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Federal Bureau of Investigation

MAY 3 - 1967

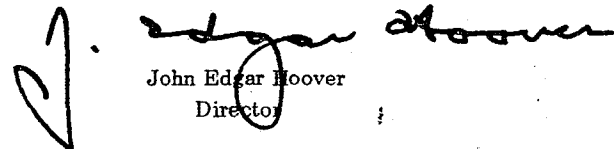
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

ATTENTION: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

- 1. For your information, I am enclosing communications which may be of interest to you.
- 2. No further investigation is contemplated with regard to this matter.
- 3. You will be advised of the pertinent developments in connection with this inquiry.
- 4. Please note change in caption of this case.
- 5. Status of case:  Completed  Incomplete

Very truly yours,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enc.

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Boston, Massachusetts

DBB

79104

April 21, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

○ JOSE ALBERTO LUZAJ, also known  
as Jose Luzay, Doctor Jusuf Luzay,  
Isuf Lusaj, Yusuf Lusaj, Peiro  
Valcado, Isuf Luzi  
INTERNAL SECURITY - AL

*Communist*

BS T-1, another Governmental Agency which conducts security investigations, advised by memorandum dated December 14, 1965 that, <sup>According to</sup> several reports dated 1944 to 1946 from a predecessor organization (sources described as unknown) ~~the~~ the subject was a member of the Northern Central Committee of Balli Kombetar Party, an anti-communist party of Albania. Subject took over military command of this party in the Valona area of Albania, succeeding Skender Muco with whom he disagreed regarding collaboration with the Axis Powers during World War II.

Subject worked closely with the Germans and was therefore probably a member of the Gestapo (German Secret State Police). Subject was accused by Albanians of the massacre of three hundred men of Valona. He was described as being dishonest and an opportunist and one who did not belong to any political party while residing in Italy.

The above source further advised that a report dated in June, 1947 (source unknown) indicated that the subject was a member of the Italian Communist Party.

The above source advised that, according to a report dated in December, 1958 from a reliable source, the subject was reported to be definitely anti-communist and was condemned to death by the communists. In 1945 he went to Brescia, Italy, where he won the friendship of Sandro Pertini, a socialist. The subject abused the trust of Pertini and became notorious as the "terror of Brescia".

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The above source further advised that according to a report dated January, 1959, from an official Italian source, the subject was arrested in 1940 for violation of enforced residence regulations for political prisoners against Fascism. In 1946 he was arrested for swindling and for falsification of official documents; he was pardoned in 1947. In 1946, while being arrested and accused of swindling, the subject identified himself as Piero Valcado. He was acquitted on the swindling charge, but was sentenced to nine months imprisonment for the declaration of false identity.

All sources listed hereinafter have furnished reliable information in the past.

BS T-2 advised in December, 1966, that "Besa", a publication of the Albanian Agrarian Democratic Party in Istanbul, published an article in a recent edition setting forth the activities of Luzaj during the last year of the German occupation of Albania during World War II. Luzaj went over to the side of the Germans and took money to procure men for the Germans. Luzaj cooperated with the Gestapo by accusing many Albanians of working with the Allies. Specifically, Luzaj was instrumental in the death of Skender Muco, a lawyer who was a member of the Central Committee of the Balli Kombetar Organization, and two other Albanians. Luzaj was reported to have shown a photograph of Muco to the Germans. With the assistance of the photograph, the Germans were able to capture Muco and the two others. The three of them were tortured while being questioned and then shot.

On August 22, 1966 BS T-2 said the two factions attempting to gain the leadership of the Balli Kombetar Organization (BKO) have been exchanging low-level charges against each other for about a year. The split has made the BKO ineffectual in the anti-Communist Albania movement and even though there are not too many members of the BKO, there are some members of the Party who are not in agreement with either the Cakrani faction or the Luzaj faction.

