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INFO

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C H A P T E R A.

ALBANIA

ARMED FORCES

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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GENERAL

1. Ministry of People's Defence

[Redacted]
[Redacted] Minister

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of Defence was Lieut. General Beqir BALLUKU.

A R M Y

2.- Composition & Location of Army Units.

a). Inf. Brigade stationed in Korce.

Since the beginning of 1954, or late in 1953, [Redacted]

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[Redacted] the Inf. Division which used to be in Korce was replaced
~~by~~ by an inf. Division. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted] the division but its

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regiments also are not existing in Korce any longer.

Comments [Redacted]

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[Redacted] late in 1953

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took place a re-organization of the Albanian Army indicated by the Soviet organizers. On the process of this re-organization the inf. brigades of Korce, Tirana, Gjinokaster, and certain inf. regiments were dissolved; instead of them were created 3 Army Corps formed by inf. brigades and regiments.

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[Redacted]

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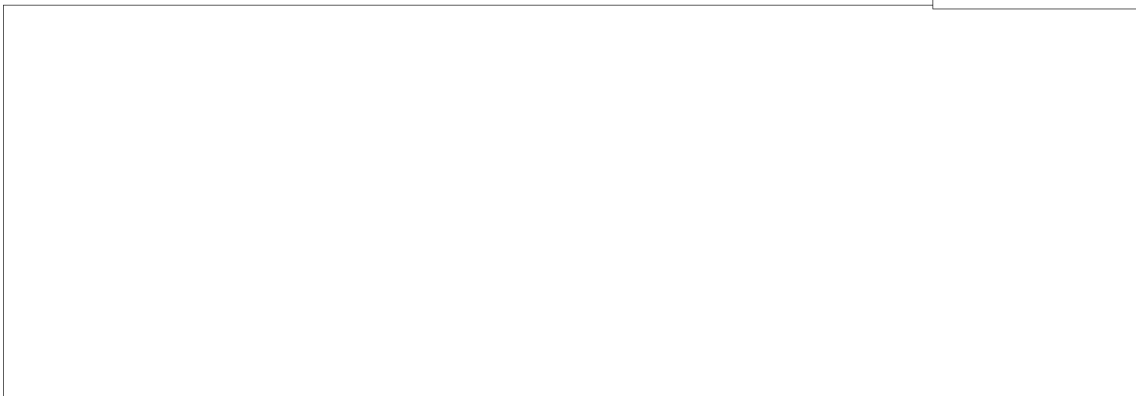
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b). Armored unit stationed in ZEMBLAK.

An armored unit is stationed in the village of Zemblak.

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Comment:

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The a/m unit must be under the brigade of Korce,

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each Albanian brigade has a group of

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about 15 tanks.

b).- Inf. battalion stationed in Bilisht

An inf. battalion is permanently stationed in Bilisht. The conventional number of this unit, which is under the inf. brigade of Korce, is either 4725 or 4755

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Armament

-Rifles, long and short, some of them equipped with aiming telescope,

Soviet make. the long ones are

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like the Soviet rifles 7,62mm M-1891/30.

-Light machine guns, 7,62 mm D.R. (DEKTIREF).

-Sub-machine guns, 7,62 PP SH 1941.

-Machine guns 7,62 M.1910.

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-Revolvers, German and Soviet.

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-Mortars, 82mm M.1941

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located them easily in the pictures included in the book "Weapons and equipment used by the enemy",

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3.
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[Redacted]

-Two A.A. machine guns, 12,7 mm. D.S.H.K. M-1938.

-A/T rifles. 14.5 mm P.T.R.T.R.S.-1941

[Redacted]

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Transportation equipment(means).

The battalion has no vehicles(automobiles); it has mules and horses only.

[Redacted] estimation the battalion and the arty batteries stationed in that area must have more than 120 mules. ~~2000000000~~

Strength

[Redacted] estimation the battalion has a strength of 350 men and 100 officers.

Training

Training takes place every day. [Redacted]

[Redacted] 20 officers of the battalion went to Korce, early in Oct., in order to participate in a training operation which took place in the heights of VCSKOPOJ, and lasted 3 weeks.

