

VIA: ATR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. SCAA- 25521

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

21 MAR 1957

TO : Chief, SE

DATE: _____

FROM : Chief of

J. J. [unclear]

DESENSITIZED

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Psych/Albania

per CSN 43-26

SPECIFIC— Year End Progress Report and Plans for 1957

Action Required: Headquarters' comments.

Synopsis:

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Monitoring reports along the Greek Albanian border revealed HTGRUBBY was adequately audible there during most if not all of 1956. Refugee reports also substantiate that HTGRUBBY is audible in Albania the year round and is becoming increasingly popular among the Albanians.
2. Most refugees reported having seen several leaflets and that leaflets and article drops raised the morale of the populace.
3. Lack of timely intelligence from within Albania and information from the Italian and French Ministries were our major obstacles during 1957.
4. The ODACID ban on leaflet overflights, unavailability of covert crews and aircraft and lack of proper weather for wind drift missions substantially reduced and will continue to reduce our leaflet drops into Albania until at least the latter part of 1957 when new aircraft may be made available for Albanian leaflet drops.
5. Major plans for 1957 will include (a) the beginning of National Communist type radio broadcasts with AIFLEBE as the main writer and announcer (b) intensification of the mail campaign to second ranking Albanian Communist party members and (c) maintaining HTGRUBBY on a reduced basis.

I. Plans for 1956

The Albanian PW plans for 1956 included maintaining daily HTGRUBBY broadcasts to Albania, intensifying the leaflet campaign and developing a regular mail campaign.

II. Operational Results:

RESTRICTED TO EE/YA

A. Summary of Achievements:

1. According to information received from refugees, especially two former Albanian Communist Party members and one self confessed agent, HTGRUBBY is widely listened to in Albania and exerts considerable

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influence on Communist party members as well as on anti-Communist members who give its broadcasts wide dissemination by word of mouth. Refugee reports and monitoring of HTGRUBBY along the southern part of the Greek-Albanian border revealed the programs are clearly audible for the most part and that the jamming, although fairly intensive, is ineffective because of our simultaneous broadcasts over different frequencies, cuddling of Radio Tirane broadcasts and other jammer evasion techniques.

2. The great majority of refugees interrogated by us reported that the leaflet and article drops had a positive effect on the populace in that they gave them the feeling that they had not been forgotten and encouraged them to resist the regime or to escape into Greece. We have had a few reports that the leaflets have a negative effect insofar as some of the people interpret the overflights and any mention of the word "liberation" as an implied promise by the West to aid in the liberation of the Albanian people from Communism.

3. No results have been observed on our recent mail campaign efforts.

W4w
discontinued early 1956.
(W4w)
B. Major Obstacles Encountered:

1. The major obstacle encountered during 1956 was the lack of timely intelligence from within Albania. In spite of repeated requests on our part for information from the Italian and especially the less biased French ministries in Albania, little or no information was obtained. Newspapers and publications from Albania reach us several weeks or months late, so that we have had to depend on Tirane broadcasts for our news of events within the country. Although we have had a far greater number of refugees during 1956 than in previous years, we experienced some difficulty in securing cooperation from the Greeks in making these refugees available to us for interrogation. The continued illness of one of our indigenous agents and the need for the other two to go to the United States for several months under the resettlement program caused a personnel shortage during part of the year.

III. Activities:

A. Summary Presentation of Main Types of Activities During 1956.

1. OBTEST - HTGRUBBY broadcast a 16 minute program four times daily over two different frequencies simultaneously during 1956. About three new programs were written every week. Each program was repeated one or more times so that HTGRUBBY had about 185 hours of broadcasting time per month. In addition, with the advent of the Polish and Hungarian Revolts, HTGRUBBY has broadcast a special "random" daily broadcast consisting of patriotic slogans and nationalistic literature which has increased our broadcast time to approximately 220 hours per month. The NCFA was gradually deemphasized as the sponsor of HTGRUBBY until in April 1956

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mention of it was dropped altogether. The themes have become less militant anti-Communist, and the attacks on Communist personalities have given way to "reasoned" refutation of the failure of Albanian communism with concrete examples of such failures throughout the world and especially in Albania. Because we believe most of our audience, or at least potential audience, are Albanian Communist members we began to emphasize paragraph 6 of the guidance received in [D-11175, 30 December 1955 which permits us to notify middle level Communists and bureaucrats that we are not unalterably opposed to their continuance in power but only to certain communist policies. Defection appeals with promise for security of person and some economic aid have been made from time to time. Our main theme, however, has been the "pressure from below" campaign wherein we try to convince the Albanian people that they should use non violent legal and united methods to force concessions from the regime. Rather than duplicate VOA and BBC, who give the external news events, HTGRUBBY tries to concentrate on internal Albanian news or to interpret world news events in the light of its significance for the Albanian people.

