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SECURITY INFORMATION

1472

~~SECRET~~ CAGWU

22 May 1952

Subject: Translations of Interrogations Conducted by the QKDimple Committee.

To : Chief, DYCluck  
Washington, D.C.

Info: Chief, DYCluck

Attn: [ ]

Attn: [ ]

1. Forwarded under seperate cover are unedited translations of interrogations conducted by the QKDimple Committee. The translations were made in KMulcer by members of [ ] staff.

Attachments:

7 Interrogation Translations (2 copies to [ ]) (s.c.)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 9828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

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Attach #7 to 1472-CAGWU

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Memorandum

17 May 1952

Subject: Notes on General Conditions in Albania

To : [ ]

From : [ ]

1. Zejnel Merxhani, from the village of Konispol, says that in the camp of Tepelene, according to information given to him, all the internees have been liberated. He has also met in Komispol people who have returned from this camp.

2. In Beden, of Kavaja, and in the village Lekaj, during the summer of 1951 880 people working in the canals were imprisoned. Zejnel says he has personally seen them while traveling by train.

3. Muharrem Mulaj and Kadri Petrit declare that in the village Arantas (Mallakaster) are gathered all the families of the anti-Communists reactionaries of different regions. They are settled in some old houses and are allowed to work in the region of Fier as workers in different enterprises but at no cost are they allowed to leave the jurisdiction of this region.

The families in question are numerous, they are in terrible conditions, the children beg in the streets of Mallakaster and at night return home.

The two men have talked to someone who has his family relatives in this village called Asllan Caushllija from the village of Caushli of Maliq.

4. In the village of Konispol Avni Malo and his mother beat every day the wife of the former (?) because her husband does not want to become a Security agent like them.

5. The president of the executive committee of the region of Kolonja, Mitraq Vodica, who used to work in a tailor shop, gives orders to his dependants that in case a family has someone condemned by the Communists they must not cry in their own houses. In case these orders are not followed they will encounter the consequences.

6. According to a new law the Tirana Communist Government has declared that those who do not behave properly in jail will see their

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Sentences doubled. Kadri Petrit and Eqrem Faredin Frasheri who were sentenced to five years imprisonment in Korca according to the new dispositions and who was supposed to come out in 1952 will only be free in 1957. Eqrem Frasheri who has never been for the Communists and who in prison has never accepted to be at the service of the prison manager or the agents of the Security to spy on his comrades. During the war Eqrem although very young has fought with the Balli Kombetar, he was ~~XXXXXX~~ arrested on account of this resistance.

With this new law the Communist diminish of three days per month the sentence of those working for them more than the others. This has been done with an exploitation aim.

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Attach. #6. to 1472-CAGWU

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Memorandum

17 May 1952

Subject: Interrogation of Zejnel Shaban Merxhani

To : [ ]

From : [ ]

On April 15, 1952 Zejnel Shaban Merxhani arrived at Lavrion from the village of Konispol. He is 53 years old, a farmer. He crossed the frontier at Verve on March 17, 1952.

Merxhani had the following general comments on the situation in Albania:

Political Situation

1. The most trustworthy families in the village of Konispol are those of: Mustafa Dajlani, Tefik Musa, and Musaj.

2. One month and a half ago at Konispol Skender Plaku, Muco Kareci and Sulo Dajlani were arrested on the pretext that they had seen Sali Dajlani (who is in Greece) while the truth is that Sali at present lives at Siros.

Against The Resistance

1. Fifty days ago a company of infantry arrived at Konispol. It is quartered at the end of the village in the houses of Nimet Malo, who is now in Greece, Khafer Sulo, Qaim Hodo and Avni Malo. The strength of this company was 100 men and 10 mules.

2. The Security agents in Konispol are Izet Osmani, Kadri Rakipi, Hajri Mene, Seit Kurizo.

Security Forces

1. The Security Commandant at Konispol is Seit Kurizo from the village of Verve. There are fifteen policemen in the Security command, they are dressed in civilian clothes.

There is a block-station at Bogazi bridge with six policemen and a sergeant, who, besides the controlling the people guards the bridges at night. Besides this block-station on the road Konispol-Saranda

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there is another in the village Hoxhe and another on the bridge across the river Bistrice where travellers are checked.

### Travel

1. The difficulties of travel are still the same. People wait for weeks at travel agencies in order to get tickets.
2. The Leter Njoftime has not been changed.

### Living Conditions

1. Clothing and food are rationed. In the cooperatives at Konispol there are very few things and most of the time they are missing.
2. While working for three months on the Rogozhina railroad as an armworker I sometimes went to Kavaja where I learned that maize was sold for 70 leks per kg., a kg of corn costs 100 lek, a sheep costs 3,500 lek, a kg of milk 50 lek. The State buys milk from the farmers for 25 lek.

### Escape and Guards

1. A certain Hasan Belloja from Konispol who, on account of the big pursuits by the Communists left for Kavaja, I left too as I have no member of my family in Albania and became a worker on the railroad. While I was there I lost my Leter Mjoftim so I made a declaration to the civilian state bureau of Kavaja and came to Konispol. At Konispol the state employee told me I had to go back to Kavaja to get other documents from the Interior Affairs Section there. As I was awaiting an occasion to escape on the 16th of March 1952 I went to a wedding in the Ninat vilage. From there, at five in the afternoon, in the place called Shendelli of the village of Verve, I crossed the border and delivered myself to the Greek authorities in the village of Pleshavice. In the place I mentioned above which is a forest, I saw there were mines but I crossed from one stone to another with out harm. I saw nobaody during my escape. The Greek authorities brought me to Lavrion.

Special note: The above mentioned is a peasant and is incapable of giving precise information. That is why only general questions were asked.

