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SEDORECORD
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IMMEDIATE

FRP: . . . . . .

STAFF

CONF: SE/BB-5 INFO: ODPD-D, RF, FILE, QA/FILE, SEDORECORD, AF/OPS, AF/RB, AF/SB-4, DC/AF/RB, C/EUR, EUR/BC-4, EUR/BNL-3, EUR/CGT-3, EUR/CI, EUR/F-4, EUR/G-5, EUR/I-4, EUR/NOR-3, EUR/RR-2, EUR/SA-3, C/FR/RB, DC/FR/RB, FR/E-4, SE/IO, SE/OPB, SE/OREE, SE/ORP, SE/RBI, SE/RR-3, SE/XAF-2, SE/XEU-2, SE/XFR-4, SE/XO, EPO/AF, EPO/EUR, EPO/FD, (74/P)

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85 6997031 ASO PAGE 001
TOT: 120039Z APR 85 DIRECTOR 333406

S E C R E T
STAFF 120031Z DIRECTOR 333406
TO: IMMEDIATE [redacted] INFO [redacted]

WNINTEL [redacted]

SUBJECT: DEATH OF ENVER HOXHA [redacted]

CFS

1. AS YOU KNOW, THE DEATH OF ENVER ((HOXHA)) HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED. WHILE OUR IMMEDIATE INTEREST IS IN ACQUISITION OF INTELLIGENCE ON ALBANIA IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THE EVOLVING SITUATION WILL PRESENT OPERATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES SIMILAR TO THOSE WHICH OCCURRED WITH CHINA FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF MAO. WE ARE NOT BEING OVERLY OPTIMISTIC, BUT SIMPLY WISHED TO ALERT YOU, THE STATIONS AND BASES WHICH HAVE SHOWN INTEREST AND CAPABILITY IN THE ALBANIAN AREA, THAT ALBANIA IS CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT TARGET AT THIS MOMENT AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THREE GENERAL AREAS. FIRST, WORKING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED BELOW, PLEASE TASK YOUR CURRENT ASSETS WHO HAVE ANY CONTACTS OR OPS RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALBANIAN OFFICIALS OR SOURCES. SECONDLY, WHERE YOUR LIAISON RELATIONSHIP IS APPROPRIATE, PLEASE DISCUSS THESE REQUIREMENTS WITH YOUR LOCAL LIAISON SERVICES AND ASK FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN REPORTING ON KEY AREAS. FINALLY, PLEASE BE ALERT FOR QUICKLY DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES TO EITHER ENHANCE AN ONGOING OPERATION OR TO DEVELOP NEW SOURCES ON ALBANIA. WHILE WE HAVE NOT HAD MUCH SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE WITH ALBANIAN OFFICIALS AND WHAT MOTIVATES THEM, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME WILL BE SEEKING OR WILLING TO ACCEPT INSURANCE AGAINST DRASTIC POLITICAL AND PERSONNEL CHANGES IN ALBANIA.

3. ANY VIEWS OR SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY WISH TO OFFER ON HOW TO APPROACH THE ALBANIAN TARGET, EITHER IN A GENERAL SENSE OR IN A SPECIFIC OPERATION, WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED AND REVIEWED.

4. ALBANIAN BACKGROUND: THE DEATH OF ALBANIAN PARTY LEADER ENVER HOXHA WAS ANNOUNCED ON ALBANIAN RADIO 11 APRIL. THE FUNERAL HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR 15 APRIL, WITH AN OFFICIAL MOURNING PERIOD LASTING BETWEEN 11 AND 18 APRIL. THE 76-YEAR-OLD PATRIARCH, WHO HAD BEEN IN POWER SINCE 1943, HAD BEEN IN ILL HEALTH FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE AND HIS WARTIME COLLEAGUE THE LATE PREMIER MEHMET ((SHEHU)) FIRST ALLIED ALBANIA WITH THE USSR. IN 1961, HOWEVER, RELATIONS WERE BROKEN WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND ALBANIA WITHDREW FROM THE WARSAW PACT IN 1968. THE COUNTRY'S ASSOCIATION WITH CHINA BEGAN

12 Apr 85

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Date: 2005

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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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TOT: 120039Z APR 85 DIRECTOR 333406

ORIG: C/SE/BB-SE/RR/EE [redacted]; AUTH: C/SE/IO ();
COORD: [redacted] SE/X/EU (), FR/E (), DC/EUR/RR [redacted]
AF/SB/R [redacted]; REL: C/EUR (). CL BY [redacted]
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