

26 August 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: []

I wish you would transmit to [] the following, as my initial reaction to your memorandum of 24 August:

1. We are seriously concerned over the latest developments as regard Cyrene, since denial of that base and the consequent necessity of establishing a base in non-US/UK territory would require a complete reexamination of time-tabling for Phase III of our joint operation.

2. Greece appears to be the only alternative outside British controlled territory. While entirely satisfactory from an operational point of view, we consider Greece has great disadvantages, politically and security-wise.

3. Malta would be a feasible base location providing adequate facilities exist or could be established. We understand that you are investigating this matter.

4. We anticipate that State will react unfavorably to the advancement of Greek territory as the alternative base site, which suggestion we are advancing, and that State will so inform the British Embassy here.

5. We therefore urge:

a. An appeal by CSS of the Foreign Office decision on the utilization of Cyrene;

b. Investigation of Malta facilities as an alternative should the Cyrene decision stand as now formulated.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

F. G. W.

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C.O.
COK

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Concur:

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