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Attach. #4 to 1472-CAGWU

Memorandum

16 May 1952

Subject: Interrogation of Xhevedet Malo

To : [ ]

From : [ ] 1

The refugee Xhevedet Malo from Konispol and ex-employee in the post office of Konispol reports the following:

1. In 1951 in a Gjinokaster village one person received from his brother in America a package with clothes of a value of \$20 but the post office authorities charged him with \$250 custom-duty. Hence this person writes a letter to his brother in America asking him to send the above mentioned sum of dollars. Naturally the brother in America receiving this letter was surprised and at once writes a letter to the teacher of the village, a friend of his, asking whether the brother of the first was feeling well or had gone crazy as he had asked by letter for \$250 to pay the custom duty for the package and \$200 to buy a donkey. Since I cannot believe in these and rather think that my brother must have become mad. As soon as the teacher received the letter he showed it to the brother of his friend and right after makes an answer telling to the above mentioned in America that his brother in health and mind was very well but it is the situation here that has gone crazy and not his brother, therefore, what he asked was right since the custom-duty is \$250 and the donkey costs \$200.

In 1951 Ahmet Abazi from the village of Janjar-Konispol received from his father in America a package containing clothes of \$14 value but the government charged him with a tax \$360. He left the package in the post office.

2. The refugee Muharem Mullaj from the village of Floqi reports:

Aqile Gostivishti from the many tortures done to him by Seksioni i Sigurimit (Security Section) of Korca has lost a leg.

Nexhep Vincani who in 1951 was discharged from the Central Committee and sent to Elbasan as Chief of the Military Recruitment Office is at present the army division commander in Tirana.

It is said that the sons of Kulak families for their military service will do two years forced labor and two years in the army

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as opposed to the military service term for all the citizens of the Republic.

In Maliqi labor center are excluded from the work all those who come from affected families.

In 1951 besides the assigned obligation by the obligation cards the Communist used to oblige the peasants to deliver quantities of wheat not included in the obligation papers. The Communists according to Party's decisions used to assign to each village a quantity, out of the plan, quantity that the Council of the Village used to divide as it wished among the farmers, this was really quite a hard measure. Hard measures were taken against those who did not obey.

In 1951 in Tirana river was drowned for his worries and sufferings the so called Bajram Kuci from the village of Zhulat of Gjinokaster. He was interned with his whole family in the Kamza camp. For his burial the Communists did not even provide a coffin.

3. Mr. Edibe Yze who has been for some years in Kamez Camp and is left free at the end of the year 1950 tells that in the summer of the year 1950 have died in that camp for lack of food, for the bad life and more for non hygienic dwelling places some 40 small children among whom he remembers these names: the daughter of Osman Pajaku from Pogradec, the son of Qamil Collaku from Bilishti, the daughter of Sabri Leminoti from Korca, the daughter of Rapo Selca from Gora of Korca, the son of Dagorica from Korca, the daughter of Shero Tresova from the village of Tresova of Korca, the son of Batire Oshafi from Pogradec, the daughter of Tosun Hoxhallari from the village of Tresova, the son of Kajam Cerasa from Pogradec, two small girls from Halarupi village and a boy died in one day, a boy from Pogradec and three other children from a village, Nizam Gazimi from another village, the mother of Kajim Cerraves, that we mentioned above, the old woman Brakollair from the village Dushari i Oparit and Ligor Gjata from Bilisht.

From many tortures has died in the Bilisht Security Section Isa Bilishti.

4. Kadri Petri who arrived here on 16 March 1952 reports that in Korca prison has died of sufferings Bektash Panariti from the village of Panariti of Korca.

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Attach #5 to 1472-CAGWU

Memorandum

17 May 1952

Subject: Reinterrogation of Mefail Totlaku

To : [ ]

From : [ ]

Mefail Totolaku, 45 years old, born and lived in the village of Tren of Bilisht, a farmer. Totolaku was first interviewed on 6 December 1951.

He has made the following declarations:

Internal Situation

1. There is no organized resistance in our region.
2. The Communist Party chiefs in the region of Bilisht are: Emin Kacani, president of the Executive Committee of the locality; Thimi Domoshi from the village of Hocisht, secretary of the locality; Koci Sinika, agitator of the Party; Sadik Progeri, chief of the locality of Proger; and the secretary, Ligor Berberi.
3. On this matter I know nothing.
4. The people of our region are in the knowledge of the creation of the NCFAs of the elements who compose it and put all their hopes of liberation in the NCFAs.

The western powers are much in favor and they all hope that the USA and Great Britain will give all their backing to the NCFAs. Yugoslavia, she is hated by the masses as there is still a Communist regime in that country, bear the red star, we don't trust them. At the same time they consider Yugoslavia responsible of the sufferings of our country. Nobody thinks that Greece will occupy our regions because the western powers won't allow such. The people dislike Russia and hate the Russians. They say the Kremlin has enslaved the country and made it lose its independence and starve it to death. Italy is considered an enemy. As long as our neighbors will set eyes on Albania we will never be able to consider them as friends. For the near future the Albanian people will vote freely according to his wish and will.

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5. It is true that in our region there are Communists who are liked better than others.

6. I have lived in the village and never had contacts with the Communists but I have heard that there were divisions in the Party.

7. I heard once in Bilisht that Selim Kreken from the village Bitincke, member of the locality of Bilisht, has said to the president that when he fought (the president of the locality), he used to drink raki and talk, that is why I can take you by the arm and take you out of the room, we have fought and won without an sacrifice.

8. I know that in the village Tren that Rahim Ademi, member of the party, is holding by formalities in the ranks of the Party but he has often talked with us against the Communists.

