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3.3(h)(2)
6.2(d)

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31 OCT 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Office of Research and Development

SUBJECT : Scenario for Development of Trained Birds

1. Attached is step-by-step description of one possible scenario for the use of trained birds to perform a photographic mission in the USSR. Please ensure that the contractor designs the bird training program to fit these scenarios.

2. There are two particularly vulnerable points in the scenario--items 6c and 7b. The actual transfer of the birds from [redacted] a case officer's car (6c) must be performed in full view of at least one observation post. The birds must be trained, therefore, to tolerate transfer from the [redacted] to a closed, possibly even light-tight concealment device for transfer to an automobile. They may have to remain in this concealment until the actual release.

3. The actual launch of the birds (7b) is equally vulnerable to hostile observation, in this case by surveillants. Therefore, various launch techniques must be investigated and thoroughly tested. The launch scenario might dictate that the birds be launched from the side window of a car moving up to 50 miles per hour, from a knapsack on the back of a skier or from the lunch basket of a picnicker. We need to know, for example, whether two or more birds can be launched simultaneously from the same concealment, what speed is acceptable for a car launch if 50 mph is too fast, etc.

4. Before any birds can be shipped to Moscow they must be tested in the U.S. following a scenario as nearly identical as possible to that which will ultimately be employed. For the test scenario we suggest that an OTS/Headquarters building simulate the [redacted] that a target be selected in the [redacted] area, and that the birds be launched from a point south or west of [redacted]

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BIRD SCENARIO

1. Birds trained in US at contractor's facility.

2. Birds shipped to Moscow, ideally in late spring or early summer, by

   a. [redacted] or
   b. Driven in from [redacted] by case officer or [redacted] officer.

3. Birds released in [redacted] to

   a. Establish themselves, i.e. assert territoriality, and
   b. Orient themselves, so they will always return to loft.

4. Trainer or [redacted] officer maintains birds

   a. During time they establish territoriality,
   b. During time they orienting themselves to new surroundings, and
   c. Until there is an opportunity for deployment, maybe one week after they established and oriented, but possibly not for two months.

5. Trainer reinforces birds' training.

   a. Sand table in loft?
   b. Black and white photographs in loft?
   c. Color photographs or slides in loft?

6. Preparing for mission.

   a. Birds captured in loft by trainer.
   b. Trainer attaches cameras.
   c. Birds put in container for transport from [redacted] to case officer's car and in case officer's car to launch point.

7. Mission

   a. Bird(s) transported in car to launch point. Camera activated.

   b. Launch, from <u>moving</u> car, at point which may be up to five miles from target. Target may <u>not</u> be on straight line between launch point and [redacted]

   c. Bird flies over or actually lands on target, which will be very specific, i.e. one of several storage tanks, buildings, electrical installations, etc.

   d. Bird returns to [redacted] Trainer removes camera and film

8. If necessary, above scenario repeated, possibly with a different officer launching the bird from a slightly different point.

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SE Division is prepared to assist in the formulation and execution of the test scenario. We assume that funds are available to determine whether birds can be trained to follow this scenario and that the tests can be accomplished by March 1976. Upon completion of these tests a decision would be made as to whether the bird training program should be continued.

[redacted] 6.2(d)

SE/COPS

Attachment: as stated, h/w

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