

~~TOP SECRET~~

615-CLEWU

6 April 1951

~~KNIXON~~

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Jagged Document

TO: Chief, BGRHYTHM
Washington, D.C.

INFO: Chief, BGRHYTHM

ATTN: []

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1. Forwarded herewith under separate cover for your information is a copy of Report No. 10 from Jagged.

2. The typed portion of the Jagged Document contains the material referred to in para. 3, 554-CLEWU.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD USE EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

On 1st January 1951 the party started to publish a monthly paper in Rome in English and Albanian.

(ii) The Balli Kombetar

Represented in Turkey by Kazim PRODANI, Ali KOPRENSKA, Selim MBORJA and Peter ANDONI. PRODANI and ANDONI have recently taken Turkish nationality. Members in Turkey number 25 and although, receiving no material benefits, maintain contact with Vasil ANDONI in Rome.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.10

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4th April, 1951

1. POLITICAL

(a) Increasing Unrest in Albania

Although it has been confirmed by French and Italian sources that the date of the bomb explosion in Tirana was 19th February, little reliable information has so far been received on the extent of the anti-government plot which gave rise to the stringent security measures announced in the decrees from the Ministry of the Interior on 20th and 26th February. A purge of considerable dimensions has probably taken place and it has been admitted by Tirana Radio that three leading members of the Government have been dismissed - Spiro PANO, one of the four Deputy Premiers, Rita MARKO, Minister of Industry and Manol KONOMI, the Minister of Justice.

Meanwhile there is mounting evidence of active opposition to the HOXHA regime. A prominent Yugoslav spokesman was convinced that the Albanian authorities had virtually lost control of the country and that the tribesmen of the MIRDITE were almost independent again. Apart from the activity of well-armed bands it appears that sabotage is on the increase. Two young Albanians who jumped into the Bosphorus from a Russian ship at the beginning of January 1951 mentioned that the cement factory at TARABOSH near SCUTARI had ceased production entirely between January 1950 and October 1950 as the result of sabotage carried out by Albanian 'Titoists.'

A German P.O.W. who was repatriated from Albania in June 1950 had heard that the Balli Kombetar had an active underground organisation and said its members rarely fell into the hands of the police as they nearly always received prior warning from the population. Informant believed that certain police officers also maintained clandestine contact with the Ballists and gave warning of impending raids. He had the impression that there was a great desire to break with Russia and thought that the Services and Police would certainly defect in the event of war. Rumours were in constant circulation regarding impending invasion, particularly by the British, in order to liberate Albania from the Russians.

(Source: As mentioned)

(b) Albanian Emigres in Turkey

The following information has been received regarding the representation in Turkey of the Legalitet, the Balli Kombetar, the Agrarian Party and the Bloc Kombetar Independent:

(i) The Legalitet

There are 250 members but no direct representation. Members keep in touch with the Central Organisation through DERALA, who, although claiming to be a non-party man, is King ZOG's representative in Turkey. On 1st January 1951 the party started to publish a monthly paper in Rome in English and Albanian.

(ii) The Balli Kombetar

Represented in Turkey by Kazim PRODANI, Ali KOPRENSKA, Selim MBORJA and Peter ANDONI. PRODANI and ANDONI have recently taken Turkish nationality. Members in Turkey number 25 and although, receiving no material benefits, maintain contact with Vasil ANDONI in Rome.

(iii) The Peasant and Agrarian Party

Represented by Hasan KALOSHI and Sulejman KRYEZIU. The party in Turkey has 10-15 members, each of whom is in direct contact with the Party Headquarters from which they receive no material benefits. The party does not have its own paper.

(iv) Bloc Kombetar Independent

Three members in Turkey, Tahic KOLDJINI, ex chief of Police in Tirana, Kazim NEKI former Vice-President of the Albanian Government during the Italian Occupation, and Xhafer TAGA, landowner. A fortnightly journal called "L'Albanie Libre" is issued in Rome in Italian, English, French and Albanian.

(Source: Albanian emigre in Turkey.)

(c) Trial of four Greek-sponsored Spies.

The trial of four Greek agents took place on 19th March in the village of Zemblak near POJANI in the Korce prefecture. Two of the accused, Abdul KALAJA and Fuad KULA were sentenced to be hanged and the other two to a term of 20 years' imprisonment. All four were said to have collaborated in the war with the Balli Kombetar and confessed that, on the orders of the Greek Security Service they set fire to the Zemblak Co-operative building on 12th March.

(Source: B.B.C. Summary of World Broadcasts - Report from Tirana Radio)

2. MILITARY

(a) Tanks Unloaded in Durazzo

Informant observed T 34 tanks and artillery with calibres up to 15 cm., as well as small arms ammunition being unloaded from merchantmen in Durazzo. The artillery and tanks looked quite new, but might have been reconditioned stock from the last war. The T 34 were not modified in any way and were exactly the same as those encountered on the Eastern Front during the war. Goods were removed from the harbour by road.