#### Resistance Movement

1. In the region of Bilisht I know that the safest houses against the Communists are: Ismail Kape, Ramadan Mehmeti, Haki Mydini, Arif Ramadani, Refat Madan, Estref Madan, Reshit Ganiu, Hysni Kolami, Zeqir Bektash, Shyqiri Muharemi, Foti Jorgji, Halim Osmani, Rahim Hajrullah, all from the village of Tren. Qamil Saliko, Elmas Shaban, Nazif Sulejman from the village of Bitincka. Seit Mydine, Hajdar Halit Nevruz Kori from the village Rackike; Hysni Demir Bektash Rushan, Sabri Tahir and Banush Hysen from the village of Zogradec; Haku Babllusha, Ibrahim Dedeja from the village of Proger; Adil and Qani Mancurishti, Emin Halim, Ramo Ajdin and Ibrahim Aliko from the village of Golloberde, Raif Sulejman, Muharrem Xhemali, Qani Ahmet, Fuat Selim and Seit Muharem from the village of Cangojn.

2. Lately there have been no arrests in my locality.

3. I have not heard that someone from our region has fled to the mountains.

4. I have not personally seen any trace of the NCFB but my cousin Nazif Kape, told me he has seen a similar trace thrown by a plane of the NCFB saying to be patient because Albania would be liberated with the help of the foreign powers.

#### Anti-Resistance

1. The people against the resistance in our jurisdiction are: Gure Kolami, secretary of the Base Organization; Rustem Kolami, brigadier of the Cooperative and Security agent; Todi Skordileva, secretary of the

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information bureau; Zejnel Rexhepi, Security agent and member of the Base Organization; Resul Zhyleku, President of the Power Council; Sotir Kolezi, president of the council of the Front; Enver Kape, secretary of the youth; all these people are in the village Tren and are members of the Communist Party. They are dressed and wear civilian clothes.

2. In my area there is no pursuit detachment.
3. The information of the Security are the persons above mentioned.
4. I gave the explanations here above because there is no pursuit detachment in our radius.
5. No important Communist person or Russian has visited my area recently.

#### Forces of the Security

1. The commander of the Security of the region of Bilisht is Aspirant Gjergo Risto Dimo from the village of Vernik of Devoll.

#### Armed Forces

As I have not been in the army I am in no state to give information on the organization of the armed forces; I only know that in the mountains of Morava, above Korca, in the mountain of Rackike and on the side of the mountain of Ivan the Communists have built fortifications, but I have seen nothing.

#### Aircraft

I know nothing about this.

#### Communications

I am in no state to give the necessary details on these points as we are villagers, I have had no such occasions but I know that in order to travel from one place to another one needs the Leter Njofitim.

I can not say anything about radios. I heard people saying they hear the "Voice of Free Albania" but I have never been in touch with people listening to the radio.

#### Travel

### Travels

1. There are no private cars in Albania; the old trucks which exist do not suffice the needs of the country; people wait for weeks in front of the travelling agencies to get tickets; to go to Berat I have waited in Korca for four days and after tipping the driver he decided not to takeme. The same thing happened in Berat. I have seen that in Pogradec and in Rogoshima, identity documents are controlled as well as the tickets. To travel everyone must have the Leter Njoftim delivered by the civilian State Bureau. These documents are controlled in the centers by the police authorities. To travel from Korcha to Berat I have paid 160 lek.

2. As for what concerns the traveling documents I explained it here above.

3. The Leter Njoftim have been delivered in 1948. They are valid until there is an order to withdraw them. I do not know anything about the numeration.

4. I have heard nothing about the delivery of new "Leter Njoftim.

### Living Conditions

1. The only money in circulation in Albania is the lek.

2. Food and clothing are rationed.

3. Rationed products are difficult to find. The hierarchs of the Party find everything easily and are backed by the provision stores. Blackmarket is practiced by the State through special stores.

There is a cooperative in the locality of Proger called the exchange cooperative where the peasants take different things on the base of reciprocity but seldom these cooperatives remain for a month without any article.

4. The most important articles missing are; clothes, petrol, rope, sugar, coffee, rice, soap and salt.

5. Everything can be sold but as these articles are missing it can not be said that they asked and in demand.

6. I heard that in Albania medicines are missing. The Communists oblige the peasants to gather flowers in spring in order to make medicines.

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Collectivization

In our village of the 130 families existing, 70 have joined the agricultural cooperative. Although the majority did not wish to participate they had to because they were in no state to fulfill all their obligations. According to the dispositions of the statute of the cooperative to its members no maize is given until they fulfill their obligations to the State; in this manner all the farmers who have taken part in this collective are completely discontent but they can not get out of it cause they will loose their cattle and their working tools they gave on entering. Many members of the collective sabotage by breaking the tools or in bad farming. Those who are discovered are expelled for a few months, their right to recompense or reduction is withdrawn.

The system of forced collectivization is hated by all the masses of our country

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Attach. #1 to 1472-CAGWU

Memorandum

15 May 1952

Subject: Interrogation of Xhevdet Malo, April 5, 1952

To : [ ]

From : [ ]

On November 27, 1951, arrived at Lavrion Xhevdet Malo, son of Omer and Qazime Malo, born and resident of Konispol (region of Saranda). He is 25 years old, has an elementary education and has been a government civil servant. Being opposed to the regime he was struck off the roll when he was working at the post office of Konispol on May 25, 1951.

He declares the following:

I. The Internal Political Situation

1. He knows of no organized party acting against the regime in the district of Saranda, except individual persons who in some way or other are against the regime.

2. In Konsipol itself the principal leaders of the communist party are the following: Jonus Tatari, secretary of the "center", Ali Xhelo, president, Feim Ali Menko, secretary of the village council and a very reliable man of the party, Vanjgel Mane Nuredin Basho and Lute Demsheagjita, party members. In the Konispol "locality" there may be 40-50 members of the party. All the above mentioned are hated by the people.

3. On the first of Bajram (Moslem Christmas) of 1951 the member of the Communist Party Laze Badeja has thrown tomatoes (in public) on the Mufti (Moslem) Hafuz Fuat in order to jeer at him.

