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RENEWAL OF PROJECT AERODYNAMIC

Fiscal Year 1962

1. Current Objectives:

The current objectives of Project AERODYNAMIC are twofold:

- a. The encouragement in the Ukrainian SSR of new and existing anti-Soviet, anti-Communist, Ukrainian nationalist sentiments, the effects of which are considered detrimental to the Soviet regime;
- b. The gathering of intelligence on the Soviet Ukraine and the USSR as a whole to satisfy United States needs.

Accomplishment of these project objectives is undertaken principally through AECASSOWARY-1. Unilateral Agency REDSKIN operations currently are also being run under Project AERODYNAMIC. These operations supplement the AECASSOWARY-1 operations and are aimed primarily at leads which have come from the AECASSOWARY-1 spotting mechanism.

Most of the AERODYNAMIC budget is spent on CA activity, principally production and distribution of anti-Soviet and Ukrainian nationalist literature, in Ukrainian, Russian, and English. In Fiscal Year 1961 this program was continued with no basic changes from past years.

Emphasis during Fiscal Year 1961 was put on the collection of intelligence, a task for which AECASSOWARY-1 is believed suited. Four informational sources were used:

- a. Soviet Ukrainians travelling abroad,
- b. Soviet Ukrainians in the USSR,
- c. Recent emigrants from the Soviet Ukraine,
- d. Western travellers in the Ukraine, both briefed and unbriefed.

Intelligence for dissemination was obtained from all four sources.

The priority operational task of the project during the past year was the recruitment of a Soviet Ukrainian citizen as an internal reporting source. There was one clear-cut, unsuccessful attempt. Fiscal Year 1961 is viewed as a preparatory year in this endeavor, and it is hoped that preparations made will result in greater success in Fiscal Year 1962.

2. Changes:

Fiscal Year 1961 saw the activation of a program to increase the effectiveness of AECASSOWARY-1 in the intelligence gathering field. Two AECASSOWARIES were trained for three and a half months by TRD, TSD and SR Division as REDSKIN principal agents in preparation for field assignments. One, now based in Washington, has exploited AECASSOWARY-1 collaborators and political adherents in the United States and Canada. The second has been based in Frankfurt/Main, with similar responsibilities in central and western Europe. Both of these PAs have been handled directly by Agency case officers, from whom they have received direction and support. Many of the problems which have handicapped other Agency attempts to use emigre groups for PI collection have been avoided. Agency PI requirements have been levied directly on the principal agents, who have integrated these requirements into their briefings and debriefings as AECASSOWARY-1 requirements. (AECASSOWARY-1 REDSKIN travellers and other sources have been kept unwitting of the Agency-AECASSOWARY-1 relationship.) This arrangement has permitted full Agency control and the maintenance of Agency operational standards, while at the same time insulating the Agency to some extent against flaps.

In addition to the two principal agents mentioned above, five other witting and tested members of the AECASSOWARY-1 group in New York, political writers by profession, have been briefed on Agency PI requirements and debriefing techniques to make most useful to the Agency their debriefings of Ukrainian emigre travellers, recent Soviet emigrants to the United States and Canada and Soviet Ukrainian travellers in the United States and Canada.

Changes in the project currently being implemented are primarily those of emphasis. The AECASSOWARY-1 leader and principal agent is being encouraged to de-emphasize printing and publication of English-language literature in favor of more operational activity and more effective distribution of Ukrainian and Russian-language publications to Soviet Ukrainians both within and without the Ukraine. He is also trying, with Agency help, to gain acceptance of material written by his staff by mass circulation English-language periodicals read by so-called uncommitted and neutralist diplomats and foreign representatives. The most common theme of these articles is Soviet colonialism, what it has meant to the Ukraine and what it might mean to new nations which entangle themselves with the Soviets.

AECASSOWARY-1 experienced a serious loss with the recent death of AECASSOWARY-27, its foremost journalist and a man experienced in contact operations with Soviet Ukrainians abroad (Brussels, Vienna, and the United States). It is likely that he will be replaced by an AECASSOWARY-1 collaborator from Argentina who will immigrate to the United States.

AECASSOWARY-1 has had to face a gradual institutionalizing of the core of its organization. It has evolved from an <u>ad hoc</u> underground delegation to a legally incorporated publishing firm, with all of the problems in personnel

management and fringe benefits which this transformation implies. If this Agency continues to sustain the group financially, the problem will become more difficult as time goes on and the AECASSOWARY-1 veterans disappear from the scene.

3. Intelligence Production:

See "Effectiveness."

4. Effectiveness:

As a result of contacts established with Soviet citizens by Western travellers in the UkSSR, with Soviet Ukrainians travelling in the West, and by debriefing of recent immigrants to the West from the UkSSR, seventeen intelligence reports were disseminated to the intelligence community. (For a detailed assessment of the quality of information produced, see the attachment.)

The most highly evaluated PI has come from debriefings of Soviet Ukrainians in the West. Of this group, best results were obtained from recent emigrants, who had left the Ukraine permanently, as opposed to tourists and official visitors who would return to the USSR. Recent emigrants were debriefed in Europe, the United States, and Canada.

Three REDSKIN operations mounted by AECASSOWARY-1 produced PI in varying degrees. However, none of the operations achieved PI results of major importance. In judging these operations, one should take into account the operating conditions of the time, which were responsible for drastic security limitations of the operational assignments.

