

**SECRET**

29 December 1949

MEMORANDUM TO: COP

SUBJECT: BGFIEND

REFERENCE: Priority Cable of 23 Dec. to [ ]  
(Wash 5867)

1. On several occasions over the past four months I have raised a question with regard to the accuracy and adequacy of the BGFIEND project outline. In a staff meeting last week, ADPC also questioned whether the operational activities under this project were being adequately coordinated.
2. The activity authorized in reference cable is so involved that I particularly recommend that there be established a sub-project to cover the acquisition and operation of the vessel and the propaganda program. If there are good reasons why it is undesirable or impractical to write this up in a sub-project, it is imperative that the master project be brought up to date so that there will be no question about the authority under the project for this type of activity.
3. The only way that I know of to make sure that we have complied with CIA regulations and also exercise adequate care to prevent criticism or future liability in the acquisition of property of this magnitude is to get written approval for the transaction from the Confidential Funds Officer and the CIA Legal Counsel. On the basis of past experience and in recognition of the serious difficulty involved in straightening out matters ex post facto, I strongly recommend such action be taken by the Operations Officer.

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

[ ]  
Executive Officer

cc: CPP  
COS  
EAD

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