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COUNTRY: Albania
 REF ID: EAV-10,283
 SUBJECT: ⁰ Ill Health of Enver Hoxha
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DATE OF INFO: Early 1965
 PLACE & DATE ACC.: (19 March 1965)

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE CREDITS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: An untested source (F) formerly resident in Tirana, from a member of the family of [] and from a senior diplomat stationed in Tirana.

Appraisal of Content: 3.

Albanian Workers Party First Secretary Enver Hoxha is "seriously ill" with tuberculosis. Hoxha no longer goes to his office, but does his work at home. He has been seen in public only once recently, on the occasion of his giving a speech at the new basketball and volley ball stadium in Tirana during the celebrations concerning the twentieth anniversary of the liberation of Albania. Has led to an increase in power of Ramiz Alia.

*cit Albania R
 occ C Poff
 RA Albania R*

¹ Comment: EAV-9507, from the same source, reported that Hoxha had been suffering since at least early 1962 from an (unspecified) blood ailment. The blood ailment required him seriously to curtail his activities.

Source Comment: ^{Enver} Hoxha's increasing disability has led to an increase in both the stature and power of Central Committee Secretary and Politburo Member Ramiz Alia, the number two man in the Albanian Workers Party. Considering Alia's Party positions, the frequent publicity accorded him and his position at official functions such as the greeting of foreign delegations and visitors, it appears that Alia is now the power behind the throne. Because of his position within the Party, Alia probably wields more power than Premier Mehmet Shehu.

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