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28 March 1951

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Re-Evaluation and Revision of OPC Plans Relating to Albania.

Present:

Dept. of State: Mr. Berry
Mr. Reinhardt
Mr. Campbell
Mr. Hooker

OPC: []

1. At a meeting held in Mr. Burton Berry's office, Department of State, on 23 March 1951, to discuss an OPC paper concerning a re-evaluation and revision of OPC plans relating to Albania (TS Document 54734, Series B), the following decisions were reached:

a. Future OPC activities in Albania will be conducted in accordance with the proposal contained in paragraph 13 c. of the above-mentioned document. This policy provides for an intensification and expansion of current activities to create additional assets, including a pool of several hundred trained men who could be committed as required by future political and military developments and would permit the creation of an organization which can be held in reserve without creating any further disturbance in the Albanian scene until it becomes desirable to do so. The development of covert resistance nuclei in Albania is to continue in such a manner as to create a minimum amount of disturbance within the country at the present time, and every effort is to be made to prevent violence, sabotage, and clashes with Albanian Government forces, except in defense, until a change of policy is indicated in this respect.

b. Since the activities referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph can be conducted for the next couple of months without any overt manifestation of a change in the tempo of FIEND operations, a discussion with the British of the intensification and expansion of activities will be postponed until a later date.

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For the present, we shall tell the British that plans for the immediate future provide for the conduct of operations at the current rate, with which they are familiar as a result of direct contact on the working levels, and that we are taking a census of potential assets merely to secure an appraisal of the manpower outside Albania.

2. Representatives of the Department of State were somewhat concerned that the OPC concept of an increased tempo of activities, as recommended in paragraph 13 c., quoted above, might include a program of violence and large-scale subversive activities within Albania in the immediate future. It was explained by the OPC representatives that this was not the case, and that the primary mission of the OPC agents within the country would be to develop the internal resistance organization with the utmost secrecy, and to lie low until other instructions are received. It was further explained that for the present the psychological warfare objectives would be limited to their current scope, namely, to the maintenance of the spirit of resistance and to the discrediting of the present Communist regime in the eyes of the population.

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