Contact operations in the West were carried out at two international conferences in Europe, at the Rome Olympics, at the Soviet Ukrainian Exposition in Marseilles and on several occasions in Canada. Some PI was obtained but the greater effect of these operations was possibly exchange of opinion and literature with Soviet officials. The results of such exchanges, unless they culminate in immediate defection or recruitment are, of course, difficult to measure. None of the AECASSOWARY-1 contact operations has yet resulted in defection or recruitment.

Several interesting contacts in the U.S. were made with two high-level Poles, one a general and the other a university rector with influence in Party circles. The results were inconclusive but channels for contact remain open.

The bulk of the AERODYNAMIC budget is spent on the publication and distribution of literature. AECASSOWARY-1 produces two English-language publications, <u>Prolog</u>, a sophisticated political journal, and <u>Review of the Soviet Ukrainian Press</u>, believed to be the only publication of its kind. Both of these publications are intended for the Western and uncommitted

audiences. These publications are the public product of Prolog Associate, the AECASSOWARY-1 cover mechanism, and as such offer not only cover for AECASSOWARY-1's other activities but serve also a general anti-Soviet purpose.

The mailing to the USSR of the AECASSOWARY-1 Ukrainian-language Information Bulletin and other publications, including special brochures, continued during Fiscal Year 1961 at the average rate of 3,000 pieces monthly. That this literature at least to some extent reaches its target is witnessed by several positive replies from recipients and by attacks directed against it in the Soviet press. During a one-month period more than a hundred copies of the Information Bulletin were returned to the American Embassy in Moscow, and an unspecified number to the Swiss Embassy in Moscow, with attacks against AECASSOWARY-1 and its activities. An analysis of the substance of the attacks and the coincident timing of the literature's arrival at the Western embassies led to the conclusion that the incidents were part of an RIS campaign to prevent continuation of the AECASSOWARY-1 mailing program.

5. Problems:

The principal operational problem recently encountered in Project AERODYNAMIC forays into the REDSKIN field has not been a dearth of internal agent potential within the Soviet Ukraine, but a lack of suitable emigre travellers willing to undertake an operational mission for AECASSOWARY-1. Those emigres who are closely attached and devoted to AECASSOWARY-1 cannot return to the Ukraine because of their previous anti-Soviet activities. It is difficult to persuade others in the emigration, without political awareness or strong conviction, to lend themselves to AECASSOWARY-1 operations. The solution to this problem seems to be the organization of a good and widespread spotting mechanism. This problem is more serious in the United States than in Europe. European emigres, even those with third national citizenship, seem to retain their identity as Ukrainians and maintain a greater political interest than in the United States, where assimilation is the rule.

In August 1960 a trained AECASSOWARY-1 principal agent was assigned to Frankfurt Operations Base to conduct REDSKIN operations. This assignment was accepted by Chief, Frankfurt Operations Base for a year's trial. It later became apparent that the best operational opportunities for AECASSOWARY-1 in Europe lay farther west and as a result, despite the PA's highly satisfactory personal performance, it was decided that he should be withdrawn from Germany, possibly to be placed in Western Europe. It now appears that a survey will be made in Belgium to establish whether the Ukrainian REDSKIN potential there and in the surrounding area justifies permanent assignment in Brussels of an AECASSOWARY-1 PA.

6. Liaison:

Not applicable.

7. Interagency Coordination:

None.

8. Plans:

An AERODYNAMIC operational goal for the coming year is the recruitment of one or more reporting Soviet citizens. Internal leads are available but the difficulties in exploiting them via REDSKIN travelers are great.

We shall strive for greater volume and higher quality in intelligence reporting from all sources, both inside the USSR and abroad. To realize this aim, we shall continue to press AECASSOWARY-1 in the direction of more operational involvement in the West and within the USSR. Ukrainian-language literature aimed at Soviet Ukrainians will be considered of primary importance in the literary field. It is believed that with the manpower and funds available and given the political nature of AECASSOWARY-1, a satisfactory program balance in political activity, operations and publications has been reached. All of these activities play a vital role in the over-all AECASSOWARY-1 program.

Another aim for Fiscal Year 1962 is the re-installation of an AECASSOWARY-1 principal agent in Europe. As mentioned above, it appears that this activity will be realized in Brussels. An AECASSOWARY-1 REDSKIN program operating from North America and Europe simultaneously will not only increase the AECASSOWARY-1 PI productivity, but it will provide greater flexibility in operational plans involving internal targets.

We shall continue unilateral REDSKIN operations into the Ukraine in Project AERODYNAMIC as appropriate. Under current conditions, the primary goal of these unilateral operations will be assessment of internal leads, an operational job implying a minimum of risk to the traveller. If and when the time comes for recruitment, we shall have the choice of an approach in the name of the U.S. Government or resort to AECASSOWARY-1 as a flap shield.

9. Costs:

	FISCAL YEAR 1961	FISCAL YEAR 1962
Salaries Office Rent Office Maintenance & Supplies (including \$500.00 for compulsory outside audit) Operational Entertainment Agent Travel Staff Travel Munich Field Office (salaries, cover activities, and operational expenses Information Bulletin Operational Representatives Outside the U.S. and Germany	\$ 59,500.00	\$ 59,500.00
(one representative in each of the ten countries) Contact Operations (REDSKIN In/Out, Books and Literature mailing, and Clothing Parcels to USSR)		٦
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10. Annexes:

Not applicable.