4. The people has put all their hopes on the National Committee for Free Albania and knows some of its leaders. President Hasan Dosti is very popular and so is Abz Kupi, while they do not know much about the others, because the leaflets thrown have not mentioned the composition of the Committee, although the broadcasting stations have mentioned them, but the peasants have no occasion to listen.

The people have great confidence in the Anglo-Americans and hope that the National Committee for Free Albania will have their help for the liberation of the country.

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As far as Yugoslavia is concerned I can say without exaggeration that nowhere in Albania is there any sympathy for Yugoslavia and they do not expect, they do not want any liberation from there; on the contrary they hold Yugoslavia responsible for all the misfortunes and for the present regime, and they hate its regime as much as that of Enver Hoxha.

As for Greece the people look with enmity at the claims of Yugoslavia on Albania and expect no help from her as long as she insists on her claims. I am sure that in the case of Greece invading Albania our region will fight to the end, be it under Communist bondage.

95 percent of the people without exception feel a strong hate for Russia and hold her as the cause of all the blood and sufferings of the country. The propaganda of the Communist Party in favor of Russia have a hostile reaction on the part of the masses of the people and especially the Albanian peasant.

About the future government the people of my region think that the program of the National Committee for Free Albania reflects their wishes. Our people have experienced all sorts of dictatorships from which they have inherited tears and blood and so now desire to have a democratic regime.

5. In our "locality" the people do not distinguish among the communists and look upon them equally as enemies.

6. Recently there has been a purge in the party of our "locality" and the following have been expelled from the party: Mustafa Bilali, director of "ndermarrja e greumbullimit" (the office which takes care of the gathering and depositing of the harvest), Bajram Peka who was all-powerful in the "locality" and Neki Bilali, accountant of the cooperative of buying and selling.

7. I know that there are differences among the party members because of their positions but they are not widely expressed because of the heavy dictatorship.

8. I know party members who are dissatisfied with the regime but they do not talk.

## II. The Resistance Movement.

1. The following are those that oppose the regime and who may be relied upon by any resistance movement: Mustafa Kareci, Beqo Plaku, Abedin Veshi, Neshet Myderrizi and Vesel Madani all from Konispol.

2,3,4 and 5 I know nothing on these points.

6. In March 1951 the Security organs arrested Hasim Moderrizi of Konispol, alledging that he knew about the flight of the accountant of the office of agriculture as the latter inhabited the house of the first. He was condemned to ten years jail by the military court of Gjinokaster.

In April 1951 Malo Zejno of Konispol was arrested alledging that he had tried to flee to Greece and was condemned to 10 years jail in Gjinokaster.

7. From what I know there is nobody in our district that has taken to the mountains.

8. In the Konispol "locality" no leaflets of the National Committee for Free Albania have been dropped, but in 1951, in July I have seen a leaflet which was handed to me coming from Korca. This leaflet had a picture of a peasant on whose back was Evner and on him Stalin and there was the slogan Per Liri Per Shqipri Per Flamurin Kuq e Zi.

### III. Against the Resistance.

1 and 2 Those mentioned in point 2 of the Internal Political situation and a large part of the party members are against the resistance.

3 and 4 In the center of the Konispol "locality" the following civilians are armed: Shefqet Bejdo, guardian of the telegraph poles, Nebi Arapi, postman, Sali Bejdo, farmer, Vehip Bilbili, farmer, Resul Shaqiri, farmer, Madan Kaso, farmer, Ali Ruhani, farmer, Hasan Bace, farmer, Balo Koro, employed at the office of "grumbullimi" Avni Malo, reserve officer, Kadri Rakip, security agent, Mehmet Peka, policeman, Skender Husi, policeman, Ramadan Husi, security agent, Luto Demce, security informer, Nuredin Eshe, security informer, Feim Ali Menko, secretary of the village council, and Jonus Tatari, secretary of the base organization of the party.

5. In the region of Konispol there is no military detachment.

6. In point 3 and 4 the mentioned those who are security agents.

7. In Konispol the patrols of the security and of the police inspect day and night around the village.

8. Lately no important persons and no Russians have visited our village.

IV The Security Forces.

1. In the "locality" of Konispol it is Lieutenant Seit Purize who is the security commandant. His assistant is second Lieutenant Hajri Mano and Izet Osmani.

2.3. I know nothing of these points.

V. The Armed Forces:

1. I know that there are 3 divisions, one with its headquarters at Gjinokaster, one in Korca, and the third in Tirana, each division has an artillery regiment and a company of engineers as well as liaison. There are also three autonomous regiments, one of liaison with headquarters in Tirana, of the artillery in Elbasan and of the engineers in Skoder.

Their armament is Russian and although new they are not good. German transport communication in the army is not good, because the UNRRA cars have become old and Russia has not brought many.

The Commands use telephones and radio transmitters of Russian type or of German and Czechoslovak types. There is a great lack of wires.

2. I know nothing about this.

3. The distinctive signs of the different arms are: the infantry has a red collar, the artillery blue, the engineers and liaison brown, the police black uniforms with red signs.

4. One understands from the military maneuvers that they are preparing for war.

5. The officers always make defensive propaganda with the troops.

6. I have seen no signs of general mobilization.

7. I do not know any of the officers who have studies in Russia.

8. In our "locality" there are no fortifications.

9. On the occasion of the 10 July celebrations I have seen in Tirana tanks of different types but I have no idea of their armament.

10. In Tirana as well as in Korca a barracks are the same that were up to 1944.



11. The general depot of the magazines is in the Ali Rizai barracks in the Kavaja street, Tirana. These depots are very carefully guarded. The soldiers who guard them are chosen among the most loyal.

#### VI. The Air Force

I have no idea about it as I have always lived far from Tirana and the big centers of Albania.

#### VII Communications

1. Although there is no law about censorship in Albania the security agents censor especially the letters destined for abroad.

