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SECRET**MIDDLE EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA THEATER****REPORT DIGEST
DECEMBER, 1943****I. PERSONNEL SITUATION, 31 DECEMBER, 1943**

	Army*		Navy		Marine		Total	Civilian	Grand Total
	Off.	E.M.	Off.	E.M.	Off.	E.M.			
Allotment	236	842	28	9	2	1	1,118		
Recruited	218	796	17	28	3	3	1,065		
Unobligated	18	46	11	-19	-1	-2	53		
Overseas	126	437	17	28	3	3	614	103	717

*Including 62 officers and 453 enlisted men, Operational Groups.

II. GENERAL**Advance Base at Bari, Italy**

The Chief of the Intelligence Service spent most of the month at the Advance Base, taking with him Directive 187, which clarified the relationship between Intelligence Service and Force 133 (formerly H.O.A), and which will go a long way toward a proper coordination between the two groups.

The SI Yugoslav Desk personnel have been dispatched to the Advance Base, so that they can service more efficiently the operations into Yugoslavia, particularly the infiltrations to be made during the January moon.

III. INTELLIGENCE SERVICE**A. General**

The Chief of the Istanbul Office spent some time in Cairo in further clarification of the lines of cooperation between the two offices.

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SECRET**B. SI Branch****1. Near East**

The Near East Desk has been fortified with the addition of one civilian, which will allow the chief of the Desk to make more frequent inspections of field missions.

An Army doctor has been rushed to Baghdad to attend the wife of the Prime Minister, who is suffering a severe heart attack. It is believed that this service will promote considerably our relationship with the Prime Minister.

A representative in Syria is now at his new post, and is training an assistant.

The Desk Chief is now visiting the field, and a complete report of his findings will be submitted upon his return.

A basis for post-war activity in the Near East is being established, using a complete file of American and American-controlled firms and organizations in the Middle East for possible recruiting material.

Twenty-three reports were received during this period.

2. Southeastern Europe**a. Greece****General**

An officer from the Istanbul Office reports that the Turkish secret police will allow him to open new bases in the vicinity of the Dardanelles, from which it is hoped that the whole coast of Greece, from the Turkish border west to Salonika, will be in close contact. Supplies and materials for SO men can be put in through these ports. The Turkish authorities are eager to have us start, since these same bases may be useful to them in the event that Turkey comes into the war. From one of them a complete observation of shipping going in and out of the Dardanelles can be maintained; at the present this type of information is one of the main objectives of ISLD.

General Wilson has rendered thanks to our organization for the cooperation given at the time of the evacuation of the island of Samos.

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Two men for ISLD and important secret material for SIME have been sent down by one of our boats from Cyprus.

The Chief of the Greek Desk has reported back during the month. Additional personnel for this area are very carefully vetted, in view of past experience and the information we are receiving from the field.

Missions

(1) The Communications Branch has made it possible to receive a daily report on all OSS radio contacts. The report is delivered on a 24-hour basis, and results in a daily report on our missions which includes unoccupied as well as occupied territory. A digest of a survey made on 1 December is as follows:

Number of sets.....10

Location of sets

On occupied Greek soil..... 2

Outside Greece and Egypt

Cyprus.....2

Adrianople.....1

Izmir (and missions
about to depart

from Izmir).....1

Total..... 8

After about ten weeks of listening for two missions introduced into Greece, it was decided to discontinue listening, since in all probability the missions have not succeeded in penetration.

(2) Mission to Salonika--A mission is returned, and the report is being translated.

(3) Mission to Evvia--A report has been received that two or three of our agents are being held by EAM in this territory, and they have not yet been heard from. Another agent and operator landed on 20 December and made their way to Athens, where the operator was left behind with his radio in good condition; we are trying to make contact with this operator. The agent came out of the territory on a British caique and returned to Smyrna, where he reports that conditions in Evvia are much worse than he anticipated. He hopes to return to Athens to regulate the situation, if it is possible to do so.

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(4) Mission to Mytilene--After two months of cruising through the islands, this mission has returned. The report has not yet been received, but there are indications that it will be above mere intelligence in nature and highly successful.

(5) Our most efficient and successful agent has returned from his third trip into occupied territory, where he has been carrying on negotiations with the guerrillas. In return for the intelligence which he is able to give them from Bulgarian-occupied Greece and Bulgaria itself, they have guaranteed protection of our couriers, and we have undertaken to supply them with medicine, warm clothing, and other non-military material. Ground was prepared and an American liaison officer has been dispatched with supplies and arms. The territory occupied by these guerrillas has not been developed by our Allies, and it will be of immeasurable importance in the event that Turkey comes into the war.

b. Yugoslavia

Liaison is continued with the officials of the Yugoslav Government-in-Exile, with the military headquarters, and with two representatives of the Partisan leader now in Egypt. On the basis of this and their own information, the British have advised us of their decision to withdraw their military representatives with Mihailovitch.

From the Partisan representatives, we have received copies of important resolutions passed by the Anti-Fascist Political Council at Jajce, as well as the official text of an important address by Tito before the Council. All of the information received from the organization is of great interest to Dean Landis, Chief of the American Relief Organization, in his planning for future operations.

Our chief liaison officer with Tito has returned to Cairo and is carrying on consultations with the Yugoslav Desk on political and economic information from the Partisan headquarters.

The Slovene group is now completely equipped with civilian clothes and equipment and was ready to depart for the Forward Base on 28 December. The Chief of the Diplomatic Mission for Yugoslavia is being kept informed of all our operations.

The following reports have been submitted for dissemination:

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- (1) Yugoslav People's Army of Liberation as a military and political force.
- (2) The recent and current operations of the Yugoslav People's Army of Liberation.

Material was obtained as follows:

- (1) Current Yugoslav situation.
- (2) Mission of General Donovan in Belgrade in 1940.
- (3) Basic report on Yugoslavia's position.

c. Italy/Albania

A new mission for penetration into Albania has been sent to Bari, and because of the apparent high quality of the men particular emphasis has been placed on giving them the briefing and equipment they will require. Additional personnel for this Desk has arrived in Cairo and has been transferred to Bari.

3. Labor Section

With the arrival of two new civilians to represent the Desk in Cairo, instructions have been given to recruit fifteen Greeks for a Greek labor project and as many trained Yugoslav radio operators as can be secured. These representatives have spent several days in contact with the Greek Seamen's Union in Alexandria, and a broad basis has been outlined for future cooperation through these channels.

On the basis of strong representations made by several Yugoslav contacts, the Washington Desk has been asked to explore the possibility of closer cooperation between American trade unions and the Yugoslav workers.

C. R & A BRANCH

1. General

This branch is furnishing personnel for the new American Agencies Committee under the direction of Brigadier General R. A. Osman. Among the members of the Committee are representatives from the following: Navy, JICAME, G-2, Military Attache, ATC, American Consulate, OWE, and OWI. The problem of industrial diamond smuggling is being handled

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by this committee.

USAAF has shown special interest in our Air Summaries of the Balkans, and a member of R & A has been dispatched to Algiers for consultation.

Several members of the Branch have been asked to meet with a committee evaluating recent items of economic intelligence concerning Southeastern Europe.

Work completed during the month is as follows:

- (1) Balkan and Middle East Intelligence Summaries, Numbers 6, 7, 8, and 9.
- (2) Balkan Air Intelligence Summary No. 12.
- (3) Report on general political situation in Greece.
- (4) Detailed report on two-month sea journey from Atlantic Coast to Cairo.

Work continuing is as follows: A study of the nature and extent of Russian activities in the Near East.

