

VIA: AIR
(Specify air or sea pouch)

Dispatch No. ~~██████~~ # 1519
SGAA- 3648

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SECURITY INFORMATION
CLASSIFICATION
SECRET

APR 22 1953

To : Chief, SE

Date _____

FROM : []

SUBJECT: GENERAL- BGFIEND/PARAM
SPECIFIC- BGFIEND Monthly Survey Report, 15 March - 14 April 1953

REF: SGAA-3136, KAPOK-1422, 20 March 1953

1. Air Operations

None

2. Personnel

No change

3. Operations

a. Apple Tree Team

(1) The following W/T contacts were made with Apple during this report period:

#81	20 March	[]	131
#82	23 March	[]	171
#83	26 March	[]	202
#84	1 April	[]	266
#85	4 April	[]	299
#86	7 April	[]	313
#87	10 April	held pending Washington decision on []	386
#88	13 April	" " " " " "	" "

(2) Highlights this month's traffic are:

(a) Apple reported no significant reaction to Stalin's death and denied widespread reports that an armed uprising had broken out in Northern Albania. Furthermore, they denied reports that military law was in force. However, Apple had information from Kruje and the Mirdite area that operations had been launched against

agent teams sent

RESTRICTED TO SET/47A

Removed from Project Apple
CS Classification
JOB # 82-543/48
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agent teams sent from Yugoslavia and the team also reported border guards in the Diber area were greatly strengthened.

(b) According to Apple's information Major General Balluku and Madam Lira Belishova were members of the Albanian delegation at Stalin's funeral.

(c) Apple reports their zone of operation is quiet and have made an important issue of urging the exfiltration of AIRTIGHT as soon as possible so that he can report and return to their operating base promptly to minimize the amount of time lost during the operational season. At the time of his exfiltration AIRTIGHT intends to bring out both RNDOMINO and a friend who masquerades as a Communist.

b. Observant

Gadunce is continuing his interrogating activities.

c. Oblavate

Gaccent continues to report on activities at Lavrion.

4. OBATLANTIS

a. Construction at OBATLANTIS progressed rapidly during this period considering that a four day Easter vacation was granted all the laborers by our contractors.

b. At this writing a pier of sufficient size to receive a 40 foot vessel has been constructed, a road has been built from the pier to the site of the staff quarters and from the staff quarters to the Monastery, and the foundations for the staff quarters have been laid.

c. On 20 March we were advised by the contractors that water was not available at OBATLANTIS in sufficient quantity to mix lime for mortar and we were requested to deliver 50 cubic meters of water to the island for this purpose. Although this request for water at a late date was partially the result of the contractor's faulty foresight, there were factors mitigating their error. Among these were the fact that the water level in the area has temporarily dropped appreciably and the probability that the island's owner made exaggerated claims of the capacity of his wells to the contractors. Regardless of blame, BGFIEND agreed to deliver water in the required amount to OBATLANTIS so that construction would not be delayed. Because of the scarcity of facilities for such a project, some difficulties were encountered. That our problems were finally solved is largely due to the cooperation of Greek officials we approached for assistance.

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Negotiations with the Greek Army Engineers' School in Loutraki produced the water berthing facilities for a landing craft, water pumps and a water truck. An approach to the Mayor of Loutraki yielded the municipal water truck of his city, a landing craft with built-in water tanks was chartered in Piraeus. In addition, the Greek Army provided us with two water trucks. With this array of equipment, the seven day project of hauling water to OBATLANTIS began on 7 April. We have related this matter in some detail to give those interested in Headquarters an indication of the type of problems that are being encountered as the OBATLANTIS construction project progresses.

d. Although we have not as yet obtained delivery of our order of building materials, plumbing equipment, and electrical supplies from Germany, we are satisfied with the rate of overall progress achieved to date and continue to plan on completion of the training site sometime during the month of June.

5. Action Outstanding - Washington

- a. Provision of Lek for 1953 operations.
- b. Answer to SGAA-2448, 28 January 1953, regarding status of []
- c. Provision of radar equipment for use as cover for the OBATLANTIS. SGAW-1337 reports this equipment was estimated to arrive here on 10 April.
- d. Provision of interrogation aids requested in SGAA-2470, 31 January 1953.
- e. Authorization to mount Apple exfiltration operation as planned by BGFIEND (SATH-3354).
- f. Notification of ETA of vehicle requested in SGAA-2022. *24 Jan 53*
- g. Provision of operational clearances requested in the following dispatches:
 - (1) SGAA-1144, 30 October 1952, Riza Ibuss Xhezar
 - (2) SGAA-2363, 21 January 1953, Constantine Anthony Matsas
 - (3) SGAA-2367, 23 January 1953, Dionyssios Petropoulos
 - (4) SGAA-2365, 24 January 1953, Michael Doukakis
 - (5) SGAA-2630, 11 February 1953, Grigorios Mentis

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- (6) SGAA-2716, 19 February 1953, Stefanos Lioliomanis
- (7) SGAA-2735, 20 February 1953, Dimitrios Lianos
- (8) SGAA-3081, 16 March 1953, Llazar Piloj
- (9) SGAA-3194, 24 March 1953, Helias Aliou
- (10) SGAA-3195, 24 March 1953, Gani Malushi
- (11) SGAA-3219, 24 March 1953, Safet Malushi
- (12) SGAA-3251, 28 March 1953, John Alexopoulos.

6. Action Outstanding - Field

- a. Construction of OBATLANTIS and preparation of training schedule for 1953.
- b. Implementation of 1953 operational schedule.
- c. Establishment of []

7. As these monthly survey reports are primarily intended to keep the BGFIEND Section Chief in Washington well posted on our activities in the field and to serve as a vehicle for regularly advising him of various matters outstanding both here and at Headquarters, it is our intention to expand the section headed Action Outstanding - Washington so that you are provided with an all inclusive monthly summary of the various matters which have been referred to Washington for action, support, and/or decision. It will be understood that this list may be incomplete until we have had a little experience with this departure from our previous practice. Nonetheless, we believe it will be well worth the effort involved. It would be appreciated if you would regularly answer this section of the report following your practice in SGAW-1337.

8. In regard to the section on outstanding clearance requests, (Para 5, ~~6~~) we will regularly list all outstanding clearances submitted up to two weeks prior to the date of each report. The matter of clearances has become so involved in recent months, BGFIEND intends to prepare a dispatch on the subject in the near future outlining our position and requesting some information on the present ground rules on this issue. Your comments on this revision in our reporting would be appreciated.

21 April 1953

RPB/lgk

Distribution:

- 3 - Washington ✓
1 - Washington (Vital Documents)
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