2. For postage there are airmail stamps for abroad and ordinary ones for Albania. The stamps vary often according to the days of celebration, for example, Stalin's birthday, the Socialist October Revolution, the 10th of July Army Day, the first of May, the Congress of Permet, of Labinoti, the first Congress of the Party, the birthday of the commander, the Children's International, of the Women, etc.. The stamps are from 1 lek to 20 leks.

3. All parcels coming from abroad or within Albania are legally censored.

4. Telephone communication is free, but they are listening secretly by the agents. There are no telephone communications with outside countries. There is no need of special permits in order to travel from one town to the other, unless one is to be away from his place of residence for more than a month.

5. Anybody is free to send telegrams which do not attack the government or are not suspicious. If the man in the office suspects something about a telegram he has to inform at once the "locality" office. There are different types of radio apparatus in Albania and with short and long wave lengths.

6. Voice of America and the BBC of London are regularly listened to in secret. As for the Voice of Free Albania nobody has heard it up to the time I left. Both transmissions are listened to with interest but especially the Voice of America with its daily comments on Albania. The news are spread all over Albania so that every one arrives from Tirana to Konispol (when someone arrives from Tirana to Konispol)

7. I have heard of no order to confiscate the radio apparatus.

### VIII Travelling

1. There are no private cars in Albania. Public transportation is pitiful. People wait for weeks at the transport agencies for a seat. The Kulaks, the families which have suffered from the reforms or those that are considered as anti-Communist have no right to travel by state means of communication, or very rarely. There are very few cars and buses. There is great difficulty in transporting goods. The train goes from Elbasan to Durrës but I have no idea about it, although friends of mine have told me that in that part of the country transport is very difficult. From Konispol to Saranda one has to pay 51 leks for a postin a car. Personal documents and identity papers are needed in travel, as well as the military service document. The police inspect the cars along the way at the Bogzzi bridge, in the village of Hoxhe, at the Bistrice bridge Krane and at the Kalasa bridge. The passengers are obliged to show their identity papers and their travelling tickets.

2. The identity documents are issued by the office of "Gjendja Civile" (registration office), from the military offices and from the transport offices respectively: Identity document, military service document and travelling ticket.

3. Identity documents are for an indefinite time. They may be annulled by the ministry of interior and it is only then that they are of no use. The identity documents used today have been issued since 1948. They have special signs. I know nothing about the ~~XXXXXX~~ numbering system.

4. Up to the day I left Albania nothing had been heard about annulling the identity documents and substituting them with others, neither had I heard of anything regarding the difficulties of transport.

### IX Way of Living

1. Up to the day I left Albania the money in circulation was the lek as well as lek tickets in use for the special shop where gold and dollars could be accepted.

2. All agricultural produce as well as industrial is rationed.

3. One can obtain rationed goods through "reciprocal tickets" for the peasants and means of ration tickets for those that are employed by the state.

The party exponents can always find goods and are very much favored. The state itself directs the blackmarket through special

but they cost so much that the people can not buy them.

In our "locality" there is a magazine to exchange goods, the farmers have to bring agricultural produce in order to get anything and they are not paid fairly at all. For example, a farmer brings to the center of exchange 50 kgs of wheat and is given a ticket with which he can not obtain a pair of shoes he needs but a pair of small sandals, a tooth brush,  $\frac{1}{2}$  meter of cloth and other such things to complete the cost of the wheat.

4. Clothes, sugar, rice, macaroni, olive oil, canned food in general have been completely lacking in our region since many years ago.

5. As we have said above in our country everything is lacking so that I can say nothing about this point.

6. Medicines demanded most are penicillin, streptomycin, calcium, vitamins, and all medicines in general.

#### X. Collectivization

1 and 2. In the "locality" of Konispol they have not collectivized land. In 1950 the authorities in cooperatives with those responsible for agriculture obliged all the farmers of the village of Konispol to sow the land destined for maize with rice. At the end each farmer was left only 80 kgs of rice as a reward of his toils for a year; the rest was taken by the state. The next year 1951 the peasants refused obstinately to work collectively and so the efforts of the authorities failed in those respects. Collectivization in places where it has been tried as well as in those where it has not been tried is much despised by the Albanian peasants.

3. In our district as well as in the near by districts harvest has not been satisfactory.

Memorandum:

15 May 1952

Subject: Interrogation of Nazar Hyseni, Khavdet Reis, Kamber Alush

To : [ ]

From : [ ]

On 13 April 1952 Khavdet Reis, Kamber Alush and Nazar Hyseni arrived at Lavrion. They are all from the village of Nakolec, sub-prefecture of Resnja (Yugoslavia), who crossed the border in the jurisdiction of Florina on the 14th of March 1952.

The above mentioned have mentioned the following:

1. Seventy-five percent of the Albanian and Bulgarian population in the Popular Macedonian Republic are against Communism.

2. In Shkup an Albanian newspaper "Flaka e Vllaznimit" (The Flame of Liberty) is published it is circulated once a week in all the Albanian villages of the Republic.

3. In each Albanian village have been opened elementary schools, and primary instruction is obligatory for all Albanian children.

4. Courses have been opened for young teachers and for the perfection of the old ones.

5. The Communists who have remained faithful to Stalin have been expelled of all State work.

6. The system of collectivization has been broadened more than in 1948, when Yugoslavia used to follow the Soviet methods. Actually the land of the cultivator is more heavily taxed, but other taxes are lower and the conditions of life of the people have improved.

7. In Yugoslavia the government and their defenders say: "we are against Stalin and his doctrine but never against Lenin and socialism" as they walk on his steps to build socialism in their country.