2. Map and Reproduction Section

Work completed by the Map and Reproduction Section is as follows:

- (1) Report on "Certain factors pertaining to methods employed and results obtained in the preparation of operational and topographical reports for the Sicilian Operations."
- (2) Reproduction of maps for the disposition of Albanian guerrillas.
- (3) Special maps on Yugoslav roads, for the Army Map Service.
- (4) Target and topographical intelligence for SI, SO, and OG.
- (5) 356 target maps for the RAF, for cross-checking purposes.
- (6) Operational maps for SO officers about to be infiltrated.

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- (7) Target reports, covering 49,000 operational and tactical targets, for use in Bari by OSS.

Work continuing:

- (1) Collation of intelligence and maintenance of Battle Order.
- (2) A complete file on Turkish airfields.
- (3) Photographic reproductions of maps secured.

D. REPORTING BOARD

A comparison of the number of reports handled during September, October, and November of 1943 is as follows:

	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
Total reports accessioned	2,000	1,985	1,933
Total OSS reports accessioned	187	353	270
Total ISLD reports accessioned	1,575	1,402	1,509

The following geographical desks have submitted the indicated number of reports:

	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
Istanbul	106	235	136
Greek Desk	47	57	78
Middle East Section	30	61	44
Albanian Section	0	0	7
Yugoslav Section	0	0	5

The drop in the number of reports handled during November is due to the raising of standards by the Reports Officer, which results in the fact that the November reports, though fewer in number, contain more real intelligence than the previous reports.

Direct liaison has been established with Major Jennings-Bramley, whose attitude indicates that we will get splendid cooperation.

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The question of Battle Order reports is still under consideration, and it is hoped that an arrangement will be evolved whereby there will be no duplication in this field of activity.

IV. STRATEGIC SERVICES OPERATIONS

A. SO Branch

1. General

In regard to OSS/SOE collaboration, weekly meetings have been continued, during which it was agreed:

- a. To trade information on OSS and SOE officers and their activities.
- b. To locate and establish four places on the Adriatic coast where supplies can be delivered to the forces of Tito, with the proper organization of staff and warehousing.
- c. That the British liaison officer in Albania should be requested to agree to the attachment of American officers to his headquarters.
- d. To arrange to receive the Yugoslav Partisan officers who will arrive for consultation.

2. Greece

The Medical Officer who was intended for Greece could not be dropped during the December moon period, but will be dropped during January as an allied liaison officer to that point. He will take with him two tons of military supplies.

Numerous attempts were made during the moon period to drop personnel and equipment into Greece, but weather conditions, either at the point of departure or at the point of reception, were too bad for the completion of the missions.

Word has been received that one of our representatives is establishing a joint Allied hospital at Lekana.

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SECRET**3. Yugoslavia**

Reports are being received constantly from the headquarters of Tito and Mihailovitch. The two staff officers assigned to Mihailovitch have just completed an extensive survey of Mihailovitch territory, and it is expected that they will report on:

- a. Strength of Mihailovitch forces.
- b. Communications.
- c. Political acceptance of Mihailovitch.
- d. Economic situation of the Mihailovitch territory.
- e. Supplies required.

4. Italy/Albania

An OSS officer dispatched to Albania to assist in the evacuation of 13 American Army nurses, 11 enlisted men, and two officers has made contact with the group and has reported that the plan for evacuating the party by sea has proved impossible. They cannot reach a point on the coast from which sea rescue could be effected, due to exhaustion and illness among the party. Every effort is now being made to evacuate them by air at the earliest possible moment.

B. MO Branch

A tentative agreement has been reached with PWE concerning future OSS participation in propaganda combat teams which are to be formed in this territory.

Subversive material and rumors were forwarded by pouch and W/T to OSS outposts.

A plan has been approved to contact Tito to secure approval for a MO mission in his territory.

New members for the MO mission have arrived in Cairo and will be dispatched shortly to reconnoiter the various territories where MO will be active.

Effective rumors directed against the Axis and satellite countries were forwarded for dissemination by OSS channels. The effectiveness of these rumors can be determined by the fact that two German fliers, departing for Crete, gave themselves up as prisoners of war,

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SECRET

indicating that they had heard "rumors" that prisoners of war were being well treated and given jobs such as driving cars, etc. Our November rumor read: "Owing to the shortage of manpower in Egypt, most German prisoners of war or deserters via Turkey are being allowed out on parole, to do such jobs as driving cars, etc."

Preparations have been completed for the launching of the Greek Service of the Black News Service to underground papers.

C. MU Branch

One officer has had to withdraw his activities on Kastelorosso, due to heavy enemy bombing. A base has been established close to Izmir, directed by an MU officer.

A base will be established at the mouth of the Dardanelles, under the command of an MU officer, for cooperation with SI, SO, and any Turkish teams which will wish to operate in this area.

The work at Bari continues, maintaining an efficient supply line to the Yugoslav Partisans.

D. OO Branch

An OO unit which has been misdirected has been contacted at Oran and Algiers, and has been shipped to Suez, where it was inspected by General Donovan at Camp Huckstep.

The unit is now in training in the Desert Camp, and efforts are being made to secure Ordnance equipment necessary for their training and combat duties. If it seems feasible, the entire unit, when trained, will be dispatched to Bari for infiltration into the Partisan area.

V. COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH

Arrangements have been made to expand Communications Station 713 to accommodate one hundred fifty men.

A new Communications School has been set up in the vicinity of Cairo.

Radio equipment has been pouched for use in sub-base stations at Istanbul and Izmir.

Messages handled during December averaged about 410 per week.

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VI. SERVICES BRANCH

Requests have been approved for an additional twenty-seven vehicles, the majority of which are to go to Bari.

Approximately four tons of supplies were obtained and shipped to Alexandria for bases in Cyprus, Izmir, and Istanbul.

A courier conduct service from Adana to Ankara is now being undertaken, and as soon as possible one will be set up from Ankara to Istanbul.

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NOVEMBER, 1943****I. PERSONNEL SITUATION, 30 NOVEMBER 1943.**

	Army*		Navy		Marine		Total	Civilian	Grand Total
	Off.	E.M.	Off.	E.M.	Off.	E.M.			
Allotment	240	842	28	9	2	1	1,122		
Recruited	154	764	25	27	3	3	976		
Unobligated	86	78	3	-18	-1	-2	146		
Overseas	115	426	15	27	3	3	589	100	689

*Including 62 officers and 453 enlisted men. Operational Groups.

II. GENERAL**A. Personnel**

General Donovan visited the Theater during the month.

Lt. Colonel John E. Toulmin was appointed Strategic Services Officer for the Theater, vice Colonel Gustav B. Guenther, relieved.

B. Advanced Base at Bari, Italy

Major Louis Huot was relieved as officer in charge of operations at Bari.

Four new officers have reported at the Advanced Base, bringing the total complement to 15 officers, 14 enlisted men, and 3 civilians.

Sixteen officers and enlisted men and seven civilians are departing for the Base. Personnel from the SI Yugoslav Desk have been sent to the Base, and it is planned also to send Captain Oliver, an expert in cryptography, who will be able to give the missions a final review on communications.

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SECRET

Conferences were held during the last week of November to establish definitely the purpose and functions of the Advanced Base for the operations of SO Branch and Force 133 (formerly known as M.O.A), as well as SI, ISLD, and PWB, and defining their relations with one another at this point.

III. INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

A. General

Advantage was taken of General Donovan's visit to fix definitely the relationship between the Cairo Office and the Istanbul Office, which will lead to a tighter cooperation between the two.

B. SI Branch

1. General

A cable desk has been established for the receipt, dissemination, and filing of SASAC cables.

Several meetings were held with the British during General Donovan's visit, to establish the fundamental position of SI as regards field agents and channels of communication. Decisions were taken which will increase the independence of SI activities.

