

SPECIAL ATTENTION:

Political Advisor  
Audience Analysis  
FEP.

PRIORITY

ES  
June 28  
XIII-10551 (910)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

EXILE (1200)  
RFE (1208)  
Veto (1207)

HOW TO IMPROVE " OPERATION VETO".

SOURCE LINZ: Literary editor in his thirties, from Moravia, who defected to Austria in April 1955.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Current period.

CORRESPONDENT'S COMMENT: Fantastic as they may sound, we submit subsource's ideas to show the zeal and good will which some of the home population bring to the problems of "Operation Veto." Subsource claimed that his ideas also represented the opinion of a "larger group of artists and intellectuals" with whom he had communicated in Czechoslovakia.

Other subsource's ideas pertaining to Operation Veto were dealt with in LINZ RFE Item 4904/55.

EVALUATION COMMENT: None.

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Speaking about Operation "Veto," subsource stated that "the action of dropping leaflets lasted too long to be interesting, and tended to become monotonous.

"If the West and the Czechoslovak exile leaders consider it to be a standing operation, it should be based on disseminating newspapers rather than leaflets."

Stressing the "apparent technical possibilities" of Operation "Veto," subsource said that they could be "far more efficiently exploited for reaching a closer contact with the homeland."

"Practically," subsource said, "I don't see why even elections could not be carried out by means of the Operation, provided that the US and other Western diplomatic agencies in Czechoslovakia cooperate."

Subsource felt that the cooperation of Western diplomatic agencies would be imperative, in order to enable the home population to cast their votes, because "it is nearly impossible, at any

(Over)

rate very dangerous, to send a letter to any Western country."

Subsource's "Order of Battle" contains the following main points:

1. The Czechoslovak exile leaders should compile a list of candidates containing names and short backgrounds of suitable persons in exile as well as at home.

2. A sufficient number of these leaflets should be delivered to Czechoslovakia by balloons, with attached voting slips and directives as how to use them. The latter should briefly advise the voter to fill out the voting slips, put it in an envelope, address it to any Western diplomatic agency in Czechoslovakia, and drop it in a mailbox. ("Just think of the slogan: "Every mailbox your ballot-box.")

3. One day before the actual dropping, condensed broadcasts should inform the home population about the campaign, and urge the mailmen to fulfill their patriotic duty by a prompt delivery of the mail to given addresses.

4. The whole operation should not last longer than three or four days, in order to prevent the regime from effective counter-measures.

5. The Western diplomatic agencies should provide for a safe delivery of the mail abroad.

6. The Communists, too, should be summoned to participate in the elections.

"Should this campaign result in nothing more than in causing chaos in Communist circles, it would be a great moral help," said subsource. "People at home are tired of watching the West leave the initiative to the Communists. Let's ourselves grab the initiative, and have the Communists to do the reacting."

End