Commander

Until the middle of 1954, commander of the said battalion was cpt Zerif (lnu) from POLOSKE(QN-2151). By that time he was replaced by Lt Col. Lulo SKENDO from the area of Kurvelesh(QM-3515). [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Comments

The presence of so many officers in a battalion is due to the following reason;

As it has been confirmed by other sources too, the battalions of [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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the brigades have the structure of a regiment's staff office and a strength of officers sufficient to the requirements of a Rgt, so that in case of mobilization the battalions have the possibility to become regiments. [redacted] after the re-organization of the Albanian Army, ~~and~~ a cpt commander of a battalion was replaced by a Lt Col. may serve as a confirmation of the above.

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d). Arty Unit stationed in Bilisht

Into the same barracks where the troops of the inf. battalion are quartered, there is also an arty unit. [redacted]

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[redacted] this unit is under the brigade of Korce or the inf. battalion of Bilisht. [redacted] this unit arrived in Bilisht either in 1944 or in 1945 [redacted] and since that period remains in Bilisht with the inf. battalion.

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Armament

The a/m arty unit is equipped with:

-4 mountain arty guns 75.13. [redacted] does not know if they are Soviet

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Transportation facilities(means)

Only mules are available. Four mules are required for the transportation of each gun. [redacted] does not know how many mules belong to this unit because they are together with those of the inf. battalion which [redacted] estimated to be more than 120.

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3.- Conventional Nos of Units

Conv. Nos	Unit	Town or village	Date
4725 or 4755	Inf.battalion	Bilisht	Oct. 26, 1955

SECRET [redacted]

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4.- Training.

a). Training of key personnel.

Training of reserve officers

A number of reserve officers, discharged from the Army, are called by personal letters for a two months training. Their training is carried out in various Army Units. Thus, the residents of the area of DEVOL reported for training to the inf. battalion which is stationed in Bilisht.

5.- Recruiting Service

a). Calling of recruits

During the first fortnight of Oct. 1955 reported to the recruiting office of Bilisht the residents of the area of Bilisht who expect their turn to join the Army.

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The said people were examined by a committee. Those who were selected for the Border Guard Service were sent for training immediately. The other were released and it was rumored that they will join the Army Service ~~by the end of~~ late in Oct. 1955.

Comments

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The military class which is expected to join the army is that of 1936.

b). Length of Army Service.

Since the spring of 1955 the length of service in all the services of of the Albanian Army was increased from 2 to 3 years, while for the Air Force and the Navy was increasec from 3 to 4 yars.

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This information from talks with men serving in the Army (soldiers).

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6.- Military Installations

a). Army Barracks in Bilisht

Location: The barracks are located between the S.W. end of the town and the E. side of the motor road KORCE-KRISTALOPIGI.

Description: There are two single story stone-constructed buildings 50 x 12 x 4 1/2 m. having their roofs covered with tiles. Into these two barracks are quartered the troops of the inf. battalion, as well as the men of arty group. In the same barracks are stored the guns of the arty unit.

The third building is is a two-story one.

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On the first floor there is one room only. On the second floor

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there are 3 rooms. Into this building are quartered the carpenters, the and shoe-makers, the tailors, of the battalion.

The fourth building is single story 11 x 11 x 4 m. In this building are quartered the H.Q. of the battalion.

The fifth building, which is a single story also, serves as an officers' mess. The dimensions of this building are 50 x 7 x 4 m.

In the sixth building are lodged the bachelor officers; the dimensions of this one are 50 x 8 x 3 m.

The seventh building serves as a cook-house; it dimensions are 10 x 5 x 4 m.

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Water facilities: ~~For the requirements of the barracks in question is available in the water tank of Bilisht.~~

Water for the requirements of the barracks in question is available in the water tank of Bilisht.

Electricity(Lights): Electricity is provided by the main installations of Bilisht.

Security measures. The barracks are surrounded by barbed wire installed in two series(double line). In Sept. 1955 ~~has~~ ^{been} constructed a wall

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about 2½ m. high. The said wall, which is built with bricks, is extended along the course of the motor road KORCE-KRISTALOPTGI, and it is surrounded by the a/m barbed wire fence.