The "Peggy" Project for Czechoslovakia was approved by General Donovan, and a Czech officer was despatched to London to discuss the project with the Minister for National Defense and to recruit personnel.

2. Near East

News of the Lebanese constitutional crisis was sent by cable, based on information from our field representatives and official sources in Cairo.

Our activities in Iraq have been hampered by bad pouch connections with Baghdad. While on a visit to Cairo, the U.S. Minister promised cooperation which should improve the situation.

Our chief representative in Iraq reported in person, to bring the situation up to date and to secure supplies.

A field representative who spent three months in

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Iran is now on his way to Iraq to study the situation.

Three representatives are making trips throughout Iran.

Due to lack of sufficient staff, coverage in Syria was incomplete.

A total of 37 reports was received, and several reports were forwarded direct to the Washington Office.

3. Southwestern Europe

a. General

Proposals from Washington regarding the reorganization of desk personnel are being considered.

The most serious problem in this section is the need for men trained in communications. No missions can be despatched and do effective work unless accompanied by communications personnel.

b. Italy/Albania

The entire staff of this section has been moved to the Forward Base.

A field team is ready for despatch, pending solution of liaison difficulties.

c. Greece

(1) Recruiting

The possible head of a mission to Corinth has been recruited--also an American-born, army-trained man who is a food expert and who will report on food conditions in Greece.

(2) Missions

Staff members of the Greek Section made an examination of the entire situation with respect to field missions and found that, with some exceptions, missions not on occupied territory have succeeded, while missions into Greece had bad luck. It is believed that additional personnel would go a long way toward remedying the situation.

A mission of four men is being prepared

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in Cairo, from whom good results are expected.

Two missions were despatched on the last of October and arrived safely in Cyprus, to be forwarded. Messages have been received from the radio operator in Cairo.

Although reports from Samos are fragmentary, it is clear that our Samos Mission was in the thick of the action during the German invasion. It has been determined that our communications supplemented the British during the critical period, and that our caiques assisted materially in evacuating key personnel and precious stores. Also, this Mission has been able to provide a report on Lt. Edward Reid, of JICAME, who was reported lost.

(3) Reports

We have considerably increased the bulk and quality of our reports during the month. Apart from individual requests of a highly secret nature which have been handled successfully, general intelligence reports of broader interest have been produced, and it is now believed that sufficient information is on hand to answer any reasonable request. As an example, when General Donovan requested a report on the Greek situation we were able to answer promptly and fully.

(4) Training

The training program has been revised, after a review of the field experience we have had to date.

d. Yugoslavia

(1) General

Dr. Tehok continues to give us his full cooperation and information on the Yugoslav Government-in-Exile.

(2) Recruiting

A Yugoslav Air Force officer was recruited and was sent to the training school.

Five 80 Yugoslav recruits have been transferred to SI and have been sent to the Forward Base.

(3) Missions

A mission consisting of several Yugoslav

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officers whom the Royal Yugoslav Army wishes us to despatch to Mihailovitch is being held up for reasons of major policy.

The two Slovene groups are now at Taranto, where they are held due to adverse weather conditions.

(4) Reports

A report on the activities of the BBC and the guerrilla groups was prepared at General Donovan's request.

A report on the significance of the political program of the Yugoslav People's Army of Liberation was submitted to R & A for PW purposes.

A report on geographic factors, population, and forces of operation in Lika was also processed.

A translation was made of the Gubrilovic program and sent to Washington with comments.

C. Map and Reproduction Section

1. Work Completed

- a. Study of the Yugoslav beaches.
- b. Amendment report on Yugoslav airfields.
- c. Target locations and road diagrams of Yugoslavia, Greece, and Albania.
- d. Survey of airfields in Thrace.

2. Work in Progress

Installation of the War Room in a new building. The Room was inspected by General Donovan during his visit.

D. R & A Branch

1. Work Completed

- a. Balkan and Middle East summaries, for the Commanding General, USAFIME.

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SECRET

- b. Eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh in the series of Air Intelligence Summaries.
- c. Operational material for SO.
- d. Certain economic targets in the Balkans for SO.
- e. Turkish communications, for G-2.
- f. Report on the Balkan front in 1915 as compared with today, for General Donovan.

2. Work in Progress

- a. Projects in collaboration with Economics Division of SOE--Balkans, supply and related problems.
- b. Preliminary work on the securing of economic intelligence for the British Civil Affairs branch officers for re-occupied territories.

E. Reporting Board

The volume of reports is steadily increasing, as indicated by the following comparison of reports handled during the months of September and October:

	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>
Istanbul Section	106	235
Greek Section	47	57
Near East Section	30	61
Totals	<u>183</u>	<u>353</u>

Close liaison has been established with an expert on Battle Order intelligence in the office of the Military Attache. This type of information was cabled to Washington, as usual.

Statistics from MID-Washington show that the "Caire Desk" material is the most valuable information supplied them by OSR. This should place the emphasis on military intelligence and overcome the tendency to over-emphasize the value of political and economic intelligence.

Arrangements have been made to send copies of

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reports to Bari which have to do with Albania and Yugoslavia. Also, copies of all OSS reports dealing with the Balkans will be forwarded to OSS-Algiers.

IV. STRATEGIC SERVICES OPERATIONS

A. Greece

After a long silence, communications have been reestablished with our liaison officer in the Andartes. His silence was occasioned by the fact that his headquarters was occupied by the Germans and the Ban forced to retire and establish new headquarters. The troop of cavalry of which he is honorary commander engaged the enemy and repulsed two hundred and fifty Germans at Panarion Magoulas. He reports that another troop is in training which he expects will be ready for action soon.

A British liaison officer in Crete has reported that the supply sortie on the night of 10 November was completed successfully. Most of the urgently needed material—arms, ammunition, leather, and foodstuffs—was supplied by OSS.

Four officers and one enlisted man have been alerted and will leave immediately for a secret airfield, from which they will depart for Greece.

The senior British officer in Greece sent a personal message to us in which he said he was "proud to have your officers and hope for more." In the same message, he advised that seven American had joined his forces and that he hoped they would volunteer for OSS duties while awaiting their evacuation.

B. Yugoslavia

1. Mihailovitch Mission

Throughout the month regular cable reports were received from our officers assigned to this Mission, giving the following:

- a. Battle Order information.
- b. Targets successfully bombed.
- c. Recommendations for additional targets.

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SECRET

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SECRET

SECRET

d. Political information regarding:

- (1) Difficulties between Mihailovitch and the Partisans.
- (2) Suggested cooperation with the forces of Nedic.
- (3) Difficulties of the British, due to the small volume of supplies dropped.
- (4) Suggestions for coordination of Mihailovitch's activity with overall political plans.
- (5) Recommendations for means of effective collaboration.

e. Location of possible airfields.

f. Detailed recommendations as to the proper means of enlisting the full support of Mihailovitch against Nazi forces in the area.

These officers are now making an extensive tour throughout the Mihailovitch-held territory. They report that although the going is fairly rough, with many Germans to evade, they are having a very cordial reception and are obtaining much vital information which will enable them to give a complete report on Mihailovitch strength, upon the completion of their trip.

They also report that Mihailovitch had fires lit throughout Serbia in honor of Thanksgiving.

(For a digest of W/T messages received from Mihailovitch headquarters during the month, please see Appendix "A.")

2. Tito Mission

A detailed report was despatched, written by the British chief of mission, Brigadier Maclean, which corroborated the report from our liaison officer which was delivered in October. These reports have been influential in shaping general policy in Yugoslavia.

