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July, 1954.

MEMORANDUM TO:-

Director of Signals,
A.M.F.

SETTING UP A VOLUNTARY INTERCEPTOR ORGANISATION
IN MALAYA

We have recently heard from GCO Singapore that the setting up of a small V.I. organisation in the Federation has reached a decisive stage. He and [redacted] have made a suggestion for overcoming one of the more difficult problems, which I would like to refer to you, and hope you can approve, so that I can inform [redacted] of our agreement with the whole project.

2. The problem is this : assuming that there are between 20 and 30 potential V.I. recruits in the Federation, it is necessary to provide an administrative link between G.C.O. in Singapore and the V.I.s, to supervise initial recruitment, instruct each V.I. personally in the technique and security aspects of his work, and thereafter to keep in touch with him sufficiently to maintain his morale and smooth out his minor worries.

3. The solution suggested is that Mr. [redacted] a Police Superintendent in charge of the Police Signals Department, should take on the work. He is eminently suited by experience and personality to do so, and the Federation Commissioner of Police has given his agreement in principle. However, it is felt that it would be asking too much of [redacted] to expect him to cope with the initial technical assessment of all candidates and to deal with all the technical questions which arise after enrolment. It is therefore further proposed that the O.C., A.M.F. detachment, should act with [redacted] in this matter. He is already accustomed to travelling around the Federation, and being an Army officer would attract much less attention and curiosity than would a Police officer.

4. The whole proposal seems to me excellent in principle, and it should give some additional, and quite useful, experience to your O.C. You may ask "will it cost anything?" : on this point, provided you otherwise agree the proposal, I suggest that I tell [redacted] that your agreement is given on the assumption that travelling in the Federation, and to and from Singapore, continues as at present to be provided by [redacted] and will not become a charge on the Australian government.

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Director, D.S.B.

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