In day time the barracks are guarded by a sentinel installed at the gate of the camp which is located towards the motor-road.

For the A.A. protection of the barracks there are two A.A. machine gun permanently installed in the area of the barracks. The men-operators of the A.A. guns live in tents located close to the gun-posts.

b). Ammunition depots for the battalion of Bilisht

The church of ~~AGJIA~~ PARASKEVI which is in the cemetery of Bilisht serves as an ammunition depot of the a/m battalion. The cemetery is located about 400 m. S. of Bilisht. At a distance of 20 - 30 m. from the said church there is a little house which is used for the same purpose.

The area of the church is surrounded by a barbed wire fence. There is no permanent post for the security of the said depot. Two guards are dispatched ~~to~~ from the battalion.

7.- Personalities

a) Inc. battalion No 4725

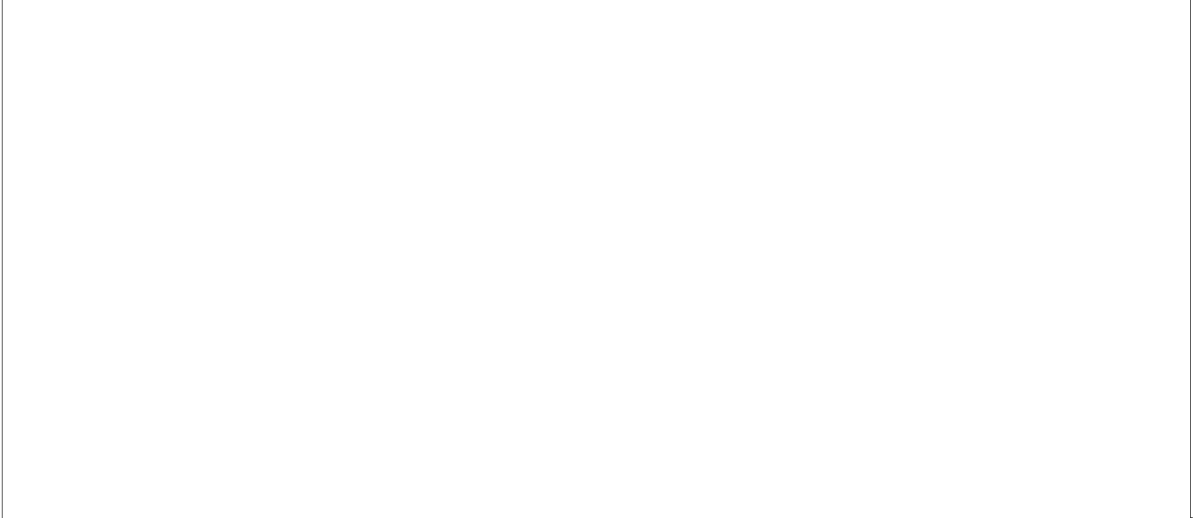
Commander: Capt A^s Zarif (1nu) from POLOSKE.

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Commander: Lt Col. Lulo SKENDO.



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Lieut. Genan Tefik KANINA,

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AIR FORCE

1. Equipment

a). "Jets"

In April or in May 1955

an officer of

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the Albanian Air Force from BABAN(QN-176563),

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the Albanian Air Force had been

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furnished with Soviet jets one year ago. The said jets are stationed in the airfields of Tirana and Berat.

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FOR

CHAPTER B.

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FORCES OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS

BORDER GUARD SERVICE

1. Composition and location of Border Guard units.

a). Border Guard Battalion # 425.

Location: The hq and about 100 men of the ~~42~~ # 425 Border Guard bat-
talion are quartered in requisitioned private houses in Bilisht.

Armament:

German rifles

Soviet sub-machine guns, 7,62 mm. type PPSH 1941.

German sub-machine guns.

German and Soviet revolvers.

[Redacted]

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Transportation facilities

The said battalion has a Soviet truck 2,5 ton, type GAZ-51, and
about 30 horses and mules.

