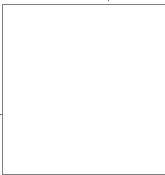


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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Albania	REPORT	
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Organization of the Ministry of Interior

1. The Ministry of Interior is under the direction of a Minister, a Deputy Minister and three Assistant Ministers. The Deputy Minister directs the day-to-day affairs of the Ministry and each of the three Assistant Ministers heads one of the following offices:
 - a. DIRECTORATE FOR THE SIGURIMI I SHPETIT - State Security
 - b. DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POLICE
 - c. DIRECTORATE OF THE BORDER GUARD
2. In addition to the Directorates, there are two separate units within the Ministry; namely,
 - a. Headquarters for the Sigurimi i Shtetit Special Brigade
 - b. An independent Political Office which is responsible for the political, cultural and physical education of the personnel in the Directorate of State Security and the Directorate General of Police. This office is closely linked with the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' (Communist) Party.

DIRECTORATE FOR THE SIGURIMI I SHPETIT - State Security

Headquarters Organization and Function - Sigurimi

3. There are 10 functional branches in the Directorate for State Security. There was an Economic Branch, but it has been abolished. The 10 branches are as follows:
 - a. External (Foreign) Branch (Branch I)

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This branch is concerned with espionage in foreign countries.

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STATE	*	ARMY	*	NAVY	*	AIR	*	FBI	*	AEC								
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b. Internal Branch (Branch II)

This branch is charged with organizing informers in towns throughout the country. Reactionary elements are used because only they can obtain the confidence of other reactionary elements who are the principal targets of operations run by this branch. Recruitment is made chiefly among people who have been arrested and are released on condition that they work as informers. A system of secret arrest is very frequently used and every effort is made to recruit the person. This type of recruiting is done both by the Internal Branch directly and by the local or field representatives. Agents recruited under this system are not trained. They are given limited instructions and a contact address of their Sigurimi case officer.

c. Criminal Branch (Branch III)

This branch is concerned with espionage in the country districts by foreign agents, "diversionists" and illegal groups inside the country. On discovering illegal groups, the local field office of the branch contacts the local police and armed civilians. The Special Brigade is called to handle only a large group.

d. Cadre (?) Branch (Branch IV)

This branch is responsible for the organization and training of cadres.

e. Counterespionage Branch (Branch V)

This branch is concerned with the detection of foreign espionage inside Albania, apart from illegal groups. Its activities are centered in the towns. In 1949-1950, a large group was organized in Tirana [redacted] discovered and severely dealt with.

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f. Communications Branch (Branch VI)

This branch is concerned with the internal communications complex of the Directorate of State Security which includes telephones, W/T and R/T.

g. Investigations Branch (Branch VII)

This branch assumes jurisdiction over arrests not involving cases of ordinary crimes and conducts investigations of such arrests. If the person arrested is considered guilty, he is referred to the State Prosecutor and any information of intelligence value is passed to Branches II and III. Investigations are usually conducted by district offices, except in cases of larger groups of accused persons or special cases, at which time the Branch handles the case directly. This branch consists of a Chief, Deputy Chief, 3 chief investigators, 10 to 12 investigators, assistant investigators and a clerical staff.

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h. Personal Security Branch (Branch VIII - For the Protection of the Leaders)

This branch is concerned with the personal security of Government and Party leaders and other important personages. For example, Mehmet Shehu is always escorted by 2 or 3 officers and on extensive trips, the leaders are always provided with an elaborate escort.

i. Statistics Branch (Branch IX)

No information.

j. Army Branch (Branch X)

Until 1948, the Army Security office was stationed at Army General Headquarters. At that time it was moved to the Ministry of Interior. This branch has officers and agents throughout the Army.

