

U.S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius to U.S. Missions
(Washington, Dec.26, 1944)¹

The Secretary of State to Certain Diplomatic and Consular Officers

The following is for your information and general guidance, but not for any positive action at this time.

The Department has noted with considerable apprehension increasing propaganda rumors and semi-official statements in favor of an "autonomous Macedonia", emanating principally from Bulgaria, but also from Yugoslav Partisan and other sources, with the implication that Greek territory would be included in the projected state.

This Government considers talk of "Macedonian nation", "Macedonia Fatherland", or "Macedonian national consciousness" to be unjustified demagoguery representing no ethnic or political reality, and sees in its present revival a possible cloak for aggressive intentions against Greece.

The approved policy of this Government is to oppose any revival of the Macedonian issue as related to Greece. The Greek section of Macedonia is largely inhabited by Greeks, and the Greek people are almost unanimously opposed to the creation of a "Macedonian state." Allegations of serious Greek participation in any such agitation can be assumed to be false. This Government would regard as responsible any Government or Group of Governments tolerating or encouraging menacing or aggressive acts of "Macedonian forces" against Greece. The Department would appreciate any information pertinent to this subject which may come to your attention.
Stettinius

¹ Source: U.S. State Department, Foreign Relations vol.vii, Washington, D.C. Circular Airgram (868.014/26 Dec.1944).