( ), which although it resulted in his incarceration for slander, incidentally succeeded in discrediting the KgU as well. In addition, because of the publicity on this trial, the Principal Agent and his Deputy were so contaminated as agents of the U.S., and as politically undesirable and personally disreputable persons, that no alternative except termination of the project was possible. West German support for the continuation of the KgU was, under the circumstances, impossible to obtain. This organization, which was totally dependent upon KUBARK could not sustain itself: continued KUBARK support was not advisable because of the adverse political, operational and security factors. Termination by the end of FY 1959 was therefore recommended and approved.

4. Statement of Effectiveness:

- a. Opposition efforts against the KgU in the form of harassment and penetration activities against KgU Staff employees continued unabated until final dissolution of the group became public knowledge and, in fact, have continued beyond this point according to occasional reports.
- b. The KgU has been many times accused, and frequently falsely so, by East Zone Security Forces and news organs as the sponsoring agency of so-called "enemies of the State"

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on trial for various political crimes. In addition, the East Zone propaganda Ministry has spent considerable funds at various times exposing in durable propaganda items and show trials the criminal activities of the KgU.

c. Even during its most difficult times, the KgU continued to receive a steady, if decreasing, number of East Zone visitors and refugees, many of whom reported having read or at least having seen KgU propaganda items in the Zone.

d. On several occasions reports of the effectiveness of a specific KgU item reached us through independent sources. For example, a KgU leaflet on Walter Ulbricht and one comparing the East and West election methods apparently caused the SED a difficult time because of the effectiveness and timeliness of the arguments and facts it presented.

5. Proposed Date of Operational Termination: March 1960
6. Status of Commitments to be settled, including commitments to agents and their quitclaims: There are no formal outstanding commitments under this project.
7. Plans for the disposition of funds, material, and personnel, including statements explaining how residual assets will be used in future KUBARK operations: There are no KUBARK funds or materials to be recovered from the project. Certain tangible assets of DTLINEN (balloons and related equipment on hand at the time of the DTLINEN balloon team termination) were transferred to Project AEVIRGIL. Other tangible assets in possession of DTLINEN were sold at the best prices obtainable under liquidation circumstances and applied to the cost of Project liquidation. The basic, non-operational, files maintained by the DTLINEN organization were transferred to UPHILL and to the West German Red Cross.

No formal personnel disposal problems exist; however, problems pertaining to the activity of DTLINEN personnel while employed by DTLINEN may arise from time to time and require our attention. [redacted] who has not been able to secure satisfactory new employment, continues to be a hand-holding problem and we will continue to fulfill our moral obligation to render him whatever assistance we are able to provide in getting him settled in a new job. [redacted] and other principals have presented no problems since their formal termination. We will undoubtedly encounter ad hoc problems with arrested East German coworkers or their dependents.
8. Risks to all elements, but notably KUBARK, in terminating assets: None.
9. Estimated cost of liquidation of commitments: Project liquidation

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has been completed and no further liquidation costs are involved.

10. Estimated date of final liquidation of commitments: 2 September 1960

11. Request for funds needed in excess of current authorization, if appropriate: None.

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