Strength

With the HQ of the battalion there were about 20 officers.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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Training

The group of 100 men which was permanently stationed in Bilisht did
nothing more than gymnastics every morning.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

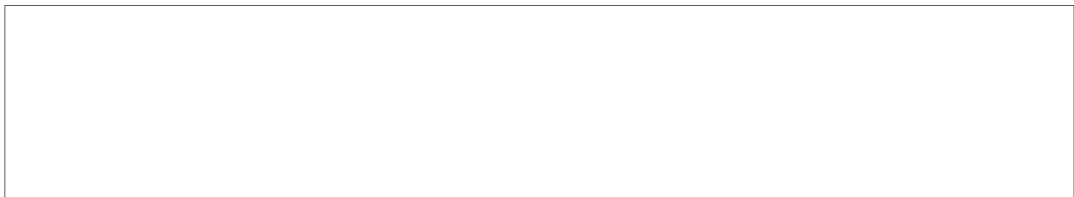
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Composition

[Redacted]

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position of the battalion because the men of the Border Guard Service avoided any contacts and discussions with civilians.



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Commander: Commander of the battalion, since 1949, is a major named Selman Ibrahim (Inu), from Vlone.

b). Posts of the #425 Border Guard Battalion.

The #425 Border Guard Battalion covers a sector extending from CERJE(included) to NIKOLICE(included). For the full control of the a/m sector of the border the battalion has the following posts:

Post of RAKICKE(QN-235646),

" " CERJE (QN-234687),

" " SHYEC (QN-250630),

" " ZAGRADEC (QN-260600

" " VERNIK (QN-266568), 20-22* men, commanded by a lieut.

" " KAPESHICE(QN-253525), 30-40 " " " " "

To the same post are assigned a 2nd Lieut. and a Warrant-officer.

Post of TRESTENIK (QN-255488); in this village there are two posts,



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" " BRACAN (QN-237466),

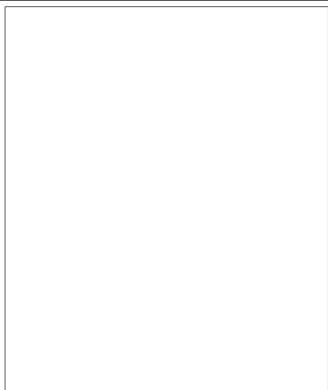
" " BONCARE (QN-209445),

" " VIDEHCVE (QN-174390),

" " QUTEZE (QN-143415),

" " AREZE (QN-099420)

" " NIKOLICE (QN-067337)



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The above coordinates refer to the villages only.

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LABOR ARMY

1.- Calling of volunteers for the Labor Army.

Late in Aug. 1955 the commander of the Police in Bilisht, Cpt A' Beqir SALIA congregated the inhabitatants of Bilisht and made a speech trying to convince the young~~s~~ in joinning the Labor Army as volunteers. As he said their presence in the labor Army was necessary for the construction of the CERRIK(QG-3807) oil refinery.

Due to the fact that only one person applied, the authorities were forced to hire salaried laborers.

SECURITY FORCES & SPECIAL UNITS

2. Government Police

a). Police sub-Direction of Bilisht.

The Police sub-Direction of Bilisht is subordinate to the Police H.Q. of Korce. The strength of the subject police unit, not including the stations which are under it, consists of 3 officers and 33 men.

b). Police stations subordinate to the Police Unit of Bilisht

The police station of PROGER(QN-200600) and that of BOZHIGRAD(QN-170420) are under the police unit of Bilisht. Lately it was rumored that late in Sept. 1955 the a/m police stations were abolished and the whole strength was accumulated in Bilisht.

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Armament of the Police unit of Bilisht

The men of the a/m unit bear German rifles and submachines guns, as well as German and Soviet revolvers.

The Sigurimi in Bilisht

The Sigurimi section of Bilisht is quartered into the same building with the police unit.

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4. PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS

a) Armed villagers in Bilisht.

In the village of Bilisht there are about 15 armed civilians. Their mission is to help the police whenever it is necessary to install ambushes, etc.

