President Truman’s speech on aid to Greece and Turkey has created sensation locally. So far not only has no press comment appeared but no news articles have been published. Nevertheless everyone seems well informed. Opposition circles are naturally delighted and encouraged. I have yet had no reactions from official circles. Diplomats outside of Soviet bloc are deeply pleased since they feel that it is decisive step in stopping further Soviet encroachments. Greek Minister called to extend felicitations. Turkish Counselor equally delighted. French Ambassador announced that move threatened to saw off long limb that Tito and company had gotten selves out on and pointed out how much wiser (Czechoslovakia had been in not getting self out on limb). Ambassador did not think however that it would produce split in government but rather drive it together and he saw no immediate prospect of successful opposition.

Sent Department 260, cabled Athens 7, Moscow 9, Sofia 8.

CABOT