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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Yugoslavia/Bulgaria/Greece/Italy/Turkey

SUBJECT

IMRO Leader Mihailov Visits Greece, Turkey, and Italy

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Ivan Mihailov, IMRO Leader (not to be confused with the Bulgarian Communist official with the same name), made appearances during 1953 in Athens, Salonika, and Rome. His effort has been to establish new contacts and revive old ones. In spite of his postwar difficulties Mihailov remains a man of great ability and singleness of purpose, not likely to give up his lifelong effort to create an autonomous Macedonia, whether as an equal member of a Balkan Confederation or as another independent Balkan power. He has repeatedly declared that "any" method toward this goal is, in his eyes, legitimate. He is a close friend and collaborator of Ante Pavelic, the Croatian Ustashi leader, now living in Argentina. There is, thus, always a chance that Mihailov will establish close relations with the anti-Tito opposition in Croatia.

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