The officer responsible for supplying the Partisans submitted a detailed written report and engaged

SECRET

SECRET

in useful discussions of past and proposed operations with officers of OSS and M.O.A. In his report, the officer stated that OSS had made the following accomplishments:

- a. Vital reconnaissance work on the Dalmatian coast.
- b. Gained control of all the ships in the Yugoslav Fleet by the North African Shipping Board.
- c. Attended to the legion details connected with operating a fleet in dangerous waters, without any outside assistance.
- d. Located the minefields and entered them on naval charts; gave the Captains their sailing orders; established safety lanes and coordinated the operations with those of the Royal Navy.
- e. Had responsibility for establishing the advanced base for M.T.B.'s on the Dalmatian coast.
- f. Had responsibility for all loading and transport operations in the port, for the maintenance of the ships, their fueling and repair, provisioning and watering; and assumed all financial responsibilities that were necessary in connection with the operation of the fleet.
- g. Had responsibility for obtaining from various sources, including the Army and Navy and ANCOF, some two thousand tons of food and clothes and weapons and fuel.
- h. Had responsibility for delivering to the Partisans more than one thousand tons of vitally needed supplies within a fortnight, and kept the M.T.B.'s at their advanced base fully fueled at all times.
- i. Had responsibility for obtaining thousands of tons of vitally needed supplies for immediate delivery from the Captured Enemy Weapon Executive Commission; and obtained G-3's authority to draw fifty 2½-ton trucks.

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An officer who made contact with the Partisan naval staff at Hvar reports that the attitude of the Partisan staff has immensely improved since the arrival of these much-needed supplies by sea.

One of our naval officers is now established at the island of Vis, to act as an observer and to coordinate shipping and supply problems for future supply shipments to Tito headquarters.

(For a digest of W/T messages received from Tito headquarters during the month, please see Appendix "B.")

V. SERVICES BRANCH

A. Personnel

Theater Commander approval has been received for the despatch of the following:

Officers	24
Enlisted Men	111
Civilians	17
Total	152

New arrivals for duty in this theater are as follows:

Officers	30
Enlisted Men	23
Civilians	7
Total	60

To date there has been a total of 444 persons authorized for despatch to this Theater who have not yet arrived.

B. Equipment

An OSS warehouse has been established at Bari, and approximately 390 tons have been sent, of which ten tons have already been delivered by air. The immediate needs of the Base have been taken care of.

Headquarters in Cairo has been moved to a new location, one block from the USAFIME headquarters, leaving R & A, MO, and MU at the old location. The additional space will improve the efficiency of the organization. The old headquarters will be used for interrogation of refugees and for business with U.P.

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VI. SCHOOLS AND TRAINING

Conferences with the SI Greek Desk have made possible a few reforms in the training system during the month.

Toward the end of the month, a long step forward was taken in training agents, and it is planned that training will now be in close imitation of the life the agent will lead when actually on post.

The school will be moved to the neighborhood of Cairo.

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SECRET**APPENDIX "A"****DIGEST OF W/T MESSAGES
RECEIVED FROM
MIHAILOVITCH HEADQUARTERS
NOVEMBER, 1943**

5 November--Report on an attempt to have Mihailovitch negotiate with Partisans for a temporary truce.

7 November--Request for aircraft, and report on areas to be visited on inspection trip to collect information on strength and the types of weapons, communications, and medical supplies needed.

9 November--Report on an attack on Sokolac abandoned due to Partisan interference.

Report on enemy Order of Battle.

10 November--Report on counter-attack on Partisan forces at Visegrad (unconfirmed).

Report on Order of Battle.

11 November--(from British liaison officer) Mihailovitch officer, Djuric, states that he has received general mobilization orders for action against Partisans but is reluctant to comply, as he believes this will play into Axis hands.

12 November--Report on Sokolac confirmed, but opposition is Nazi and Ustashi.

Report on attack on 500 SS troops at Visegrad. Mihailovitch reports that he has given his troops in that area strong orders not to attack Partisans.

Report on very private conversation of Mihailovitch, in which he expressed distrust of the British, due to their constant failure to keep sortie programs. Mihailovitch emphasized the following points:

1. The country entered the war on the British guarantee of the restoration of status quo.
2. The country has territorial aspirations beyond 1941 frontiers.
3. The king is the only cementing element in a country so diversified as to race, creed, and language.

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4. The Central National Committee is a true representative of the people.

The officer stresses the fact that until the political situation is clarified we can expect very little action from Mihailovitch forces.

11 November—Report on damage done by inaccurate BBC broadcasts.

15 November—Report on a Mihailovitch representative who is on his way to contact the Eighth Army in Italy, to explain the internal situation and to remove present misunderstandings. It is thought by the officer that this may be an attempt to play Eisenhower against the Commanding General, Middle East.

17 November—Djuric again informs officer that Mihailovitch has ordered an attack on the Partisans, in cooperation with the Nedic government. This order has not been disclosed to the troops and Djuric states that his men will not fight against the Partisans. He himself, contrary to Mihailovitch's orders, is in contact with local Partisans. Djuric proposes that the Yugoslav government send a well-known Serbian soldier or statesman, who would be capable of uniting the Mihailovitch and Partisan forces in a single group against the Nazis, the agreement to be purely military, and political questions to be settled afterward.

18 November—(from British liaison officer) Report on instability of Musselman elements in Yugoslavia.

Battle Order information.

No further sign of action against Partisans, and report on the anxiety of Mihailovitch officers who wish to cooperate with Partisans but are forbidden to do so by Mihailovitch.

22 November—Recommendations as to mode of action to secure Mihailovitch cooperation, as it is believed that Mihailovitch is planning a large-scale action against Partisans.

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APPENDIX "B"**DIGEST OF W/T MESSAGES
RECEIVED FROM
TITO HEADQUARTERS
NOVEMBER, 1943****SECRET**

1 November—Order for arms and ammunition, clothing, medical supplies, fuel oil.

2 November—Report on adverse opinion of Partisan Forces on the news that Roosevelt has given the Yugoslav Government four Liberator bombers.

Attitude of the Partisans toward American officers infinitely improved since the arrival of shipments from Bari.

9 November—Request for aerial cooperation in Partisan attacks, based on the report that Nis was bombed on 20 October.

10 November—Battle Order information.

12 November—(from British liaison officer) Report of serious situation on the coast, due to enemy activity. Request for air attack on Nazi coastal targets.

15 November—(from British liaison officer) Report of the arrival of a Dornier 17 at Airfield Glance, carrying seven men from Zagreb.

Suggesting conferences with the British forces on an operation plan to open up a road from the coast to Partisan Headquarters.

16 November—Further details on proposed conferences.

Report on post-enemy activity on the coast. Consider a strong enemy attack on the islands unlikely, due to lack of shipping. Believes the attack will come by land along the coast. Arrangements made for the 9th Partisan Division to attack the Nazis and keep the supply route open.

21 November—Report on meeting four American aviators forced down after the Ploesti raid, and their despatch to Partisan Headquarters.

Report of successful arrival, three SI men.

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2476

**MIDDLE EAST THEATER
REPORT DIGEST, OCTOBER 1943**

I. PERSONNEL SITUATION

	Army*		Navy		Marine		Civilian	Total
	Off.	E.M.	Off.	E.M.	Off.	E.M.		
Allotment	229	771	28	9	2	1		1,040
Requested	174	697	17	26	1	3		918
Unobligated	55	14	11	-17	1	-2		122
Actually Overseas	81	210	12	26	1	3	45	380

*This Army allotment figure includes 62 officers and 453 enlisted men of the Operational Groups assigned to this theater.

