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October 11, 1961

NSI 36 CFR 1256.46 CIA

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Maxwell D. Taylor,  
Chairman, Special Group

FROM : Richard M. Davis, Chairman,  
Special Working Group

SUBJECT : Third Berlin Progress Report - September 7-October 11,  
1961

The Special Working Group of the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee on Berlin has taken the substantive decisions reported below during the period from September 6, 1961, the date of the second progress report and today, October 11, 1961.

1. Countering Soviet Exploitation of Anti-German Attitudes. The Special Working Group approved the Agency plans to develop a plausible "Strategic Plan for Germany" to be attributed to a ranking Soviet official for appropriate surfacing to persuade the satellites that Moscow will ignore the interests of Eastern Europe, if this becomes necessary in order to achieve a United Germany under Soviet domination.

2. Parasilitary Support Training. The Special Working Group approved the agency proposal to include approximately 50 former nationals of East European satellites in the program [redacted]

[redacted] The Special Group at its meeting of August 17, 1961 approved the proposal to recruit and train a limited number of East Germans for parasilitary support activities.

3. Balloon Operations. The agency reports that a review of requirements establishes that only two or four weeks would be required to initiate balloon operations after a decision to start. Consequently, the only preparatory work required at present is the establishment of a small unilateral agency facility which could if required undertake balloon operations toward East Germany to supplement black radio. No preparatory action with the three organizations in West Germany capable of ballooning will be taken. The proposal was approved. It is noted that no plans for ballooning from West Berlin are involved and that the Agency has no connections with the recently publicized activities of the SPD.

4. Free Europe Committee Group to Visit Berlin. The Special Working Group approved the proposal for a 6-hour visit to West Berlin on October 4 by a group of prominent Americans on a trip sponsored by the Free Europe Committee. Commercial air services were used for the trip from Munich to Berlin and return. The trip took place as scheduled without incident and included a visit to East Berlin.

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5. 

6. Distribution of Illustrated Magazine published in Berlin.  
Decision on the proposal to assist in the distribution to certain areas of an illustrated magazine which is planned for publication in and about Berlin was deferred, pending receipt of an up-to-date report on the status of publication plans.

cc: Mr. Johnson  
Mr. Gilpatrick ✓  
Mr. Dulles ✓

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