

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

MAY 1953

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|--|--|--------------------------------------|----------|---|------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. CRYPTONYM a. Program BGCONVOY b. Project | | 2. DIVISION OR BRANCH SE/2 | | 3. COUNTRY Target Bulgaria Base Greece & Turkey | | 4. DATE ORIGINALLY APPROVED a. Program b. Project 24 Apr. 1953 | |
| 5. NAME OF CASE OFFICER C | | | | ROOM NO. 1110 "J" | EXTENSION NO. 1115 | SIGNATURE OF CASE OFFICER | |
| 6. TYPE OF PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> FI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PP <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> NO CHANGE IN CLASS. <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | |
| 7. STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> OPERATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> LIQUIDATING <input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFIED | | | | | | | |
| 8. PERSONNEL ASSIGNED | | O/S | U.S. | 9. FY ALLOTMENT | | 10. FY BUDGETS TO DATE | |
| U.S. ----- | | 16 | 8 | CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS-S | | 1953 | |
| FOREIGN NAT'L ----- | | 3 | 0 | NEXT REVIEW DATE: AUTH: HR 70-2 | | REVIEWER: C | |
| TOTAL | | 19 | 8 | 9 OCT 1978 | | | |

11. Summary

Mission and Plan: The mission of PP activities against Bulgaria is limited at the present time to use of psychological warfare assets of the Project (radio and written propaganda material) to break the Communist stranglehold on Bulgaria, to bring about the downfall of Communist officials and their followers, to keep alive the hope of eventual liberation in the minds of the Bulgarian people, and to encourage the people to resist apathetic acceptance of Communist slavery by passive resistance.

Summary: Radio Gorianin, the principal PP activity of this Branch, has for several months been operating on an emergency basis due to the discovery of various security violations, serious in nature, which require the disposal of the entire staff of indigenous employees before a reorganization with new personnel can be undertaken. It has not as yet been possible to finalize arrangements for resettlement of these employees, all of whom still remain in Athens. Programs for the past several months have been prepared by one contract agent sent to Athens two years ago as an agent handler and later transferred to PW activities and a consultant of SE Division sent out on a short-term contract as an adviser in PW matters, utilizing the services of three of the local Bulgarians already designated for disposal. One of the Americans will leave Athens on 26 June and the other on 2 August in order for them to return before the expiration of their contracts. Since for security reasons it is highly undesirable that the activity be continued with new personnel until the old staff is removed, the radio will be taken off the air some time between 1 July and 1 August. A new program, now being formulated in Headquarters, will be resumed in the fall under the supervision of a new station PW director and under the immediate direction of a staff employee - both of whom will arrive in Athens in August. Three contract agents of Bulgarian origin are being processed in Washington to work in this new operation one of whom will leave for Athens in early June.

The Bulgarian station in Istanbul was informed by Turkish Intelligence (TNSS) that the latter proposed to send into Bulgaria an infiltration team selected by Stratia Skerleff, the Istanbul representative of Dr. Georgi M. Dimitrov's Bulgarian National Committee. The Turks suggested that we might furnish propaganda material to be distributed by the team. Since all operational negotiations with Dimitrov had been suspended (see April report), **C** was directed not to participate. The team was sent in (reportedly carrying copies of Dimitrov's "Free and Independent Bulgaria" and other BNC propaganda) but the mission was completely abortive. **C** reported that none of the Team's objectives was accomplished due to refusal of their contacts to cooperate, and that the team returned within two days, having barely penetrated into Bulgaria, and that none of the propaganda material had been distributed.

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