II. INTELLIGENCE SERVICES--SI BRANCH**A. General**

Chief: Lt. Commander T. E. McBaine

The Commanding General, USAFINE, has appointed a Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence. The following organizations will be under his supervision: G-2, JICAME, and OSS. The Deputy Director of Intelligence, Lt. Colonel Lada-Mocaraki, was designated to accompany the Commanding General in the interest of establishing a forward SI base in Italy. It is understood that satisfactory progress has been made and that suitable quarters have been secured. Arrangements have been made to despatch fourteen officers and enlisted men and radio and other equipment at the end of the month. Major Arnoldy and Mr. McAdoo of the Intelligence Section will be in this party. Another flight is contemplated within the next week or ten days, at which time Lt. Commander McBaine will return.

B. Middle East

The Chief of this Desk has recuperated from a recent

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illness in Beirut and has been ordered to Washington, 13 October.

An inspection trip was made to Palestine, where field reports and sub-agent networks were examined. The progress has been impressive, as is indicated by the following list of regular sources of information:

Syria and Lebanon	- 98
Palestine and Transjordan	- 24
Iraq	- 97
Iran	- 16
Saudi Arabia	- 6
Total	241

Representatives from Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan have reported at Cairo Headquarters, and the Iraq representative received a car for service in his area.

There were forty-six reports received during the month.

C. Southeastern Europe

1. Greece

a. General

Arrangements have been made with the Greek Intelligence Services for OSS to interview all Greek refugees coming to Cairo, and it is hoped that useful information will be received.

b. Recruiting

Of the six radio operators promised by the Greek Intelligence Services, three are in training and the balance are due to arrive. Ten operators now undergoing special training with the Greeks have been requested, as they are urgently needed for missions already planned or in contemplation.

A Greek lieutenant has been recruited and sent to the training area. He will serve as an agent on the Salonika Mission.

The number of missions that can be undertaken

SECRET

- 3 -

SECRET

in this area depends entirely on the number of W/T operators that can be recruited and trained.

e. Missions

Samos—There are indications from the British that this island will be held and, if so, arrangements are completed for a house, an office, and harbor space in the harbor of Vathy. In addition, a house in Tigani has been secured.

If this forward base can be established, it is contemplated to remove the majority of our personnel from Turkey to Samos.

Pirana—This mission is prepared to leave Samos for its final destination within the next few days.

Nytilina—The personnel for this mission has been cruising about among the islands, sending back valuable information. The unsettled condition due to the attack on Leros has made it impossible to establish the base.

Cyprus—In the event that the Samos base can be established, the Cyprus Mission will move to Samos.

Salonika—This mission is en route.

Three missions trained and ready for departure to destination should leave within the first week of November.

The following new missions have been discussed with the British ISLD, as proposed by this office:

Siderokastro—Agent in training.

Flerina—Candidate to be recruited.

Yolo—Candidate recruited but not yet interviewed.

Corinth—Candidate has been suggested.

Cytherea—Good candidate in sight.

Patras—In spite of the fact that the British have already covered this area, it seems worth while to send an agent.

SECRET

- 4 -

SECRET

Kastellario—Permission has been secured from the British to set up a post at this point. However, things are so unsettled in the Islands that it is not feasible to proceed immediately.

2. Yugoslavia

a. General

Six of the Slovene prisoners have been trained and sent to the forward base for infiltration in the Tito forces. Word has been received from Tito that the group will be received immediately, in spite of the fact that they have requested supplies before any additional Allied personnel. Other Slovene prisoners are in training and will be introduced as soon as the political situation has been clarified.

Extensive conversations have taken place between this office and Dr. Tsek, who has definitely refused a position in the Yugoslav Government-in-Exile. He is keeping the Branch informed on Yugoslavian political circles, with particular reference to the changes in the Yugoslavian cabinet.

Interviews have been held with Colonel Putnik, Chief of the Yugoslavian Mission in Italy; Lt. Plechash, Yugoslavian Royal Air Force, through whom we met Colonel Putnik.

b. Italian/Albanian Section

Two recruits have been secured locally and three are en route from the United States to carry on work in this area.

A report from Istanbul indicates that the Chief of our Istanbul Mission and members of his staff have established liaison with trusted Albanians, and that the area may be a fertile field for Albanian recruits.

Every attempt will be made to infiltrate the first agent during the November moon period.

INTELLIGENCE SERVICES--MAP AND REPRODUCTION SECTION

Liaison has been established with the United States

SECRET

- 5 -

SECRET

Survey Officer, MI(T) and AAIPU/OSQ/MB. It is believed that these units will be very useful to the office.

Twelve maps of Rhodes and several target studies have been prepared.

Installation has been made of maps on the boards for the "war room," and arrangements have been made with the Signal Corps for microfilm intelligence for the reports officer.

INTELLIGENCE SERVICES--R & A BRANCH

Chief: Lt. J. I. B. McCulloch

The arrival of additional personnel has permitted this office to bring the library files up to date and to sub-classify all pictures, geographically and functionally. Map files are now in order and map shelves have been constructed to hold the map collection received from Washington.

The following reports have been completed:

- 1.) Yugoslav Mining and Transportation, for Major Stepanovich.
- 2.) Greek Food Distribution, for the MEW.
- 3.) Analysis of Classified and Published Material on Greek Roads.
- 4.) Analysis of Greek Quartz Capacities.
- 5.) Report on Captured Enemy Equipment, by OSS and FEA.
- 6.) Balkan and Middle East Intelligence Summary, for Major General Royce.
- 7.) Balkan Civil Affairs Study, for Mr. Landis, Area Administrator, FEA.
- 8.) Joint Intelligence Study with OWI.
- 9.) Study of the Russian Community in Cairo, requested from Washington.
- 10.) Preparation of Economic and Industrial Questionnaires for Use in Interrogating Officers.
- 11.) Balkan Air Intelligence Summary No. 7, in progress.

SECRET

- 6 -

SECRET**INTELLIGENCE SERVICES-- REPORTING BOARD**

The volume of reports is steadily increasing, and it has been necessary to send reports to Washington by pouch every day.

Battle Order information is cabled as requested by Washington.

Arrangements have been made with G-2, USAFIMS, for a criticism of the reports being furnished by OSS. Requests for specific types of information from G-2 are being solicited, so that attention can be concentrated on the type of information desired by the Military Commander in the area.

At the request of General Cheves, a weekly summary is now being prepared on all intelligence received by us other than that originated by our own representatives. It has been brought to the attention of this office that JICAME is cabling Order of Battle information to Washington through an expert who devotes his time to this activity. If they have access to everything in this office, as we understand they do, it seems unnecessary to duplicate this function. The matter is being investigated by the Branch.

III. STRATEGIC SERVICES OPERATIONS

Chief: Lt. Colonel Paul West, Deputy Director

A. Mihailovich Mission

The senior officer, accredited to Mihailovich Headquarters, arrived safely on the night of 24 September, bearing messages from General Donovan, General Sir Maitland-Wilson, and King Peter II of Yugoslavia. Considerable equipment was lost on landing, due to the breaking of containers, which equipment will be replaced as soon as possible.

A usable airdrome at Berane was reported ready on 8 October, capable of receiving at night Lockheeds, Blenheims, Savoias and, possibly, DC-3's.

SECRET

- 7 -

SECRET

Much valuable information has been received concerning the activities of Mihailovich and the distribution of his and enemy troops.

An additional OSS officer was dropped during the October moon period.

B. Tito Mission

An airfield at Glamoc in Partisan-held Yugoslavia has been reported. With a little work, this field may be made suitable to receive all types of aircraft. Work is in progress.

A comprehensive report has been made by an OSS officer, probably the first American or British officer who has spent time with the Partisan forces and returned to tell the tale. (He has returned to America to make a personal report to the interested agencies.)

(For a digest of this officer's report, see Appendix A, attached.)