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Attach # 3 to 1472-CAGWU

Memorandum

16 May 1952

Subject: Further Interrogation of Myftar Gode and Isa Gode

To : E

From : [ ]

Isa Gode, 53 years old, born in the Golem village but lived in Lushnja, farmer, formerly a sergeant major in the gendarmerie, with Myftar Gode; 32 years old, born in Golem but lived in Fiere, an accountant arrived at Lavrion on October 25, 1951. Both were first interviewed on the 26th of October.

They have made the following statements about conditions in Albania:

#### Internal Political Situation

1. In the region of Fieri the principal adversaries of the Enver Hoxha regime are: Kaplan Dervishi from Kolonja; Nuredin Aliu, from Cakrani (he used to be with the Liberation Movement), Aslan Hajno, from Lekdusge, actually a mathematics teacher in the Unic school of Fieri; Dr. Heleni working in the Fieri hospital, but who might be transferred to Durazzo.

In the region of Kufvelesh the adversaries are: Nebi Zace, from Golem, Moslem priest; Memisha Ziguri from Golem, former of the gendarmerie (to 1939); Riza Cane, from Nivice, landowner; Myftar Duka, from Gusmar; Dame Laba, from Progonat former officer in the gendarmerie before 1939. In Gjinokaster, the principal adversary is Jonus Topulli, and his son Nuri Topulli who was a lieutenant of the Defense in the actual regime, and actually follows the traces of his father.

2. In the region of Fieri, the principal chiefs of the Communistpart are: Socrat Bufi, first Secretary of the Party for the region of Fieri; Josif Pogace, second secretary of the Communist Party Committee, Miti Sota, agitator of the party in this region; Faik Ahmeti, president of the executive committee; Avni Versuni, vice president of the executive committee from the village of Vercune of Pogradec; Sotir Zarka, secretary of the executive committee and Dino Bektashi, from the village of Ballsh, responsible of the Party for the locality of Malakaster, the mostactive element of the Party in this jurisdiction.

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In the region of Kurvelesh: Shefqet Peci, General and Minister of the village Picar; Jaho Gjolicu, colonel and eputy of the village Kuc, Siri Carcani, Army Lieut. Col. and general procurator of the army; Rexhet Mema, Lt. Col. from the village of Bolena, In the region of Fieri, there are 370 party members, of this decided favor of the government are only 25 who are compromised with different crimes.

In the region of Kurvelesh, there are about 100 decided party members. All the persons here above mentioned are hated by the people.

3. In connection with this point look at the notes sent on the 26 and 30th of October 1951

4. All the Albanian people are sympathizing with the NCFR and expect to be saved by the NCFR. The elements of the NCFR are well received by all the Albanian people. The Albanian people are completely faithful in all the western powers and especially in the Anglo-Americans on who they back their hopes of liberation and the help they will give the NCFR. They do not like Yugoslavia other than some elements who have been comrades of Koci Xoxe and they have no hope Albania will be liberated by these people. As for what concerns Greece as she has done declarations on her pretended revendications, she is not well considered but is seen that as a nationalistic country that Albania should maintain good relations. For Russia we can say that 95 percent of the population hate her, as she is responsible for the actual regime which caused so many sufferings and miseries to our country. As for the future of Albania and the government of the Albanian people they are faithful in the coalition of the NCFR who tomorrow will work according to the democratic principles of the western powers.

5. The Albanian people hate the Communists but there are elements who behave in a human way.

6. Although we do not know the exact rivalry between Hoxha and Shehu, it is said there is a big misunderstanding. In the region of Valona, it was said that a selection would have been done in the ranks of the members of the party until 400 men for mistrust, and that one part looked opportunist with the adversaries. In the region of Fieri, in August 51, there was a selection in the party, among the elements who during the war had been caught by the occupation and given declarations that they were against the Communist party and that they were no longer working with them, documents which the actual government has in hands which were in favor of the BK or the Legitimist Movement. Such an operation has been done in all Albania

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7. Myftar Gode states that in the organic of the executive committee of Fieri, the elements that follow are discontent of the Party: Enver Dragoti, chief of the mobilization and organization section; Kosma Sopiçoti, refree next to the oil refineries; Rexhep Xhelili, from Legdush of Kurveleshi, secretary of the base organization of the party in the tile fabric; Aspirant Xhevat Golemi (Zace), Tosun Pojani, lieutenant of maintenance in Tirana.

Resistance Movement:

1. We know no resistance organization.

The surest houses against the Communist regime are in the region of Fieri, the elements that follow are the best: Zelko Cela, wife of the former major Rexhep Celes who was executed by the Communists Alush Disdari, from Delvina; Gole Tole, accountant in the liberation farm; Mehdi Molasi, forset technician; the mother of Dhimi Panajoti; Ali and Shefqet Mustafara from the village of Golem of Kurveleshi; in the village Portes Fier, Bari Ressuli, Petro Dhima.

In Kurvelesh the safe families are: the family of Musa Bejos, Progonat; Aris Mema, Golem; the wife of Skendo Bello, Golem; the wife of Riska Reshit, Golem; the family of Myftar Pules, Zhulat; the family of Nevruz Bellos, Zhulat; the family of Hqo Bakashit, Promji; the family of Khafo Serjanit, Golem.

2. We have seen ourselves in Fieri, Valona and Lushnja the tracts of the NCFR who had an eagle in the middle with the motto for Albania "For Liberty, For the Red and Black Flag". The content was again the Hoxha government, to collaborate with the Communists, to enter the ranks of the party and take note of the spies. We have seen the newspaper Shqieria dropped in September 1951 which had a cartoon of Stalin cutting the throat of a woman representing Albania. The pamphlets were dropped by plane and distributed from hand to hand. A similar pamphlet was given to Myftar Gode by a Communist.

Anti-Resistance

All the decided Communists are against the resistance.

All the functionaries of the party have the following weapons: the civilian employees are armed with Walter revolvers and "Parabelle" and automatics. In the villages the procurators of the villages are armed, the majority of the members of the council, as well as many members of the families who have given their lives for the party and the officers.