Field Organization and Function - Sigurimi

4. For the purpose of administration, 26 towns in Albania are divided into categories as follows: 11 in Category I, 9 in Category II and 6 in Category III. In each of the Category I towns, there is an Executive Committee with a Branch of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.³ This committee is under the control of the Ministry. In the Category II and III towns there are sections of the Ministry.
5. In each of the local branches there are Sigurimi officers and police officers. A Sigurimi officer heads the branch. In matters pertaining solely to police affairs, the local Police Chief conducts his business directly with the Directorate General of Police in the Ministry of Interior. The police handle cases involving ordinary crimes and the Sigurimi handles cases concerning "crimes against the State". After a preliminary investigation of the case has taken place, a decision is made as to which of the two services will assume jurisdiction.
6. The local Sigurimi Branch and the Police Office are approximately the same in their organizational structure and vary only in accordance with local needs. The Tirana Executive Committee's Internal Affairs Branch has Sections corresponding to some of the Branches in the Directorate of State Security, i.e., Investigation, Espionage, etc. Branch personnel consists of a Chief, 3 Assistant Sigurimi officers, Chief of Police, an assistant Chief of Police and other officers. The Investigation Section has three investigators. In the town of Korce, there are two assistant Sigurimi officers.
7. Sections in Category II and III towns have the following personnel: a chief, assistant chief for Sigurimi and an assistant chief for police affairs. These sections also have an Investigation Section with one or two investigators assigned to the section.
8. In towns below Category III, such as Kavaje and Shijak, the branch has one officer who is known as the "Sigurimi worker" and a police officer.
9. At Lokalitetes there is a police officer but no Sigurimi officer (or "worker"); however, Lokalitetes are visited regularly by Sigurimi officers from neighboring branch offices.
10. Sigurimi officers are issued uniforms and civilian clothing and may dress in either, according to their needs. When in the country districts, they usually dress in civilian clothing. Small villages have no regular police officers, hence every man must perform two months of police duty without pay. Sigurimi informers in the villages perform the security function.

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Training and Schools - Sigurimi

11. The Sigurimi school for officers is in Tirana on the Elbasan road. There are no regularly established schools for agent training. Agents are given limited training for their particular missions. At Durrës, there is a special course for sabotage, mining, etc. Similar courses are offered at Elbasan. Training usually consists of how agents conduct themselves and clandestine contacts. 50X1-HUM
12. Mehmet Shehu had directed that all Sigurimi officers should undergo intelligence training in the Soviet Union. In fact, many have taken such training courses lasting from 1 to 1½ years. These courses cover espionage, counterespionage, technical methods 50X1-HUM

Control of the Army - Sigurimi

13. Each army division and brigade has a Sigurimi section. A brigade officer is assigned to each regiment.
14. As a general rule, commanding officers and political commissars of military organizations are supposed to be kept informed of the work being done by the Sigurimi Section or officer. In point of fact, however, they are not.
15. Sigurimi officers recruit agents in military units. These agents are either recruited on a voluntary basis by stressing patriotic motives, or by pressure. For example, in the 13 Infantry Regiment, 3 soldiers plotted to desert but were caught and arrested. One was recruited and sent as an agent to another unit.

Special Brigade - Sigurimi

16. Headquarters of the Special Brigade is housed in its own building on the Elbasan Road on the outskirts of Tirana. The building stands approximately 30 to 40 meters to the west of the road. West of headquarters building are barracks for the Brigade troops.
17. The Brigade is organized into approximately four battalions which are made up of companies, platoons and sections. These units, however, do not consist of the normal number of troops for Albanian Army units. The total number of officers and men in the Brigade is not known, but it is estimated at 1,000. The number of battalion headquarters scattered through Albania is not known, but there are more deployed in northern than in southern Albania. Battalion headquarters are usually set up in a fixed position while the companies and platoons bivouac in the country side ready for action. Small groups are, at times, sent on clandestine missions to test the security of local communities.
18. Each battalion has its own transportation facilities for quick mobility.
19. In 1952, Mehmet Shehu established a new organization. Each local Branch of Internal Affairs was allotted a small force of 20 men. These troops were equipped in the same manner as members of the Brigade and were to be called first, to handle any organized civil disobedience. It can be assumed that this ready force is better organized now and additional (200-250) troops have been added to the units. The principal advantage to these special troops is quick action when needed.

DIRECTORATE OF THE BORDER GUARD⁴

20. The Directorate has its own office building in Tirana on the Elbasan road, and is organized into various branches; i.e., operations, political quartermaster and others. There is a special section for training.