C. Feather 3 Mission

An operation into Greece to pick up fourteen American fliers was successfully concluded on 24 October. At the same time, 4,800 lbs. of badly needed equipment was delivered to the Allied Mission with the Greek Andartes.

(For a digest report of this operation, see Appendix B, attached.)

Arrangements have been made to supply the Partisan group with approximately 1,000 tons of British and American supplies per week by a fleet of approximately twenty-seven ships, which will run the Nazi blockade on the islands.

The advanced base has been set up for operations from Bari, and personnel of twenty-two men has been assembled.

D. Dalmatian Reconnaissance

The Chief of the SO Operations made a detailed report on his reconnaissance of the Dalmatian coast. This

SECRET

- 3 -

SECRET

is the first Allied landing in Yugoslavia. (See Appendix C.)

IV. SERVICES BRANCH

Approvals have been received from the Commanding General, USAFIME, for the transport of the following personnel:

SI	-	4
R & A	-	4
SO	-	268
MO	-	2
MU	-	2
Communications	-	23
Services	-	70
Training	-	2

The following personnel was obtained from the Theater:

SI	-	1
Services	-	2

Visits were received from Commander Halliwell and Colonel Behm of the Washington office, who were making an inspection of the area.

Warehouses have been assigned to this organization, and cargoes totalling 200 tons have arrived. A Registry has been established, with Mr. Huntington Bliss as Registry Officer.

SECRET

- 9 -

SECRET**APPENDIX A****Digest of "Preliminary Report on a Visit to the
National Army of Liberation, Yugoslavia"**

These observations were formed as a result of personal contact with the National Army of Liberation during the period 17 September 1943 - 27 October 1943.

The Partisan movement is of far greater military and political importance than is commonly realized in the outside world. In the face of opposition from Germans, Italians, Ustasha, and Chetniks, a free community of Partisans has been formed, entirely encircled by enemy forces, composed of Mohammedans, Christians, Serbs, Croats, and other members of the Yugoslav Communist Party. In spite of this mixture of political and religious belief, free expression of opinion is allowed, but strict military discipline is maintained at all times.

When the initial resistance against the Axis collapsed, a few small groups remained belligerent and, favored by geographic conditions, have been able to maintain a resistance throughout the German and Italian occupation. While the Communist Party was strong in the recruiting of additional elements of resistance, Communist principles do not dominate the resistance group.

This observer has often been embarrassed by the enthusiastic reception which he has received by the Partisan forces, and is struck by the implicit faith of these people in the United States. This welcome and confidence stem from the fact that there is hardly a village in the area that has not a member living in America.

It is the observer's belief that the Partisan forces comprising the divergent groups and dedicated entirely to the fight against the Axis forces from the beginning can become the nucleus of a new state, in which divergent beliefs, both religious and political, can live side by side.

The other groups of resistance in Yugoslavia have not fought steadfastly against the occupying forces.

The Ustasha are terrorists, controlled and incited

SECRET

- 10 -

SECRET

by the Croatian puppet state Gestapo, and have been responsible for the slaughter of a large number of Serbians.

The Domobranci are the conscripted soldiers of the Croatian puppet state and have never fought effectively on either side.

The Chetniks under Colonel Mihailovich and other officers of the Yugoslavian Army have fought against the Axis, but have also fought the Partisans, due to their fear of the Communist elements in the Partisan group. Many of the Chetnik leaders have refused to attack the Partisans and some have come over to join the Partisan army. Collaboration between Chetniks and the Axis can be documented by correspondence, orders, payrolls, etc.

The Partisans represent the most potent striking force in Yugoslavia at this time, as they are more numerous and better trained and equipped than any other resistance group. Their present strength is given as about 180,000 men, in which are included eighteen divisions, garrison troops, and guards for communications.

The area controlled extends from the Montenegro-Serbian border, northwest to the Herzegovina border to western Bosnia. Other mountainous portions of Croatia, Slovenia, Slavonia, and the Pola peninsula are under their control. All of the Adriatic coast, with the exception of the principal ports such as Zara, Sibenik, Split, Makarska, Dubrovnik, and Kotar, is controlled by the Partisans.

The Germans and the Ustasha Quislings hold all of the principal cities within the area, but their control ceases a few miles from the edge of these cities.

Lines of communication have been established, so that an Allied officer or Partisan can travel almost at will throughout the length and breadth of the country from Albania to Austria, and from the Dalmatian coast to Belgrade.

The observer believes that immediate aid and supplies should be made available to the National Army of Liberation.

He lists the following operations as an indication of the military abilities of this group:

SECRET

- 11 -

SECRET

1. A planned German offensive against the Partisans in Montenegro was defeated during the first six months of 1943, although several divisions of German, Italian, Chetnik, and Ustasha troops encircled the 8,000 Partisans involved in the campaign. The Partisans broke through and established themselves in the Vrnas valley.

2. Following the Italian surrender, the Partisans occupied the port of Split, capturing a large amount of Italian equipment and recruiting 9,000 Italians for Partisan activities. Had the requested air support been supplied by the Allies, it is probable that the city could have been held.

3. The strongly garrisoned Ustasha towns of Livno and Kupres were taken by the Partisans as an incident in opening the road to remove the captured Italian equipment from Split.

SECRET

- 14 -

SECRET**APPENDIX 2****Report of "Reconnaissance of Dalmatian Coast"**

Between 12 October and 18 October 1943 Major Louis Hunt, a representative of British SIS and a representative of the Partisan Forces made two reconnaissance trips from the port of Bari to the Dalmatian Coast to establish a maritime supply line to the Partisan Forces in Yugoslavia. These trips were the first by Allied vessels to this area during the present war.

The first trip constituted a reconnaissance of the island of Vis (Lissa). Vis was free of enemy forces and was guarded by approximately one thousand soldiers, of whom at least 5% are women. Arms included captured Italian light weapons. No cannons or mortars were seen. Rigid discipline governs the relation of men and women soldiers on field duty. Morale is high despite near starvation diet, lack of proper arms and clothing and atrocities by the Italian forces until Italy's capitulation. There is no evidence of enemy intelligence activities on Vis.

The second reconnaissance touched at Vis, where the party was warmly received and presented to Hvar Island, which is held by approximately eight hundred Partisan soldiers. The party proceeded thence to Podgora on the Mainland where it was received by Colonel Pavle Ilic, formerly Vice Chief of Staff to General Tite and presently Commander, Eighth Army Corps. The journey from Hvar Island to Podgora was made down the channel between Hvar and Brač Islands. The channel had been mined by Partisans with captured Italian mines and was watched by sentinels spaced at intervals of approximately two miles on each shore.

The intelligence obtained by the reconnaissance party included the following:

1. Geographical boundaries of General Tite's Eighth Army Corps.
2. Position of Axis forces in the area.
3. German air power in the area which included 77 Stukas and 20 observation planes. The main German air strength is centered at Zagreb to be shifted where needed.
4. Dalmatian island including defenses, hiding places for ships and inter-island communication.

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MIDDLE EAST THEATRE OF OPERATIONS
OSS ACTIVITIES REPORT
SEPTEMBER 1943

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SECRET INTELLIGENCE, LT. COMDR. T.H. MC BAINE, CHIEF

GENERAL

In consultation with the JICAME and the director of OSS Middle East, a draft of the directive on the JICAME for the signature of the Commanding General was agreed upon by all parties. It is believed that the draft should be satisfactory to all concerned and will result in the maximum of good to the United States' armed forces in the Middle East.

Illness of the Deputy Director has made it impossible to make as complete a report as has been submitted hitherto.

ACTIVITIES IN THE NEAR EAST

Although the Chief of the Near East desk has been ill, a total of 36 reports from this area have been received and processed.

