



17. 3. 16.

My dear Boston.

Commandant / de Berthier,
the French liaison officer here
tells me that Doucabeille's book
was extremely well written. He
is a very clever fellow. But it
was not official, and, as far
as he knows, it was not
based on any special research
or local knowledge.

Berthier says that the
French War Office are
working on the Balkans, and
he is sure that if he had a set

of proofs to take over when he
comes back next Tuesday, they
would be only too happy to
send along any corrections that
occur to them. It seems to me
that it is very desirable that
we should drop all the
information we can with the
French, and if you ^{will} send me
along another complete set of
proofs both of the Serbian
book and the Macedonian
as far as you have gone, I
will give them to be Bertier
to take over to Paris. I

Don't know whether the French
have ever had the Fomble
handbook either, but I
think so.

Yours sincerely,

J. A. M.



27th July, 1915.

My dear Buxton,

I read Howell's notes with great interest and with, I think, complete agreement down to Par. 5; after that I confess I rather differed.

[I cannot help thinking that what the other side has to offer Bulgaria is in many ways so much more attractive than what we have to give, including as it very easily might not only Skoplje but North Albania and Pirot and Nish.

Meanwhile the news which poor Bouchier has reluctantly had to send from Sofia confirms what I have all along thought, that the chief use that Bulgaria is making of our offers is to get something out of the Turks.] She will now, I imagine, remain neutral for a considerable time longer and invite us to improve our terms later on.

Perhaps I may see you in the House to-morrow or Wednesday.

Yours sincerely,

Asmeary

P.S. I met Howell last night + had a good talk with him. He still hopes we may get the Bulgars in somehow, somewhere. I suppose it seems to be the wish with him is better to the King.