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21. Prior to 1952, there was a direct line of command between frontier battalions and the Directorate. Since 1952, however, five frontier zones have been created with intermediate headquarters at Shkoder, Pershkopi, Elbasan, Korce and Gjinkaster. A commandant with a staff consisting of a political commissar, chief of staff and a quartermaster, head each zone. There are sections and branches corresponding to those in the office of the Directorate. Each zone controls one or more battalions. Companies and platoons attached to the battalions man the frontier posts. Each post has approximately 12 men. Frontier troops are equipped with German type weapons and they have not been issued any Soviet type weapons.
22. The Korce zone controls the frontier area from Erseke to Qafa e Thanës, north of Pogradec.

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POLICE

23. The Directorate of Police was a weak organization and the last of the three directorates to be organized. Until 1951, it had no secret agencies of its own. Since 1952, however, under the supervision of Soviet instructors, its function as a police organization has greatly improved. Some of the branches in this directorate are as follows:

a. Branch of Prisons and Camps

This branch is responsible for the organization and supervision of prisons and camps and has no jurisdiction over the punishment of criminals.

b. Quartermaster Branch

This branch handles supplies for the Directorate General of Police and the Directorate for State Security. It utilizes prison labor.

c. Investigation and Law Branch

This branch is responsible for non-political crimes.

24. The Directorate has a police school which is located next to the new prison in Tirana.

Personalities in the Ministry of Interior25. Ministers

Minister	General Kadri HAZBIU
Deputy Minister	Not listed
Assistant Ministers	Colonel Mihallaq ZICISHPI - <u>Sigurimi</u> Lt. Colonel Ndriko RINO - Border Guard (Third not listed) - Police

26. Directorate Officials

<u>Sigurimi i Shtetit</u>	Colonel Mihallaq ZICISHPI, Chief Lt. Colonel Stavro TRESKA, Chief of Staff Lt. Colonel Saliko SULO, officer Captain 1st Class Maliq JAUPI, officer
<u>Police</u>	Captain Qemal BALLUKU, advisor Lt. Gago KOLLUMBI, Chief of Quartermaster Branch

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Border Guard

Lt. Colonel Ndriko RINO, Chief
 Lt. Colonel Xhavit PETRELA, Chief of
 Training

27. Special Brigade (of the Directorate of State Security)

Colonel Gjeli ARGIRI, Commandant

Political Office (of the Directorate of State Security)

Lt. Colonel Gani GOXHE, Chief

Branches of the Directorate Sigurimi i Shtetit28. Branch I (External)

Not listed. (Lt. Colonel Ilmi SAIPI,
 formerly Chief of Branch I, his current
 position is not known.)

Branch II (Internal)

Delo BALILI, Chief

Branch III (Criminal)

Lt. Colonel Zoi THEMELI, Chief
 Major Rexhep KOLLI, Chief Deputy
 Major Idri SAIPI, Chief of Section

Branch IV (Cadre)

Lt. Colonel Nexhat HYSANI, Deputy Chief

Branch V (Counterespionage)

Colonel Niko CETA, Chief

Branch VI (Communications)

Major Isak LILA, Chief

Branch VII (Investigations)

Lt. Colonel Shahin PANARITI, Chief
 Major Xhavit STRUGA, Deputy Chief
 Captain 1st Class, Herad MANE, Chief
 Investigator
 Lt. Adem AHMETI, Investigator
 Lt. Haki KETA, Investigator

Branch VIII (Personal Security)

Lt. Colonel Getih EMOKTHINA, Chief
 Captain 1st Class, Gani VAJZA, member

Branch IX (Statistics)

No information

Branch X (Army)

No information

Town Branches (Internal Affairs)

29. Chief, Peshkopi
 Chief, Elbasan
 Chief, Erseke
 Chief, Elbasan
 Chief, Kukes
 Chief, Pogradec
 Deputy Chief, Shkoder
 Deputy Chief, Durres
 Deputy Chief, Berat

Major Banus GOXHE
 Lt. Colonel Petrit HEKAMI
 Captain 1st Class, KICO (fnu)
 Lt. Colonel Hani NASKA
 Lt. Colonel Kopi NIKO
 Major Nuci ITRA
 Captain 1st Class Irakli KOCANI
 Captain 1st Class Shim KOLI
 Captain Ilo RUMBULLAKU

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Comment: Some German and Austrian prisoners of war remained in Albania
 until 1950.

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Comment: Chiefs of local Internal Affairs Branches are also members of the Politburo of the local branches of the Albanian Workers' (Communist) Party.



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For alphabetical listing of the personalities in the Ministry of Interior see Appendix I.