The problem of transportation for individuals in this area has been considered and arrangements are made to procure automobiles locally.

An inspection trip has been made by the desk chief prior to his illness covering Iraq, Iran, Bahrein Islands, regions of Saudi Arabia and Beirut. Representatives from Lebanon and Damascus have reported at the Cairo office.

ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE * GREECE

The schooner "Samotrace" has completed its first mission to Cyprus and Samos and has returned to Alexandria safely. It is found that the schooner is inadequate in size and that it should be replaced by a larger caique. It has departed again for Cyprus carrying supplies for that island and Smyrna, also an agent who hopes to open an underground route from Chalkidiki into Salonika.

Three additional caiques have been found in Cyprus - one, the Iriai, sailed with men and supplies to Turkey; two, the Eleni, is undergoing minor repairs; three, the Meris, will be held in Cyprus until the ar-

SECRET

-2-

SECRET

rival of the "Samotrace" bearing its crew.

It has been decided that Samos will be a better base than Cyprus and quarters have been engaged, a base depot in Bathi and a house in Tigani which will have radio communication.

As a result of a conference held in late September, it was decided to establish an advance base in south Italy with a representative of the Greek desk at such a base.

PERSONNEL

The Greeks have supplied us with (1) a radio operator familiar with Athens, (2) a Cretan officer to serve as a liaison guide to General Mandakas, (3) an officer from the Amphissa area who is familiar with the railroads and highways in that area, (4) an airforce private highly recommended by the Bishop of Karystias, for work in Evvia.

Five more radio operators have been requested from the Greeks.

A number of interviews treating with the present situation have been registered; Brigadier General Myers of MGA, the Bishop of Karystias, Kartalis; a delegate from the Greek underground brought out by the British, and Mr. Argyropoulos, the former Foreign Minister.

Recapitulation

In the four months of activity, the Greek desk, working under severe handicaps, has recruited a total of 40; departed for the field - 18, in training - 12, assigned to "Samotrace" - 1, disappeared (illness) - 1, requested from Greeks - 8.

Of the 18 in the field: departed for actual activity in Greece - 9 (5 separate missions), staff for maritime operations - 9.

Nine or 10 separate missions have been planned which will cover the following areas: Crete, Mytiline, Pireaus, Salonika, the Dodecanese and the district of Amphissa.

The following OSS personnel are already in the field: Izmar - 3, Adrianople - 1, Istanbul - 1, Cyprus - one.

SECRET

-3-

YUGOSLAVIA

Seven of the 10 Slovene prisoners of war have completed their parachute training and have returned to Cairo. Three new recruits have been obtained to take the place of the three who were eliminated in training.

Plans for dispatching the first party had been canceled at the last moment due to the radio operators being insufficiently trained. It is hoped to dispatch the first party during the second week of October.

Two Serbian recruits have been obtained from Yugoslavia headquarters and are in training.

The new chief for the Yugoslavia desk, Major Arnoldy, has arrived from Washington and assumed his duties.

ITALIAN/ALBANIAN DESK

The senior advisor on Albanian affairs has arrived from Washington and has placed the first recruit for training. Negotiations are under way to secure an Albanian radio broadcaster from Jerusalem. If arrangements can be made to replace him he will be recruited.

Progress is being made in assisting Albanians in Cairo to initiate proposals and plans for action, looking toward some common policy and unity of effort. It is hoped that the activities of Albanians in London, Cairo, Istanbul and Washington can thus be coordinated and assistants secured on a strictly non-partisan basis.

A study on Albanian landing fields is being made here either for parachute or emergency landings.

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH

Reports have been completed on (1) results of the Ploesti air raid, (2) Balkan Air Intelligence summary #5, (3) German chrome position in the Balkans, (4) study of Axis air dromes and air activity in the Balkans.

In progress is a report on the situation in Palestine, Syria, and Lebanon with special emphasis on the Moslem, Jewish, Christian problem in that area.

Agreements have been reached with MEW and OEW to furnish economic intelligence and other relevant material to the Civilian Affairs branch for both Greece and Yugoslavia.

A map is being prepared showing the relationship

SECRET

of sea ports to Hinterland on the mainland of Greece, with special reference to food distribution.

REPORTS RECEIVED AND DISSIMINATED

Due to the strengthening of the reports office efficiency has increased. However, a large shipment of material has been received from Washington which can only be roughly processed, which indicates the necessity for additional personnel.

A record of OSS agents and their reports has been started, also a list of all agents whose reports are being seen and processed by this office.

During the month 135 reports have been received and processed but the total would have been even greater had there been adequate personnel. There are approximately 65 reports from Istanbul waiting to be processed.

Battle Order reports have been cabled to Washington as usual.

There is great need of a draftsman for the processing of map information.

It is believed that all information other than Battle Order can be forwarded by pouch as the service is now only three days to Washington.

Ruse training in intelligence reports is going on between the various intelligence offices here, notably ISLD and OWI.

All of these reports should be channeled through Cairo to avoid duplication and confusion.

OPERATIONS SECTION, LT. COL. PAUL WEST, CHIEF

FIELD OPERATIONS

Reports from our offices at the headquarters of General Mihailovich and General Tito continue to flow in. These reports include considerable intelligence on military operations within occupied Yugoslavia, and the political situation was affected by rival claims of the two partisan leaders.

Mihailovich is the dominate military and political leader in Serbia, Sanjak and Montenegro. The United Nations should recognize this fact.

General Tito is the dominate power in Croatia and the Adriatic coast towns. His group is Russian dominated and believes in a federated Yugoslavia free

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SECRET

-5-

from the Serbian domination as was in evidence prior to the war.

These officers have both reported actual combat operations and one of them is presumed to have accompanied the British liaison officer who accepted the surrender of the Italian unit in the area.

Two officers have arrived safely in Greece and communications are expected by the end of the month.

Word has been received through British sources that these officers have been assigned for duty with a guerrilla cavalry unit in the central Pindus mountain area.

OSS/SOE DISCUSSIONS

These discussions have covered the following items: (1) participation of United States personnel in Balkan operations; (2) light aircraft for use from southern Italy, more bombers for OSS SOE operations; (3) PT boats for landing of agents; (4) decision to release the information that United States officers are now present at the headquarters of partisan leaders in Yugoslavia; (5) matter of "Cumshaw" from United States agents in the field.

SERVICES BRANCH, LT. COL. J.E. TOLMIN, CHIEF

Theater commander's approval has been received for the dispatch of the following personnel: Services-3, SI - 10, SO - 33 plus a group of 15 officers and 110 enlisted men, R&A - 4, Maritime - 3, Communications - 8, Security - 12, MO - 1.

New arrivals in the theatre: SI - 7, SO - 7, Communications - 11, Headquarters detachment - 16, Services - 1. To date there are 163 persons authorized for dispatch to this theatre who have not yet arrived.

The last load of DF equipment has arrived by air making the establishment of station KIL0 - 8 ready for installation. Approval has been secured for the following equipment: 19 cameras, 15 typewriters, 10 binoculars, 80,000 lbs. of SO material, one Jeep, 25 radios, 130 pneumatic rafts.

Appointments in this office as the result of reassignment of duty: (1) Lt. Col. Paul West, Deputy Director of operations, Vice-Major Louie C. Huot relieved, (3) 2nd Lt. George W. Wuchinich has been relieved from duty with SO and assigned with OSS Middle East.

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MIDDLE EAST THEATER REPORT
AUGUST 1943

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Secret Intelligence Lt. Commander T. H. Bane, Chief.

