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8 June 1948

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Subject: George Polk Murder

1. Burdette and Secondari, C.B.S. Representatives working on the Polk case, have prepared an excellent report which [ ] was unable to reproduce because of its length and due to the limited time it was available. [ ]
2. The following additional points are brought out in this report:
  - A. Polk evidently was not contemplating a prolonged absence when he left the hotel for the last time.
  - B. Polk's address book and notebook, which he kept with him constantly, are missing. His War Department A.G.O. card was dropped in a mailbox in an unstamped envelope bearing the misspelled handwritten address of the Salonica Third Precinct Police Station, in whose area the body was finally found. His money, other personal effects and identity documents were found on his body.
  - C. Proximity of weapon and direction of the bullet indicate that Polk was "executed" and not merely murdered.
  - D. A bandit "Colonel" from Markos' Headquarters, known to have been in Salonica to organize hideouts, was last seen on the day of Polk's disappearance.
  - E. Polk was killed within an hour after eating a very heavy meal (more than four pounds) which would indicate that Polk was in good spirits.
  - F. He was definitely bound after the murder.
3. <sup>Winston</sup> ~~Burdette and Secondari~~ believe that the Salonica police are doing all that is possible. They cite numerous examples of painstaking work and all-out efforts to solve the crime. Moskhondis, in charge of the actual investigation in Salonica, is considered a first rate detective. At the same time Burdette and Secondari feel that the Athens police are less efficient. Both also fear that some attempt may be made to quash the crime or find a scapegoat to relieve the pressure.
4. Authorities in Greece are still groping blindly and seizing on every straw. Hadziargyris, who declined police protection, and Polk's widow will be interrogated soon, partly on the insistence of Burdette and Secondari. They will probably not be arrested.

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Assistant Director

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DATE: NOV 2005(b) (1)  
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