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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 20 Sept. 1950

SUBJECT Zogists and Christian Democrats in Shkoder

NO. OF PAGES 1

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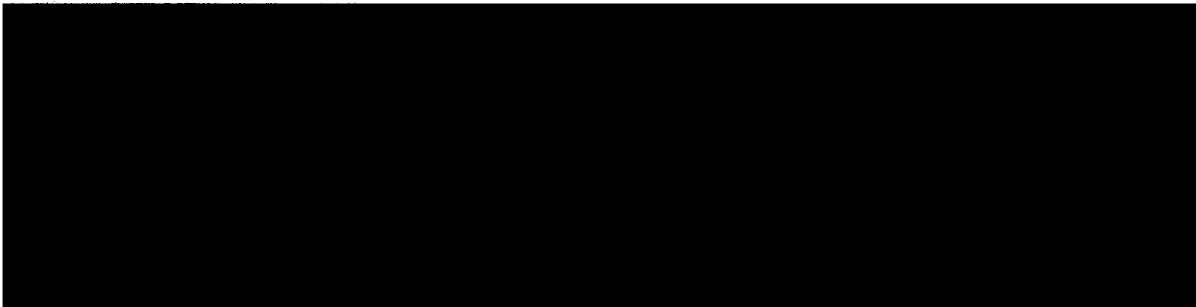
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



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1. The followers of ex-King Zog constitute the principal party among the Nationalists in Shkoder for the following reasons:
 - a. The Zogists represent the only party acceptable to the people which is regarded as surely having Allied support.
 - b. Although the Balli Kombetar is undoubtedly known to have Allied support, prejudice against the party is strong in the North.
 - c. The BKI is believed unlikely to have Allied support because of the predominance of Fascist collaborators in the party. Source states that this feeling toward the BKI is based not on local opposition toward its leaders (for the ties with the BKI through Gjon Markagjoni and Ernest Koliqi are strong), but on the belief only that the BKI cannot possibly receive Allied support.

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2. The Christian Democrats, who were organized during the Communist regime by Father Gjon Shllaku, are a Catholic group, left of center and dominated by educators. They constitute the only Albanian party in history organized on a religious basis and for this reason have little future, according to source. The Christian Democrat Party developed from a group organized by Father Anton Arapi and Koliqi in 1923, which published Ora e Maleve. The anti-Zogist character of the group led to Koliqi's exile from 1924-29.

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Comment: Your attention is invited to [REDACTED] which describes the strength and party affiliations of the Nationalists in the Shkoder area.

Document No. [REDACTED]
 No Change in Class. [REDACTED]
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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of November 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
BY CABLE
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