General

During the month two caiques have been secured as well as the schooner "Samothrace". Clearance for one or more motor torpedo boats has been secured from the British Naval Officer representing the Commander in Chief, Levant, in Cairo:

Theater Commander approval has been secured for the establishment of a base in Cyprus.

A trip of inspection of the Projected Schools was made by the Intelligence Director and the Strategic Service Officer. The first student classes were begun during the month.

Activities in the Middle East

The Assistant Chief of the Middle East desk made a trip to Syria and Lebanon to report on the political activities in that area. The following reports have been received from field representatives as follows:

- 1) Current attempts to solve the Zionist-Arab problem.
- 2) Landing of Nazi parachutists in Iraq.
- 3) Brief survey of Middle East petroleum.
- 4) Iran international conditions. (cabled)
- 5) Iranian political parties.
- 6) Communications, Iran-Meshed area.
- 7) Syria-Political.
- 8) Lebanon-Political.

Two representatives have been dispatched to the Baghdad area as well as a roving representative for Baghdad and Iran.

The chief representative of the desk in Trans-Jordan reached Cairo and left for the United States where he has an important piece of work to do which may affect the development of affairs in the Palestine area.

In addition to the reports listed there have been 23 reports received from this area.

Activities in Southeastern Europe

Our first mission, consisting of an agent and

SECRET

SECRET

radio operator, has been dispatched to the territory. The members of the four parties to go into Greece and considerable cargo were dispatched to Alexandria to be loaded on the "Samothrace" which should sail for Cyprus at the end of the month.

The objective of the first mission are as follows:

1. To obtain transportation in and out of Greece.
2. To establish an underground which will get agents from the seacoast to the Interior.
3. To obtain the necessary papers and documents needed for future operations.
4. To establish a network of information with special emphasis on targets for bombing, results of bombing raids, results from leaflets dropped, and weather information.

Interviews have been held with Exindariis, Boussos, and Despotopoulos (two of the members of the central committee for EAM now in Cairo), with Christodoulou and Vilos of the Greek airforce, with Gonnellias, officer of the Athens police, recently escaped from Greece.

The Greek Ministers of War, Marine and Air and the commanding officer of the Hellenic Information Service have signified their approval to appoint a liaison officer to their respective departments.

Dodecanese

Mr. Arvanitopoulos, vice-president of the Dodecanesean League was at first discouraging when we broached the subject of setting up an information network in the islands. Subsequently, due to the fact that the British will not allow the Dodecanese patriots to practice propaganda or to be involved in the ultimate invasion of Greece, his attitude has changed and he now wishes to cooperate with the American Service. The League offered to put at our disposal a young man recently arrived from the islands who had taken part in all organized underground activities; through him to put us in touch with their organization in the islands proper.

Recruiting

The Greek Navy has been requested to assign to us four men, two to serve on the "Samothrace", one to captain one of our caiques now in Cyprus and one to go into Greece on a mission to gather Naval and shipping intelligence in

SECRET

SECRET

Piraeus. The Greek Air Force has promised to assign to us a man as a regular Army Officer who served for several years in the information bureau at Salonika. The Greek Army has been requested, and has assigned to us, a soldier who formerly worked in the local underground organization of the Evros province.

Yugoslavia

Clearance has been secured for ten Slovene prisoners of war to be transferred to this office. These men are now in training.

Due to lack of a responsible officer, the prospective Yugoslavian recruits cannot be trained.

Italian/Albanian Section

All Albanian reports have been processed and a system devised for keeping the files up to date for future reports.

Delays and difficulty in recruiting, both locally and in other areas, are holding up projects throughout this area. Nevertheless, plans are going ahead for the penetration of the area if, and when, recruits are available and trained.

SECRET

SECRET**MIDDLE EAST THEATER REPORT****AUGUST 1943****RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH**

Efforts have been established with A-8, G-8, JICA, and the Research Division of SOE. The Branch Chief will follow up these contacts in an effort to determine what contribution R & A can make to work carried out by these units.

Cairo and Alexandria are being combed for photographs of strategic interest not hitherto rounded up. The search has revealed that while there is a fine collection of photographs of the Middle East, there is very little on the Balkans. It has been ascertained, however, that a good selection of photographs are available in other cities such as San Francisco, and Istanbul.

The British have a large selection of photos which they are willing to reproduce for us. Many of these are Admiralty pictures and, therefore, are already in the possession of Pictorial Records. The remains will be carefully combed for future needs.

The R & A Branch has assumed responsibility for some 2000 maps which will be indexed as soon as shelves are constructed to hold them.

A research is being conducted on the subject of German ball bearings at the depot of captured enemy equipment. R & A London have requested this information because they have heard that the Germans are employing a new technique in ball bearings manufacture.

A three volume study on the Dodecanese Islands was transmitted to the Chief of the Ninth Air Force, G-8.

Reports Completed.

The following reports were completed during the month.

- Balkans - Air Intelligence Summaries Nos. 1, 2, 3.
- Balkans - Contributions to the German Chrome Situation
- Floesti - Results of American Air Raid.

The following reports are in progress:

- Greece - Search for reputedly new series of maps and editing and evaluation of material for the SI desk.

SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

- Belgium - Air Intelligence Summary No. 4**
- Belgium - Projected interaction with an available manager of the Atlantic Union.**
- Middle East - Comprehensive survey of the political situation in Palestine, Syria and Lebanon.**

Cabled Intelligence

Intelligence cabled to Washington included battle order of Bulgarian, German, and Italian troops in Greece and the movement of men and war supplies to Yugoslavia and Northern Greece from other parts of Greece. Reported engagements between partisans and the enemy in Yugoslavia were cabled as was information concerning the increased bitterness of Italian troops in Greece towards their allies, the Germans. New raids in the Salonika area were reported by cable.

Intelligence Forwarded by Funk

This intelligence is suggested weekly with occasional sheets covering the material involved.

Because of the necessity for reducing the length of cables an effort is being made to send only the main text of messages having to do with battle orders. The details are sent as soon as possible by post.

SECRET

SECRET**MIDDLE EAST THEATER REPORT****AUGUST 1943****SERVICES BRANCH: LT. COL. JOHN E. TOULMIN, CHIEF**

Approval has been received from the Theater Commander for the dispatch of the following personnel, during the month:

SI	-	15
SS	-	22
Services	-	1
Training	-	10
Worktime Unit	-	18
Communications	-	2

Approval has also been secured for the transmission of 8,850 pounds of radio equipment, 18 tons of dried tomato juice.

Arrangements were made for an inspection trip to the training camp in the western desert by Colonel Guenther and other members of the OSS Mission. Negotiations are being opened with the British as to the location of maritime, parachute and additional training schools. Insofar as it is possible it is planned to have the first two conducted in conjunction with the British in order that there should be as little construction work as possible.

A promotion board has been appointed and the following members designated: Col. G. E. Guenther, President; Lt. Col. E. West, Member; Major J. H. Johnson, Recorder.

Great difficulty has been encountered in securing sufficient space for officers and for enlisted men. A temporary freeze on new billets has hampered our efforts to secure the necessary space.

A plane load of DF equipment has arrived and a second plane is expected in the near future. This material is to be used in the establishment of locator stations at Kila-S.

Delays have been encountered in receiving OSS shipments. Certain very valuable radio equipment which was destined for OSS was unidentified at the docks. G-4 has agreed to the establishment of markings for shipment of OSS property. This has been published in a memorandum, and all parties concerned advised, so that our shipments will be more easily obtained.

SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

Meetings have been held with the Hq. Motor Pool with a view to operating more efficiently our transportation section. The arrival of a technical sergeant and his assignment to our transportation section has facilitated greatly the running of GSS vehicles. The efficiency and operation of our Motor Pool will be greatly improved as our personnel arrives.

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