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

11 January 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: MESSRS. [] []

[] []
OFFICE

SUBJECT: Operation BGFIEND; Suspicion of British "deal"
with Yugoslavs and Greeks concerning Albania.

1. Mr. Llewellyn Thompson informed me today that he has had the contemplated conversation with representatives of the British Embassy including Lord Jellico, and that the Embassy representatives were hard put to it to explain and justify their stand when he taxed them with the "inconsistency" of their position. The upshot of the meeting was that the Embassy representatives agreed that it would be necessary for them to cable London for "further clarification", and then to have a further talk. According to Mr. Thompson, the Embassy representatives indicated in some way that they were aware of the Italian suspicion of them, and speculated that this might be one reason why the Foreign Office wants to lay low at this time. Mr. Thompson has promised to send us a memorandum of his conversation when it is completed.

2. Mr. Thompson further reported that a representative of the Greek Embassy has recently come to the Department and expressed concern about a reported Italian proposal for a four-power discussion of Albania, which discussion would exclude the Greeks. (The State Department would not favor such a discussion of Albania at this time either with or without the Greeks.)

3. Ruminating about this entire affair, Mr. Thompson said that he was inclined to feel that insofar as the British Embassy here is aware, the British are not now actively engaged in a three cornered deal with the Yugoslavs and Greeks on Albania. The British are clearly concerned with the position of Tito and are probably holding out something on the State Department and ourselves, but Mr. Thompson is beginning to doubt that the three cornered deal is the thing being concealed. One reason for his doubt is the fact that this matter has been discussed with Mr. Bevin and is a thing which the Foreign Office "pros" would be disinclined to do if they were up to any skulduggery against the United States as they are fearful of Mr. Bevin's frankness and forthrightness.

F.G.W.
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ADPC/FGW/mac

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