

SECURITY INFORMATION

**TOP SECRET**

7 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR POLICY COORDINATION

SUBJECT: British Attitude toward Propaganda Supply Drops over Albania

1. At a recent Consultants' Meeting, I mentioned the British attitude toward our suspension of propaganda supply drops over Albania. At that time you asked me to send you a brief memorandum outlining the British view as presented to me by my SIS contacts in London early in June.

2. During my talks with ( ) and ( ) both indicated that out of deference to our suggestion that they might wish to go along with our ideas on the subject, they were prepared to suspend propaganda supply drops over Albania in spite of the fact that they felt very optimistic concerning the propaganda value of such operations, had gone to considerable trouble and expense to prepare the necessary material and secure aircraft, and disagreed with our reasoning on the question. They both expressed the hope that we would change our views on the matter in the near future. ( ) explained Broadway's reasoning that not only would the suspension of operations suggest a tacit admission on our part that the Albanian charges of poisoned drops were correct, but would also amount to doing exactly what the Albanian authorities would like us to do, namely, stop the drops. He added that whether drops were being made or not, the Communist authorities were capable of and probably would announce that poisoned packages or germ laden materials were being distributed if the Communists were to feel that such propaganda would be useful. In conclusion, Broadway would like to continue the propaganda supply drops as soon as possible and would prefer to have us withdraw our suggestion to them, leaving them free to continue operations if we are hesitant about doing so ourselves.

3. A verbal message from ( ) delivered to me today expressed the hope that the American ban on article drops would soon be lifted as the British are all set to go and the R.A.F. is anxious to fly the missions.

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( )  
Deputy for Policy Coordination, SE

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