BS T-2 stated Luzaj came from Argentina and stayed in Chicago for about six months prior to going to Boston to work for Anthony Athanas. His wife, who is an

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Argentinian of Italian extraction, was also with him in Chicago. While in Chicago, Luzaj was unemployed and resided with friends while attempting to seek employment as a language teacher on the college level. However, Luzaj was unable to meet the requirements for such a position. According to BS T-2, Luzaj is a prolific writer and it is the belief of BS T-2 that Luzaj, with the assistance of Anthony Athanas, is attempting to secure the position of editor of "Dielli", official publication of Pan Albanian Federation of America (VATRA).

On May 12, 1966 BS T-2 stated that representatives of other emigre parties had been invited to attend the Congress of the Legality Party held on April 9, 10, 1966, at the Sheraton Atlantic Hotel, New York City, but Jusuf Luzaj, who is contesting Kadri Cakrani's right to the Presidency of the BKO, was the only non-Legality Party member in attendance. BS T-2 advised Luzaj was also in Boston, Massachusetts, for the anniversary of the death of Bishop Fan S. Noli. BS T-2 said Luzaj's picture was in "Dielli" showing him placing flowers on the tomb of Bishop Fan S. Noli.

It appeared strange to BS T-2 that while Ali Klissura, deceased leader of the BKO, was alive Luzaj was never heard from and now Luzaj seems very active concerning Albanian emigre political matters. BS T-2 advised he was able to learn something from friends in Argentina about the way Luzaj operated while he was in Argentina. According to BS T-2 Luzaj would meet a member of the Albanian Agrarian Democratic Party Balli Kombetar (Agrar) and would tell him he had just returned from Paris, France, where he met Abas Ermenji, a leader of the Agrar. In order to get close to the member of the Agrar, Luzaj would lead him to believe Luzaj was close to Ermenji. BS T-2 said Luzaj would use the same approach with members of other emigre groups.

BS T-3 advised in January, 1967 that the subject currently resides in the Boston area and is employed as a waiter at Anthony's Pier 4 Restaurant, Boston, Massachusetts.

BS T-3 stated that he has frequently heard the allegations against the subject, that he is personally

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acquainted with the subject through the subject's affiliation with other individuals who were officers in the Albanian Army. The subject was with these people fighting against the Yugoslav guerillas when he allegedly turned Muce over to the Germans. This source personally believes the stories about the subject are untrue. This source considers the subject as "absolutely the last person on earth" who would have anything to do with the communists. This source doubts that the subject is engaged in any activity which would be inimical to the United States.

BS T-3 described the subject as a dynamic individual who naturally assumes leadership be it on the battlefield or in a political party. For this reason the subject has made countless enemies within the Albanian emigre ranks in Italy, Argentina and elsewhere. The source characterized the subject as an intelligent person, very efficient in languages and perhaps an "opportunist" at heart.

A summary translation of an article appearing in the February 1, 1967 edition of "Dielli", official publication of VATRA, entitled "Dignity and Conscience", is as follows:

This is an appeal to all Albanians to be guided in all their actions by good sense, dignity and conscience. There is no room for fanaticism and continuous criticism.

A person named S. Velaj has written "A Clarification". He says the newspaper "National Defense" published by the Balli Kombetar said that Velaj had attended a meeting of the Balli Kombetar on September 26, 1965. A quote from that newspaper reads as follows ... "the witness given by Selahedin Velaj at the general meeting on September 26, 1965, threw down every accusation fabricated by Halim Begeja about the killing of Skender Muce, Yzeir Ismaili and Zako Mezini. Selahedin Velaj, as a ballist, as a first cousin of the deceased Zako Mezini and as a person located in Vlora (Albania) at the time of this event, has knowledge surrounding the development of this happening one hundred times greater than Begeja.

Velaj says the things he said at the meeting were

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his own personal ideas and did not constitute a "witness". He says up until now the accusations against an Albanian here in exile (unnamed) as being responsible for the deaths of the three men have not been proved. He is making this declaration, not to enter in any discussion or controversy, and certainly not to take anyone's side in the matter. He merely asks the two sides not to entangle him in any controversy.

Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) File Al4-743-151, made available by Supervisor James Morrissey, INS, Boston, Massachusetts, on January 26, 1967, shows that subject arrived in the United States at New York City on March 25, 1965. He was born February 21, 1914 in Albania and is listed as being "stateless" and a former citizen of Albania. He was admitted as a B-2 non-immigrant and was in possession of Argentine Passport #3785338. His local mailing address was listed as Peter Chicos, 68 Broad Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

In a letter to INS dated May 13, 1966 subject stated that following the occupation of Albania by the Italian Army in April, 1939, he was taken prisoner and kept in a concentration camp in Ventotene, Italy, where his personal belongings, including academic papers, were confiscated. In 1944, he was granted amnesty by the Italian authorities and sent back to Albania.

In this letter, the subject claims that he fought in the mountains in Albania with Organizata Balli Kombetar against Fascists, Nazis and communists. On November 28, 1944 he was forced to flee Albania and temporarily resided in Reggio, Italy. He taught philosophy and languages until July, 1948, when he migrated to Argentina.

The letter continues that upon arrival in the United States, he was unable to present documentary evidence of his academic accomplishments prior to April, 1939, because of arrest and imprisonment by the Fascist Army and because of confiscation of personal belongings and also because of the present political situation in Albania.

INS records further contain an Application for Employment Certification dated May 20, 1966 by Peter Chicos on behalf of "Pan Albanian Federation of America - Vatra". This organization was in need of a qualified

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Editor for their publication at a salary of \$150.00 per week.

In regard to the subject's background, the INS records show that he claims education as follows:

State College, Scutari, Albania, 1926 - 1933.

Sorbonne, Paris, France, 1933 - 1935.

Academy of Albania, Tirana, Albania 1935 - 1938

In the INS records the subject lists himself as author of many books and over 300 articles in magazines and newspapers. He claims a knowledge of Albanian, Latin, French, Spanish, English and Italian.

He further claims experience as educator, administrator and student of research in civic matters.

He was employed from 1950 to 1962 at the French Institute for Advanced Studies in Buenos Aires, Argentina where he "administered and taught" logic, philosophy, history and languages. During the period 1948 to 1954 he was also employed by the Minister of Public Health in Buenos Aires.

These INS records show that from 1951 to 1965 he was Editor of "Arberia", an Albanian newspaper published in Buenos Aires. During this time he was also Editor of "Zerilire", an Albanian weekly published in Buenos Aires.

The subject further lists himself as a widower, his wife, Drita Mazeni, and five children being deceased.

He previously resided at 29 South Balch Street, Akron, Ohio, from March, 1965 to April, 1966.

The subject, in these INS records, describes himself as President since 1939 of Balli Kombetar, a political organization actively opposed to communism. The records of INS contain a sworn translation of a letter

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dated December 23, 1962 from American Confederation Against Communism certifying that subject, Secretary General of the organization, was the author of more than 100 works on communism and more than 200 radio and television scripts against communism.

BS T-4 advised in January, 1967 that Jose Luzaj, a leader of the Balli Kombetar Organization, was attempting to obtain the post of Editor of "Dielli". He was opposed by many VATRA members since VATRA is an American organization with membership open to all political factions. He stated that Luzaj had the reputation of being anti-communist and that he is considered as being honest and of good character. Luzaj was employed for a period of time as a cashier at Anthony's Pier 4 Restaurant and is currently seeking a professorship at a local university.

On March 31, 1967 Jose Luzaj, also known as Isuf Luzaj, Jose Alberto Luzaj, advised that he was born on February 21, 1914 at Kamina, Valona, Albania. He has not used other names and is not known by any other names. He was educated at Gymnasium of State, Scutari, Albania, from 1926 - 1933; University of Paris, Sorbonne 1933 - 1936 and Business College, Valona, Albania, 1932 - 1936. The latter has mandatory attendance for examinations only. He was a professor at Albania Elbasan from February, 1936 to September, 1936 and a Teaching Instructor from September, 1936 to June, 1938 at Koritza Lycee, Valona. From September, 1938 to April 15, 1939, he was a Professor at the above business college.

