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22 June 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR MESSRS. OFFICE

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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

SUBJECT: BGFIND - project outline.

1. Because of the great pressure of time and the necessity of having an approved project outline, I have signed the approval sheet covering the outline as submitted. You will note, however, that in so doing I specified that there should be prepared and submitted as promptly as possible a revised project outline which would take into consideration the points raised in this memorandum. The following are the points and no attempt has been made to list them in their order of importance.

(a) There should be a clearer specification of the timing of the various phases of the operation, that is the estimated period of each phase should be specified by actual dates, although it will probably be desirable to specify that these dates are tentative.

(b) It should be spelled out more clearly that at the end of each phase, we will consult with those who give us our policy guidance in the Department of State before proceeding to the next phase; and it should be clearly provided that the project will be resubmitted to the JCS at the time when we are ready to embark upon any phase which is apt to result in "shooting". We have given our undertaking to the JCS that we will do exactly this and I think that we should take care to be sufficiently forehanded with this resubmission so as to avoid being caught short by the rush of developments. It is possible that we may be able to stimulate a movement here which will proceed on its own momentum and in a manner not entirely within our control, at least as to precise timing.

(c) When we have received the full report of the current negotiations in London, a section should be added to the report reciting the nature and extent of our cooperation with the British service in this project.

(d) Reference should be made to the location of the Albanian National Committee and any subdivisions thereof.

(e) I am concerned about the amount of money which is

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estimated as necessary for this operation and more especially by the statement that the entire sum should be available for expenditure during the first six months of Fiscal 1950. I do not believe that it would be possible to spend this amount of money wisely and well on this operation within a six-month period and I do not believe that an effort should be made to do so. I should like to see a clearer statement in the project outline as to how the expenditures will be made, at approximately what rate, and subject to what home office controls.

(f) A point related to the preceding one is that I see in this project outline no indication of any intention to try to scrape up arms and ammunition from sources which would not cost us money. What I have in mind here is the possibility that one of the services might have in its possession certain captured enemy weapons and materiel which we might obtain at no or very little expense. It is not necessary for me to point out that our funds are not unlimited and that although the Albanian operation is a most important one at this time, there will be many other operations upon which we will have to spend substantial quantities of money. Let us, therefore, be constantly on the lookout for ways in which to make our funds go further, not only in this project but in others.

F.G.W.

FGW:lgw

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