2. OBTUSE

- a. Leaflet program. During 1956 OBTUSE conducted three overflights (two C-54 and one B-26) into Albania dropping almost 8 million leaflets. One attempted wind drift mission had to be broken off because of weather conditions so that only a few hundred thousand leaflets were dropped. The Food Offer renewal, Stalin Denigration and a news digest were the main topics of the leaflets. Few refugees interrogated during 1956 reported seeing the leaflets dropped during 1956. Most of them however, were familiar with leaflets dropped prior to 1956. A substantial number of other leaflets were written and prepared for printing during 1956, but were never printed or dropped because of ODACID's continuing ban on overflights during 1956.
- b. Mail Campaign. During 1956, a "Socialist-in-Exile" mail campaign was begun and three different mimeographed letters were sent to a total of about 230 Albanian Communists of the secondary level. The letters were mailed from cities in Italy, the United States, Paris and Istanbul, and purportedly came from Albanian "true Marxian Socialists" who disagreed with the methods used by the Hoxha Shehu Soviet dominated clique to develop "socialism" in Albania. The purpose of the mail campaign was to encourage the moderate members of the Albanian Communist party to oppose the extreme members of the Albanian Communist party represented by the Hoxha Shehu clique.

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- c. Refugee Interrogations. Throughout the year the OBTEST/OBTUSE staff conducted PW interrogation on about 40 of the more knowledgeable of 179 Albanian refugees. In addition to PW material, intelligence of CE and operational value was obtained. These interrogations gave HTGRUBBY a rich diet of specific detailed material which was used over HTGRUBBY, as well as information upon which evaluations of HTGRUBBY could be based.

IV. Plans of 1957:

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New out of
date. Destruction
scheduled.
(W.G.)*
- A. We are at present broadcasting on a daily basis, intensifying our mail campaign and have a large supply of leaflets on hand in anticipation of a wind drift mission. We have three indigenous agents who are either available or will shortly be available and we are in the process of hiring a fourth agent. In addition, it is expected that a contract agent will be available part-time to help in Albanian PW activities within a few months. Other assets include one safehouse with office and recording equipment which is used for the preparation of leaflets and radio scripts and recording of radio programs, and a second safehouse which is used for PW interrogation of refugees.

B. Plans for 1957:

1. Our major psychological effort will go into radio propaganda because of the following facts:

- a. The sunspots will be at an optimum phase during 1957 insuring continued good reception of transmissions into Albania.
- b. The reported and confirmed information received from refugees is that the number of radios in use and on sale in Albania has appreciably increased during the last year.
- c. The highly favorable evaluation reports on HTGRUBBY justifies continuing that activity.
- d. Because of ODACID policy and the fact that leaflet overflights are sometimes interpreted as signs of promises of liberation in the near future, we do not expect much leaflet activity during 1957.

2. The fact that most of our potential audience are Communist party members had led us to believe that a "National-Communist" type of radio program can become an effective weapon in causing dissensions within the Albanian Communist party. We plan to recruit AIPLBBE as our chief writer and announcer and hope to commence broadcasts by March of this year.

3. The need to provide adequate support for the "National Communist" radio will mean HTGRUBBY scripts and air time will have to be curtailed somewhat. HTGRUBBY will, of course, continue to be anti-Communist in

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nature, but at the same time it will give greater emphasis to the line presented in paragraph 6 of C 11175, 30 December 1955 which permits us to notify the members of the Albanian Communist power that we are not opposed to their continuance in power provided certain obnoxious policies are abolished. The "pressure from below" theme will continue to be the main one, but emphasis will be on peaceful and evolutionary means of obtaining concessions from the Tirane government.

4. The acquisition of new type aircraft and equipment should enable us to substantially increase the number of leaflets dropped into Albania in 1957. However, barring extraordinary events, we do not believe we will be able to substantially increase leaflet drops, both because of ODACID policy and also because the inherent aggressiveness of leaflet raids has been interpreted by the populace as meaning the United States is preparing to liberate Albania. In any future leaflets dropped into Albania we will be careful to avoid giving any impression of promises of liberation.

5. Provided our present efforts to increase the credibility and authenticity of the "Socialist-in-Exile" letters are successful we intend to expand our letter campaign activity. In addition to letters we hope to be able to mail pamphlets to selected members of the Albanian Communist party giving graphic evidence of the need for reforms within Albania.

Personnel:

At present we have three indigenous agents, AIPOET, AIBERM, and RNADUANA. AIPOET and AIBERM have recently been to the U.S. where they made application for citizenship. RNADUANA is able to devote only about one half of a full work week to Albanian PW matters because of his poor health and because he is loaned to USEP and other refugee organizations for translating purposes. These agents are all conscientious workers and have had from two to four years of experience in radio writing, although none of them are actually writers by profession.

AICOMB has agreed to come to Athens to work part time on Albanian PW matters, and we hope that we will be able to recruit AIPLBE, a competent former writer for Albanian Communist radio and newspapers within the next few weeks. Thus we feel we will have adequate agent material on hand to commence work on the National Communist radio on a modest scale. We are on the lookout for another AIPLBE type to augment the indigenous agent staff in the event that favorable enough evaluations are received on the National Communist radio.

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W. J. ...
DIC/RSC/WGM/drw
19 March 1957

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