One of them, named Ramadan Ahmed CAKERI, ~~AKERI~~ (the most reliable because he is a Communist) is the chief of the armed civilians and they call him responsible. The police authorities apply to him whenever they need the armed villagers. Furthermore he is responsible for the good maintenance of their armament and for that reason he makes inspections in order to make sure that they take good care of their armament. The armed villagers are equipped rifles only.

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CHAPTER C.

SOVIET ARMY, AND MILITARY MISSIONS

SOVIET MILITARY MISSIONS

1.- Officers of the Soviet Military Mission assigned to the inf. Batt. of Bilisht.
Until the middle of 1954, a Lt Col. of the Soviet Army ~~was~~ was permanently assigned to the battalion of Bilisht. ~~SECRET~~
By the middle of 1954 he left and since then he did not return to this post.

FORTIFICATIONS OF THE BORDER

1.- Removal of an ^{mine} field

until April 1954, the inhabitants of KAPESHTICE ~~SECRET~~ (QN-2552) were not permitted to use the motor-road KAPESHTICE-KRISTALOPIGI; only the slopes located towards the S. side of the road ~~SECRET~~ could be used as pasture grounds.

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Since the April of 1954 the said road is no more restricted and the villagers using this road may arrive almost until the border line.

From the ^{a/m} event, on that road there was a mine-field which was removed; ~~SECRET~~ as a result of this the road was no more restricted.

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A.A. DEFENCE

2. A.A. Gun Posts

Within the area of the Army barracks of the inf. battalion of Bilisht (located between the N.W. end of ~~SECRET~~ Bilisht and the E. side of the road BILISHT-KRISTALOPIGI) there are 2 A.A. machine guns, ~~SECRET~~ of the type 12,7 mm DSHK M-1938.

3. Bomb-shelters

Since the summer of 1954 begun the construction of bomb-shelters which are located at the S.W. foot of the height (QN-260558) and at the position (QN-253545). The said bomb-shelters were mainly constructed

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with tree trunks and they were made for the Army troops.

Informant does not know any details about the said shelters, such as their capacity, etc, because he has never been in them. ~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ A sign was hunged outside the shelter showing that entrance was prohibited.

CHAPTER E.

INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION

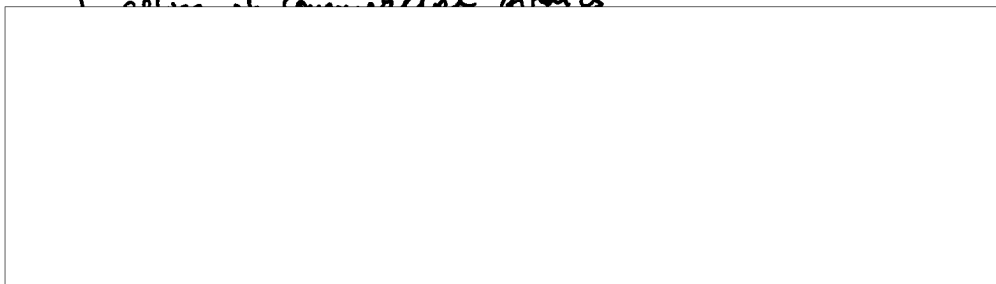
ORGANIZATION AND ADMIN. OF THE COUNTRY

1.- State Administration

a). BRETH(provincial) Executive Committee of BILISHT

In Bilisht, (~~SECRET~~ the capital(center) of that district) is cited an Executive Committee which is organized as follows:

- 1). Office of the President of the Committee.
- 2). " " " Vice-President.
- 3). Secretariate.
- 4). Planning office.
- 5). ~~SECRET~~ Office of the Financial Affairs.
- 6). Farming office.
- 7). Labor office.
- 8). Office of he taxation.
- 9). Office of Health and Education.
- 10). Registration office. *Commercial Affairs*