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Appendix I

Alphabetical Listing

AHMETI, Adem Lt.	Investigator in Branch VII	
ARGIRI, Gjeli Col.	From Korce. Commandant of the Special Brigade of the Directorate of State Security.	50X1-HUM
BALILI, Delo	Chief of Branch II (Internal Branch).	
BALLUKU, Qemal Capt.	(Brother of Gen. BALLUKU), advisor in the Directorate General of Police.	
CETA, Niko Col.	From Korce. Chief of Branch V (Counter-espionage). In 1947-48 he was 1st Judge of the Military Court.	
GOXHE, Banush Maj.	Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Peshkopi.	
GOXHE, Gani Lt. Col.	Chief of the Political Office	
HASNADARI, Nefzat Col.	Attended a course in the Soviet Union and holds a high technical office.	
HAZBIU, Kadri Gen.	Minister of Interior since 1954. He was formerly 1st Assistant Minister.	
HEKAMI, Petrit Lt. Col.	Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Elbasan. He formerly held the same position in Vlone.	
HYBENI, Nexhat Lt. Col.	Deputy Chief of Branch IV (Cadre Branch)	
JAUPI, Maliq Capt. 1st Class	In the Sigurimi Directorate, formerly Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch.	
KETA, Haki Lt.	Investigator in Branch VII (Investigations)	
KICO, fnu Capt. 1st Class	Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch at Erseke.	
KOCANI, Irakli Capt. 1st Class	Deputy Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Shkoder.	
KOJA, Avram Maj.	Formerly Chief of Branch V. (Counterespionage) He has been transferred to the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' (Communist) Party to head the <u>Sigurimi</u> section.	
KOLI, Shim Capt. 1st Class	Deputy Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Durres.	
KOLLI, Rexhep Maj.	Deputy Chief of Branch III. (Criminal)	

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KOLLUMBI, Gago Lt. Col.	Chief of the Quartermaster Branch, Ministry of Interior.
KOLOLLI, Pasho Capt.	Formerly at Pogradec
LILA, Isak Maj.	Chief of Branch VI (Communications). He attended a signal communications course in the Soviet Union.
MANE, Herad Capt. 1st Class	Chief Investigator in Branch VII. (Investi- gations)
NASKA, Jani Lt. Col.	Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Elbasan. He has been sent to the Soviet Union for intelligence training.
NIKO, Kopi Lt. Col.	Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Kukes.
PANARITI, Shahin Lt. Col.	Chief of Branch VII (Investigations). He was formerly Chief of Branch IV (Cadre).
PERISTERI, Gago	Formerly Chief of the Internal Branch (Branch II), he is now in charge of the Religion Branch of the Prime Minister's Office (sic).
PETRELA, Xhevdet Lt. Col.	Chief of the Training Section in the Border Guard Directorate.
PULLUMBI, Hysen Lt.	Deputy Chief of the Internal Affairs Section in Pogradec.
RINO, Ndriko Lt. Col.	Assistant Minister and head of the Directorate of the Border Guard.
RUMBULLAKU, Ilo Capt.	Deputy Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Berat.
SAIFI, Idri Maj.	Chief of Section in Branch III (Criminal).
SAIFI, Ilmi Lt. Col.	Formerly Chief of Branch I (External Branch), his current position is not known.
SHUKE, Koli	Civilian employee of Branch I (External Branch).
SMOKTHINA, Getih Lt. Col.	Chief of Branch VIII (Personal Security).
SULO, Saliko Lt. Col.	Officer in the Border Guard Directorate.
STRUGA, Xhavit Maj.	Deputy Chief of Branch VII (Investigations).
THEMELI, Zoi Lt. Col.	Chief of Branch III (Criminal)
TIRA, Nuci Maj.	Chief of the Internal Affairs Section in Pogradec and runs operations into Greece.

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TRESKA, Stavri Lt. Col.

Chief of Staff of the Border Guard. An officer during the German and Italian occupation. A member of the Partisan forces in 1943. Trained in the Soviet Union.

VAJZA, Gani Capt. 1st Class

Member of Branch VIII (Personal Security).

XHELO, Halim Lt. Col.

Chief of the Internal Affairs Branch in Tirana.

ZICISITI, Mihallaq Col.

Assistant Minister and head of the Directorate for the Sigurimi i Shtetit - State Security.



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