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In Fieri are armed: Zeko Micani, chief worker of the public works in Ballish; Aziz Dule, chief worker in the public works of Fratar; Ceno Dule, chief worker in the public works of Cakran; and Hekuran Xheka in the public work section of Fier.

In the region of Fieri and exactly on the street Valona-Fier, in the house of Nebi Gjates, creamy colored, there is the detachment called "Brigata i Sigurimit". This force is used for pursuit; at night they circulate dressed as civilians and often are clothed as shepherds. They have German weapons. In each group of five men, there is a light German sub-machine gun. The force in Fieri is of 100 men.

The informers of the security in the region of Fieri are: Raq Papuciu; Hekuran Xheka and Ceno Dule.

In the region of Fieri in 1951 the following Communist leaders came on a visit: Mehmet Shehu, Manush Myftiu, Abdyl Kellezi, Hysni Kapo; Vito Kapo; Shefqe Musaraj. They have taken a visit of the different economic sections and the state security. During this year came a Russian geologic expedition and have visited many villages specially Kapaj where uranium is to be found. The team was under the leadership of a Soviet woman who as soon as she found indications of these minerals left urgently to analyze the earth in Tirana. She was enthusiastic about this discovery and she said to the Albanian workers that she had with her that Albania is ten times richer in her underground than above. Many machines are seen to be loaded in Kapaj and are directed towards Kucova or Lushnja, with the aim of not being seen by the people for them to give no importance to the matter.

### Security Forces

As for what concerns the forces of the security we know nothing.

### Armed Forces

1. The armed forces are divided in: infantry, artillery, navy, gendarmes, aircraft, police and security with defense brigades. It is that the forces are composed of three divisions having as centers Korca, Gjinokaster, Tirana, Elbasan, Scutari; in the other towns there are also autonomous reports. The commander of the navy is Major Avdi Mati party member who has followed the Naval Academy of Livorno but as he has deserted the party ranks in 1943 and came back later he is not trusted by the Hoxha government. The commander of the artillery is Colonel Hylisi Spahiu, Communist. The forces of the army have heavy Russian weapons; cannons, mortars, and tanks. The army has its own transport service with all the machines brought by the UNRRA in 1945, as well as Czechoslovakian and Russian machines.



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2. The infantry is dressed green uniforms, red shoulder straps. The epaulettes are blue for the artillery, genie pink; navy is dressed in blue; aircraft in grey. The intendance has green shoulder straps the grades of all arms are on the shoulder according to the Russian style.

3. Lately in September 1951 the recruit bureaus verified the documents of all soldiers and officers in liberty as well as a verification of the transportation means. In each region, all the chiefs of the different bureaus follow a military training, called "Zbore"; in this category to get some knowledge is also admitted the chief of the executive committee. They are trained every afternoon for a few hours under the direction of army officers. The mass of the youth with no distinction of sex is trained three times a week under the direction of the organization "Association for the Help of the Army and Defense" directed by the Ministry of Defense, having as commander Colonel Teki Kolaneci. In the different regions of Albania fortifications have been built for anti-aircraft protection and tank defenses.

4. The officers of the Communist Army spread propaganda, saying that the Greek forces will attack Albania with the aim of taking Korca and Gjinokaster, which have been promised to them by the Anglo-American powers and the Albanians in exile, especially the NOFA, that is why we are getting prepared and strong to defend the territorial integrity of our country.

5. There is no sign of a general mobilization.

6. Finished their studies in Russia: Esat Tetova, Capt. of the Aviation; Sub-Lieut. Faud Shehu, from the village of Picar of Kurvelesh, Lazar Panajoti, Lieut. of the Aviation from Fieri. We do not know where they are serving.

7. Along the coast, the frontier and in the different profundities of the frontier fortifications have been done for anti-aircraft and tanks by the army and genie. As materials for these works have been used wood, stones, cement, and partially iron.

In Seman, have been built four fortification lines. The first at one km from the sea, another at 3 kms from the sea and the third at 5 kms and the fourth at 17 kms that is next to Fieri. These works join the river Vjosa, and the river Mbrostarit in Fieri. These works are prolonged by others until Rogogina and Durazzo, along the sea.

8. (Myftar Gode) I saw in Tirana while I was serving in the

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auto repair, in different parades 60-70 tanks of the small type armed with small cannons. When I was in the prisons of Gjinokaster I saw 1 light tanks. As for what concerns the cannons I do not know in what state they are.

9. In Tiana there are the barracks called "Skanderbeg" five buildings which can contain 1000 men each. In Zog's palace, there are three barracks built by the Italians where they are 600 men of the anti-aircraft repair. On the road to Kavaja, there are the barracks of Ali Rizajt where is the Tirana Division. Between the barracks of Ali Rizajt and Skanderbeg there are the barracks of the military workers who can contain 2000 men.

In Valona, between the road Valona-Skele there are six big barracks who can contain 8000 men.

In Gjinokaster at the place Gerhato, there are 13 big buildings for 2000 men.

10. On the road Durazzo-Shijak in the village Shkozet are many ware houses, with many clothing equipment and provisions for the army. Next to these depots there is a car parking place filled with many machines at the disposal for any eventuality. The general ammunition warehouse is between the road where used to be the former American school of Kavaja and the rock of Kavaja; with a plane the road leading to this deposit can be seen, as well as the cement station posts for the guards. The principal carburant deposit is in Porta Romana in Durazzo at the same place as the Italians.

All the above mentioned warehouses are underground and are guarded by the police forces, chosen among the most faithful to the State Security.

#### Aircraft

1. The aviation camps used in Albania is that of Tirana which is the same state it used to be before the war besides some repairs done to fill the holes done by the bombs. The airfields of Korca and Valona are not used, as well as those of Durazzo, Berat Scutari and Shijak. The airfield of Tirana is used for the military and civilian use.