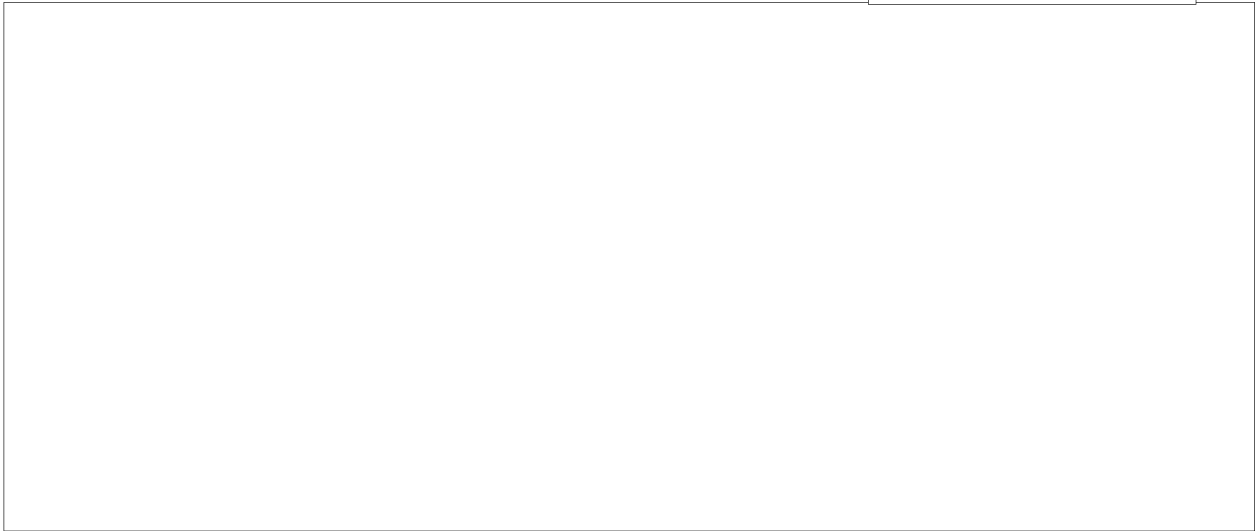


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b). J u s t i c e

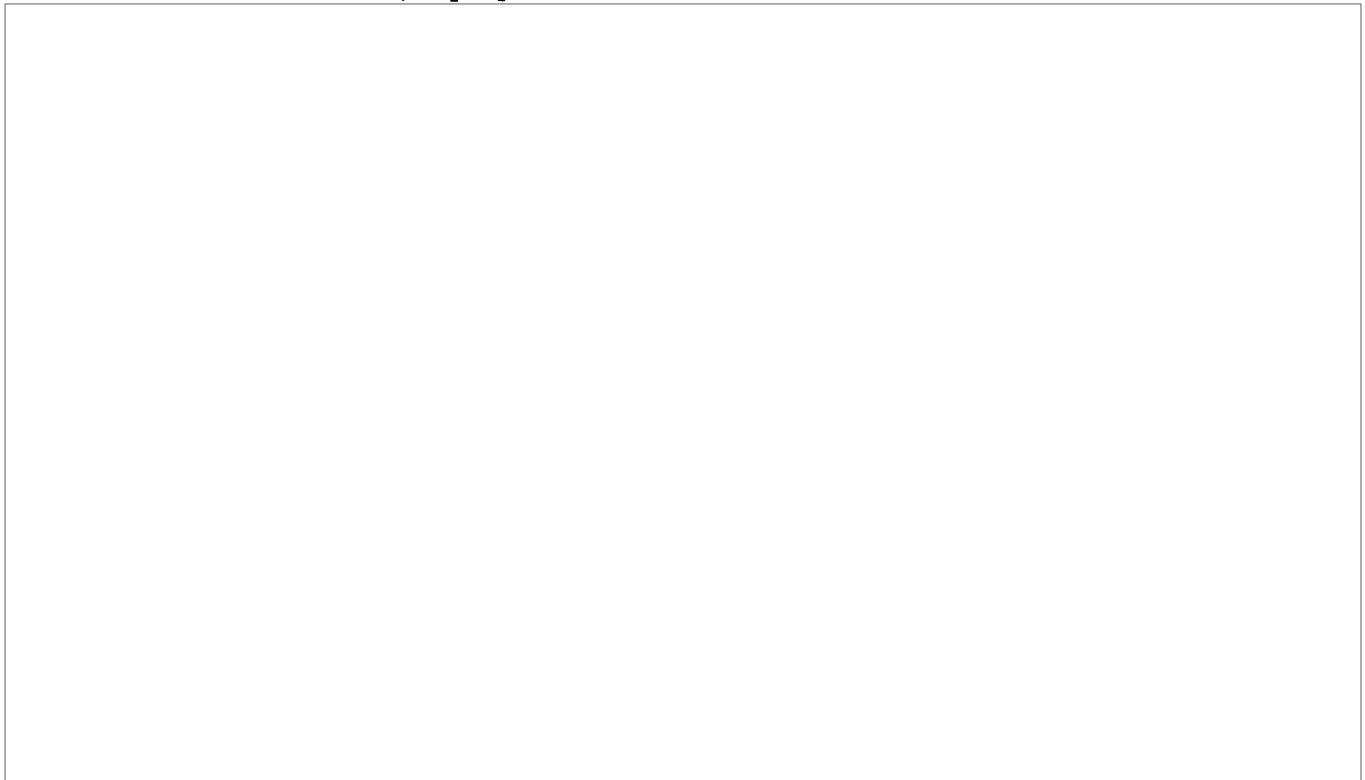
In Bilisht there is a People's Court of Justice which is composed as follows:

- 1). President of the court.
- 2). People's prosecutor.
- 3). Two secretaries assisting the President.
- 4). Two secretaries " the prosecutor.

~~5).~~ The a/m people are employed by the Ministry of Justice.

None of the a/m people studied law.

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3. Education

In Bilisht operates a 4 grades elementary school and a 7 grades UNIKE. Effective in Sept. 1955, ~~effective~~ it is compulsory for the pupils to attend the UNIKE, in case that operates such a school in their village. When there is none, then the students are obliged to attend the 4 grades elementary school.

For the UNIKE and the elementary school of Bilisht there are 6 school-masters and 3 school-mistresses.

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25X14. Church(Religion)

About 75% of the inhabitants of Bilisht are Moslems; the remaining 25% are Christians(Orthodox).

The performance of the religious duties is free. Due to the lack of a Moslem priest and the fact that the Mosque has been converted to a ~~mosque~~ motion picture theater, the Moslems are not performing their religious duties at all. The Christians(Orthodox), on the other hand, except the aged ones, do not go to the church because the youth of the village scoff at those who go to the church.

In Bilisht there is only one priest officiating every Sunday at the church of Saint-Athanasios which is located about 300 m. N. of Bilisht. His name is Hristo LLFAZANI ; ~~and he was~~ ^{and his family} ~~was~~ carried away forcibly

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5. Social Welfare

a). Hospitals

Hospital of Bilisht

In Bilisht operates a public(government) hospital, which has about 60 beds. The personnel of the hospital consist of one doctor, graduate of the medical institute of Tirane, ~~SECRET~~ and 5 nurses(3 females and 2 males). Medical examination is free for everybody. The hospital of Bilisht provides medical treatment to all inhabitants of the area of Bilisht for which they have to pay 40 lek daily(for each day in hospital), plus the medicines that they have to buy from persons who receive packages with such items

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[Redacted]

This is due to the lack of medicines in Albania.

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b). Diseases scourging the population

Due to the bad living conditions, the people had been affected by T.B. especially the youth.

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[Redacted]

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PARTY ACTIVITIES

6. Structure & Organization of the C.P.

a). C.P. Organizations in Bilisht

C.P. Committee

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The C.P. committee of Bilisht is organized as follows:

First and Second secretary

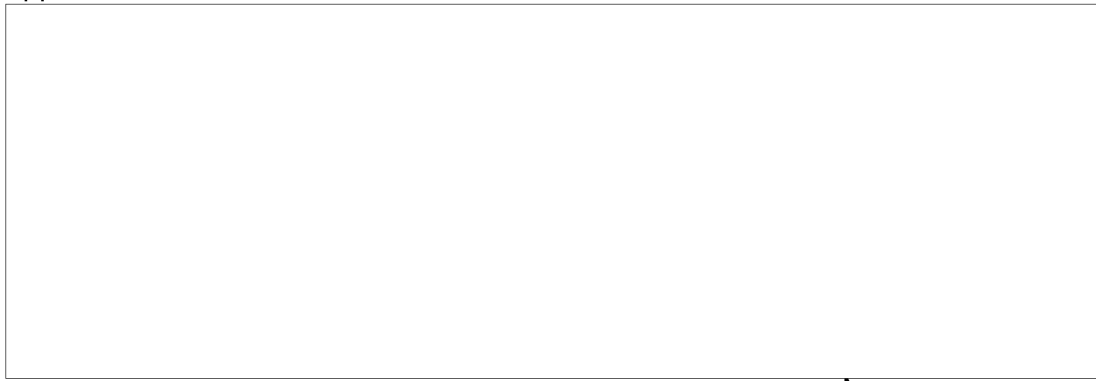
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Press & Agitation office (AGITPROP)

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FRONTI DEMOKRATIK(Organ. of the Democratic Front)

-Chief: Fahri Ali MEKA

inhabitant

-Members: Every ~~6000~~ above 20 years of age is obliged to be a member of the Democratic Front.

Morale

Morale of the People

The Albanian people is scared and disappointed. The bad living condition and the terror deprived the Albanians of any ability for resistance. They hope for a war which would render their liberation easier by an external interference (foreign interference).

Economy

1. Agriculture

Items and quantities produced in various areas.

Farming production in Bilisht.

In the area of Bilisht there are 5.000 acres (Strema) of land suitable for cultivation, producing the following items:

-Total production of wheat:		220.000 kgs
- " " " maize:	160.000 "	
- " " " chick-peas:	8.000 "	
- " " " beans:	8.000 "	
- " " " barley:	160.000 "	

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Total production of	rye	8.000 kgs
"	"	"
"	potatoes	200.000 kgs
"	"	"
"	beet-roots	2000.000 kgs

b). Farming goods(products) exported to the Soviet Union.

The following goods are exported from Albania to the U.S.S.R.
 Fruits, olive oil, eggs, and cheese. Albania imports wheat and machinery.

2.- Food supplies

a). Insufficiency of supplies

[redacted] in Albania there is a great scarcity of first necessity items. Their distribution is still based on the ration-cards. Ration-cards are issued to persons working in government operated activities only. The rest of the population ~~get~~ get their supplies from the black(free) market where the prices are vey high.

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There are three different kinds of ration cards:

- a). Ration-cards for laborers engaged with heavy labor
- b). " " " " " " light work and for the civil-servants.
- c). " " " the members of their families.

[redacted]

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b). Prices of the first necessity items in the free market, compaired with an average day's wages:

Wheat	60-80 lek per kg
Maize	50-60 lek per kg
Butter	500 lek per kg
Cheese	160 lek per kg
Meat	120 lek per kg

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[redacted]

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Eggs	8 lek each.
Beans	90 lek per kg.
Olive oil	280 lek per kg.
Rice	250 lek per kg.
Coffee	1200 lek per kg.
Sugar	2 50 lek per kg.
A pair of shoes	1000-1200 lek each.
A suit of clothes	10.000 leks.
Average day's wages about 180 lek.	

C H A P T E R G.

ROAD COMMUNICATIONS

1.- Vehicles

The transportation from Bilisht to Korce is carried out by two busses which belong to government enterprise. One of them is a 36-seats Soviet ZIS; the other is a 24-seats Czechosl. [redacted]

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[redacted] Regular trips are performed every Saturday, when the inhabitants of the area of Devol go to the market of Korce. As for the rest days of the week, the trips-schedule is based on the presence of passengers. The bus-ticket ~~2000~~ for a trip from Bilisht to Korce costs 30 lek.

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C H A P T E R H

GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION

1.- Info concerning towns and villages

Bilisht has about 470-500 houses and a total of 2.500 inhabitants. About 75% of them are Moslems and the remaining 25% are Christian(Orth.) [redacted] estimation the number of male inhabitants is bigger than that of females. There is a Post Telegraph office which [redacted] sphone [redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted]
contact with Korce. Electric current is produced by a gas.-engine driven
power plant. The water is received from wells and springs.

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