He was arrested and jailed from April, 1939 to March, 1940 at Ginokastru, Italy because of his position as Chief of "Balli Kombetar", an anti-communist political party of Albania. From March, 1940 to June, 1940 he continued in jail at Bari, Italy, and from June, 1940 to August, 1942, in a Concentration Camp in Ventotene, Italy.

In August, 1942, he, along with many others, received amnesty from the King of Italy. He returned to Valona where he resided at Udhë Vrashovica #33 until November 28, 1942. On this latter date, he and several others organized a demonstration against Italy and he was forced to escape into the mountains. While in the



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mountains, he was commander in chief of Balli Kombetar and was in charge of military operations in the south zone of Albania against the Italian Army, German Army and the Albanian communists.

The subject informed that he married Drita Mezini on August 1, 1936 in Valona. She and five children of this marriage, Eleanor, Mehmet, Kujtim, Elizabeth and Dalan, were killed by Albanian communists in Valona on November 27, 1944.

On November 28, 1944, the subject left Albania and went to Vienna, Austria. He travelled to Venice, Italy on April 25, 1945 where he resided at 91A Via Enrico Dandolo, Lido, Venezia Street, Venice. This was the address of Virginia Zuccolin, the sister of his current wife, Rose Zuccolin. His wife had previously been married to an Italian Army General who committed suicide instead of surrendering his troops to the German Army. A son of this marriage, Jorge Bianci, is a twenty-seven year old law student in Argentina.

Subject remained in Venice, Italy performing various tutoring assignments until 1948. He arrived in Buenos Aires, Argentina on June 13, 1948. He resided in Montivideo 872. He is the founder-operator of the Institute of Modern Languages in Buenos Aires which he continued from 1948 to 1965.

The subject stated that his entire life has been devoted to opposing to communism. While in Buenos Aires, he was elected Secretary of "Congress Against Communism" and he was elected President to the "Congress Against Communism" held in Lima, Peru in 1956.

On December 5, 1965 he was elected President of Balli Kombetar at the "Congress of Balli Kombetar" held in New York City. As a result of this election, five members of this group left the organization and founded their own group. These five members were responsible for the dissemination of untruths regarding his activities and background.

The subject categorically denied being a German Agent and being a member of the Gestapo. He stated.

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that at one time the entire Balli Kombetar organization collaborated with the Germans against the communists. He emphatically denied responsibility for the death of Mucco and two others. He stated that he has never been in the Kosseve Section of Yugoslavia. He explained that Halim Begeja is responsible for the lies being circulated regarding this matter. He denied responsibility for the massacre of three hundred men of Valona.

He further denied membership in the Italian Communist Party. He stated that he has never used the name Piero Valcado.

He denied arrest in 1946 for swindling or for falsification of official documents.

Luzay arrived in the United States at New York on March 24, 1965 and resided with a cousin at 29 South Balch Street, Akron, Ohio until December 1, 1965. He next resided at 536 Third Avenue, Brooklyn, New York until May, 1966. He was a resident at 42 Worcester Square, Boston, Massachusetts until March 4, 1967. He was unemployed during this time in the United States except for the period May to August, 1966 when he worked as a Cashier at Pier 4 Restaurant, Boston. He is now owner-operator of Richdale Milk Store, 205 Burrill Street, Swampscott, Massachusetts. Since March 4, 1967, he has resided with his wife at 390 Essex Street, Salem, Massachusetts.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Boston, Massachusetts

DBB 79107

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

April 18, 1967

Title

JOSE ALBERTO LUZAJ, also known as  
Jose Luzay, Doctor Jusuf Luzay,  
Isuf Lusaj, Yusuf Lusaj, Peiro Valdaco,  
Isuf Luzi

Character

INTERNAL SECURITY - AL

Reference

Boston letterhead memorandum dated  
and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities  
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable  
information in the past.

C J