2. On the occasion of the 1st of July, feast of the Army, Myftar Gode saw four planes flying (hunters) with one machine and two civilian airplanes for disinfection. We have seen no other type of planes

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It is said that 40 airplanes have arrived in Durazzo in pieces and had to be fixed other there.

3. We have seen aircraft officers who have finished their studies in Moscow. We have seen no officers or military men of another country.

4. In the big towns of Albania there are the aircraft warnings left by the Italians. There has been no siren alarm.

5. We have heard nothing about radar. We have never heard radio warnings. When the lights go off the people think that it is so that they may not hear the different radios of the western powers.

6. There are anti-aircraft batteries in: Sazan, Durazzo (Shqenbi Kavajes), Valona in Kuz Baba Qafe Topit in the Catholic cemeteries batteries by phone and radio warn the others.

7. The anti-aircraft batteries have light and heavy cannons, we do not know their exact location.

Communications

1. There is no official censorship but clandestinely are controlled all letters coming from abroad and specially those from the other side of the Iron Curtain as well as those of the Interior of the subversive people.

2. There are railroad stamps with the picture of the commander; of Stalin; of Qemal Stafa; of Vasil Shanto; of the military feast on the 1st of July. Value from 2.50; 1; 8 lek. For an ordinary letter within the country they pay 2.50 lek; for a registered letter within Albania 8 lek.

3. All packages are censored, and there is no income on the base of the weight but on the base of the value of the things it contains. No one is allowed to send food through the post office this is done with the aim that the families of the prisoners don't send food to their people and make them suffer till death.

4. Phone calls are free, priority is given to the officials. Phones are not taped. There are no private phones in Albania, besides the important functionaries of the state.

Traveling from one place to another are free but it is very difficult to find the means of transportation.

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Phone calls can be made to the other Popular Democracies.

5. One is free to send cables, but priority is given to the members of the Party and the state operations. All telegrams are censored and many those who have something against the government or the party are not transmitted.

6. There is no ban on radios. The majority are from Phillips, Telefunken, Echo, Andrea, and Phonola. There are very few Russian radios. On account of absence of exchange means the radios who go out of order can not be used anymore. The Russian radios do not have good reception especially for the stations like America or others far away.

Voice of America is heard well enough as well as BBC and Rome, all are very interested in hearing these stations. The Voice of Free Albania we do not know if it can be heard. We have heard Radio Free Europe but in Rumanian.

The BBC is perfectly heard. The speakers are fluent and clear and the comments are vivacious but this station does not have a regular propaganda program everyday on Albania and the news is not up to date.

The Voice of America is heard the news is current and on Albania it makes the people think that the free countries are interested. The speakers do not speak clearly and it is a pity.

7. There has been talk about a law to confiscate radios but it has not been done.

### Travels

1. There are no private cars. The situation of public transportation is in a pitying state. To travel from Valona to Fieri, one must wait for a week in front of the ticket agencies. The "kulaks" the people who have someone in jail and the people who have some exiles in the family are not allowed to travel by state means. There are very few trucks. The cars are only used by the leaders of the party or the state. There are very few ambulances of the Russian type and often go out of order. There is once a day a train from Tirana to Elbasan to do this course one must leave Tirana at seven o'clock and arrive at Elbasan at 1300 hours. Many times the train stops and the travellers are obliged to proceed on foot. From Elbasan there are no public cars since the train is in use. All those who come from Korca travel by train. Those of Valona, Berat and other southern towns take the train in Rogozhina and travel for Durazzo, Tirana or Elbasan. The road near Kraba is used for buses

to go to Tirana but the road from Elbasna-Durazzo and Durazzo-Tirana is used only for state service and military. The train has not been of great use for the transportation in the country. Travel expenses are low: Tirana-Korca 130 lek, Valona-Rogozhina 43 lek and from there to Tirana 27 lek.

Everybody can travel with the "Leter Njoftim" and the military documents.

The road militia at the blockstations control only the tickets.

As it is said above the travelling documents are the "Leter Njoftim" and the military documents.

The "Leter Njoftim" is valid until the Interior Ministry issues an order to annul them.

They have been delivered for the second time in 1947 and the first time in 1945.

The "Leter Njoftim" have no particular notes. We have heard nothing about new letters or difficulties of communications.

### Living Conditions

1. In Albania there is no other money in circulation than the lek. But the American dollars can be used in the State shops, and especially gold. Each person receiving foreign currency, is given a value letter by the bank in leks which can be presented in the shops for their needs. Very clandestinely is gold exchanged. One gold napoleon is worth 2,000 lek.

2. The rationed goods are: clothing, sheets, shoes, stockings, all clothing materials, glasses, pans, plates, wool or cotton for babies, building material, iron, agricultural tools, school material and coal.

3. Rationed goods can not be easily found and in the state shops are very expensive and in a limited quantity.

The peasants, the kulaks, the people who have someone in prison or the families of the exiles can not put to profit the "triska" and consequently haven't the right to take rationed food with the marked price.

The communist leaders and the faithful followers of the regime

have special "triskes" by which they get everything.

The blackmarket is practiced by the state itself at the exception of the families who have no "triska" and sell in town their personal goods to get some bread. These things are bought at half cost by the Soviet counselors or the leaders of the party.

In all the principal towns there are exchange shops but according to the law the person who comes to exchange agricultural products is not given the food he needs but is given writing pads and luxury goods while the peasant needs cotton and peasant shoes.

In general clothing, iron, tools, rope, medicines, sugar, coffee, rice, soap, etc are missing.

In Albania everything is needed.

There is urgent need for penicillin, streptomycine, cod-liver oil, campher, quinine.

#### Collectivization

We know nothing important about this as we have had no contacts with the peasants but we have learned that the resistance in order not to accept the collectivization by force is very strong and often the farmers are sent to jail.