(b) A Tank Unit in Berat

The same informant stated that a tank unit, referred to as a "Brigade", was located about 2-3 km. N.W. of BERAT, with barracks built along a road that runs parallel with the river. The unit consisted of between 800 and 1,000 officers and men serving under an Albanian General, who was however supervised by a Red Army officer, believed to be a Colonel. There were between 80 and 100 T 34 tanks concentrated here and a couple of armoured cars used for reconnaissance purposes. Informant had the impression that BERAT was the only centre for tank troops and that in TIRANA there were only a few tanks used by the Military Academy. Groups of tanks frequently left BERAT and returned after a few days. There were no tank training grounds in BERAT itself.

(c) Tank Training in Moscow

Albanian officers were sent to a school near Moscow to undergo a special course in tank warfare and remained there for periods varying from six months to two years according to their rank. A certain number of specialists and mechanics accompanied these officers, to familiarise themselves with repair and overhaul work.

(Source: A German P.O.W. who returned from Albania in June 1950)

(d) Tank Training Centre in Tirana

Another German P.O.W. who worked as an electrician and mechanic from November 1944 - December 1950 at a tank depot and training ground on the Rruga Kongresi Permet just outside Tirana, gave the following information:-

The camp had originally been built by the Italians and all the buildings were of brick. There was a complex surrounded by barbed wire, sub-divided into three sections. The first consisted of a tank depot and drill ground where approximately 12 T-34 and 6 ISU-122 heavy tanks were parked. In addition there was an unknown number of BA-64 armoured cars. The second section was a repair depot and the third consisted of the barracks belonging to the tank unit.

(Source: German P.O.W. repatriated in January 1951)

(e) Albanian Signals Regiments

Each unit of the Albanian Army, from battalion level upwards is equipped with wireless. Frontier guard companies and Security troops are also provided with it. Apparatus consists of Russian and German sets, but the former are said to be inefficient and subject to frequent break-downs.

Army H.Q. at Tirana has two mobile radio stations mounted on heavy lorries and the sets are supplied with current from generators driven by lorry engines. The whole of the land and sea frontier is covered by a wireless network tied into Tirana.

W/T operators are required to send morse at the rate of 100-120 letters a minute and to receive at 90-100. In practice the usual rate is about 90-100 both sending and receiving. Operators undergo an 11 months course on which all the instructors are Russians.

The XI Technical Regiment is stationed at Tirana and has eight Russian wireless and telephone instructors attached to it. The regiment comprises one W/T and one telephone battalion.

(Source: Two young Albanians who jumped into the Bosphorous from the Soviet ship MICURIN on 6.1.51)

(f) Ordnance Depot

Several large garages which were built by the Italian army in 1942 about 500 metres north west of DURAZZO harbour on the coast by the Orthodox Church, have now been repaired and transformed into an ordnance depot. All the equipment has come from Russia and the garages are guarded by a company of Militia.

(Source: As for 2 (e) above)

(g) Artillery Positions near DURAZZO

The Commandant of Coastal artillery at DURAZZO has arranged for work to start on the repair of the old German-built artillery positions at ARAPAJ, RAZBUL, SHEN and VLASH (about 8 km. east of DURAZZO).

(Source: An Albanian emigre in Turkey)

(h) Repairs to Airfield at QAF ZOTAJ

On 20th January 1951 the 8th Labour Brigade was sent to QAF ZOTAJ near SHIJAK (DURAZZO area) with orders to repair the airfield. During the past three years a large part of it had been ploughed up, but it used to be larger than TIRANA aerodrome.

(Source: As for 2(g) above)

3. PORT INFORMATION

(a) Floating Dock for Durazzo

A floating dock for small vessels is expected at DURAZZO but the date of delivery is not known. It is expected to arrive in separate parts for assembly at DURAZZO.

(Source: An Italian informant, considered reliable)

(b) Lighthouses and Beacons

At present the lighthouses at Cape LAGHI and Cape DURAZZO and the two port lights (red and green) are in use. At about two miles from the entrance of DURAZZO harbour are two buoys, one red and the other green, with intermittent lights, the red one indicating a reef and the green a submerged wreck.

(Source: As for 3 (a) above)

(c) Security

As a rule the police and customs officials of the port of DURAZZO do not search western ships on arrival or departure. However no one is allowed to go ashore and civilians who board the ships for servicing reasons are escorted by the police. Before departure the ship's master is taken to the State Bank to pay the harbour dues and is immediately returned on board under observation.

(Source: As for 3 (a) above)

4. ECONOMIC

(a) Spanish Lead for DURAZZO

A ROTTERDAM firm has asked a firm in GENEVA to undertake the financial and transport arrangements in a deal whereby 300 tons of lead will be shipped from VIGO to DURAZZO. The Spanish seller has been told that the lead is destined for Italy. It will in fact be shipped from VIGO to BRINDISI and thence to DURAZZO.

(Source: A Swiss informant)

(b) Albanian shipments

(The attached tables, based on information obtained from ships' manifests in TRIESTE, show the volume and nature of Albanian shipments passing through the port during February 1951.)

5. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Smuggling

A certain amount of smuggling takes place in Albania, the chief goods being tobacco and clothes. Those engaged in the traffic used to frequent the Cafe KORCE and the Cafe NATIONAL in TIRANA. Peasants living near the frontier and the prohibited zones who visited the market which took place in TIRANA every Thursday were also involved.

(Source: A German P.O.W. who was repatriated in June 1950)