

SEP 24 1953

18 September 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: []

FROM: []

SUBJECT: BQFIEND Monthly Activities Report for the Period 15 August - 14 September 1953, Inclusive

1. Personal

The BQFIEND Desk [] is composed of 15 persons at present. They are assigned primary duties and responsibilities as follows:

Direction, Plans and Administration	- 5
Case Officer duties	- 4
Training	- 4
Operational Support	- 1
Secretarial duties	- 1

2. Production

a. Positive reports	- 0
b. Dispatches	- 70
c. Cables	- 52

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3. Support functions

Provision of material to [] for P/W activities. Support is currently being given to FEP as BQFIEND is distributing clothing to refugees in border areas for FEP. In addition BQFIEND provides continuing secretarial support to [] and during the past month [] has undertaken a lengthy, exacting translation job for Commo. In addition our operations section worked very closely with the Headquarters Training Staff Officer during his recent visit.

4. Operational activity

a. Operational activities implemented or acted upon

(1) [] continues in W/T contact with Apple/2. However, as the potential of the team has been reduced since the disappearance of the team leader, we intend to exfiltrate the team before the end of the operational season. We continue to handle the team as possibly controlled.

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(2) The two man Throttler Team exfiltrated on 28 August after spending three weeks on their mission.

(3) The five man Fig Team was blocked in its attempt to infiltrate in mid-August but successfully penetrated Albania on their second attempt on September 7/8. We are in W/T contact with this team.

(4) Three air operations were mounted during the period. On the 22/23 of August, a flight was made to the Shkoder area to alert Hil Shllaku for a drop three days later at an island rendezvous on the Drin River. This flight was made per schedule but no reception fires were sighted. On these flights, as well as on the 9/10 September leaflet drop, a large quantity of P/W material was dropped, including the first two issues of OBECK.

b. CE activities

No specific operations mounted but all interrogations concentrate on detecting CE agents.

c. Future operations in planning stage - recruitment and training program

(1) No further news on the RNCASTING Lemon Tree Team. It will be virtually impossible to mount the team this season, even if the personnel were immediately available.

(2) GASH is being held on a standby basis for possible use on a Northern Albanian operation in 1954. We expect to have definite plans on this operation by the end of October, if it is to be mounted.

(3) AIBICE awaits placement on a Greek merchant ship.

(4) GADUNGE will be used on a project mounted against the Albanian Merchant Marine, if Headquarters approves our proposition.

(5) The present BGFIEND W/T training program is virtually completed and we now have a reservoir of able high quality operators.

d. Inactive operations

Willow Tree Team is on the inactive list, as well as Throttler. Future plans for both teams depend on operational developments.

e. Terminated operations

None

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f. Conclusions

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KAPOK #2001

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f. Conclusions

Throttler's completion of their mission and Fig's infiltration have been encouraging, but no definite conclusions on 1953 can be drawn as yet except that losses to date, particularly the Apple/3 exfiltrating party can not be minimized. Taken together with the failure to mount any operations via Yugoslavia, the net result is that our activities have not been as broad or as productive as we had anticipated.

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