

SECRET
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PERTINENT INFORMATION						
14. Extract:						
<p><u>Enver HOKHA</u>: First Secretary of Albanian Workers (Communist) Party. Source met HOKHA four or five times during the war.</p> <p>HOKHA is described by Source as lacking the necessary leadership qualities of aggressiveness, courage and strength of personality. He is overly cautious in expressing new ideas or initiating necessary Party and government actions, never making a decision unless he is certain that no repercussions will result. As a consequence of these weaknesses, Source believes that HOKHA is not well qualified for the top position in Albania, and that any strong person filling the No. 2 position is thereby able to approach, if not equal, HOKHA in the degree of political control over the government. This was true of Koci XOXE, who, according to Source, was placed in the No. 2 position by Yugoslavia thereby using XOXE's stronger personality to neutralize HOKHA. Mehmet SHENU was selected by HOKHA because a strong man was needed at the time of XOXE's arrest and the resulting attack on the <u>Sigurimi</u>. Had HOKHA's own position during the XOXE episode not been in danger, Source believes that HOKHA might have selected Bedri SPAHTU to fill the No. 2 position. Bedri SPAHTU, a weaker person than HOKHA, would have made HOKHA's position more secure.</p> <p>HOKHA is capable of making public speeches with considerable effect, even moving some to tears. Excluding his speeches before official Party meetings, the purpose of HOKHA's public speeches is primarily for their emotional appeal. According to Source, as a result of XOXE's trial and the First Party Congress, a more liberal policy was adopted thus giving the impression of greater freedom within the Party and the government. By 1950, however, the Party leaders reversed themselves in order to tighten and centralize control.</p> <p>HOKHA's tendency to stoutness is offset by his height. According to Source, his weight fluctuates according to the political climate. For instances, during the XOXE trial in 1949, HOKHA lost a considerable amount of weight and his clothes hung on him like sacks.</p> <p>Liri BELLISHOVA and Beqir BALLUKU are considered close friends of HOKHA. Manush MIPTIU is not a close friend. However, MIPTIU was formerly a XOXE man and has not</p>						
15. FILE THIS FORM IN FILE NO. <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>						

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(7-46)

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committed himself to support either HOKHA or SHEHU. Pilo PERISTEPI is considered a friend of HOKHA as well as Spiro KOLEKA. HOKHA is responsible for the position KOLEKA now holds and in addition has protected KOLEKA from SHEHU's attempts to eliminate him.

Mehmet SHEHU certainly cannot be considered a friend of HOKHA, since SHEHU is attempting to neutralize HOKHA's position and one day may succeed him. According to Source, it is difficult to name HOKHA's enemies, since he is never directly involved in disciplinary actions and purges. Although HOKHA undoubtedly gives the approval for such actions, it is actually SHEHU who orders dismissals, even where high-ranking Party members are concerned.

HOKHA speaks French, Italian, and Source heard that he speaks Russian well.

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