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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPT ON 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

TO: Chief, SB

FROM: Chief of Station, []

SUBJECT: DMLET
The BERISHA Case: Post Trial Comments

REFERENCE: [] 3716, 19 February 1968

1. Supplementing the information forwarded in reference, we note below additional comments of [] who was present during the BERISHA trial.

2. It emerged clearly during the trial that Hajredin VUCITERNA (paragraph 5A of DIRECTOR 42647), was in fact a double agent working for the UDB after the group's first drop. From what VUCITERNA and the prosecution said, VUCITERNA was captured after the first drop, doubled, and sent back to Italy, where he rejoined the BERISHA group and served as a double agent for the UDB. No mention was made of VUCITERNA's activities in Trieste in 1953 and 1954. VUCITERNA is currently in prison serving a sentence for murder. [] regards him as a thoroughly corrupted "fascist type", whose opportunistic cooperation with the prosecution during the trial made BERISHA's position much worse than it otherwise would have been.

3. VUCITERNA's participation in the trial, however, was more than counterbalanced by the presence of Hassan Krieziu, BERISHA's defense lawyer. Biographic details on KRIEZIU were forwarded in paragraph 6 of [] 3484. KRIEZIU's brilliant cross-examination of VUCITERNA and other key prosecution witnesses was responsible for the stronger (espionage) charges against BERISHA being dropped. [] found KRIEZIU extremely cooperative and most capable throughout the entire affair.

4. Finally, the Station would like to add its own comments on [] handling of the BERISHA case, which was first-class. His judgment as to when to intervene officially

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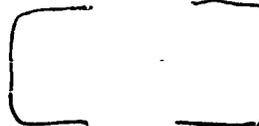
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with the authorities and when not to was, in retrospect, invariably correct. His cooperation with the Station was at all times full and candid. Our cooperation in the BERISHA case has strengthened the already good working relationship between [] and the Station. Viewed locally, this fact is another reason for urging a positive WOFIRM response to [] suggestion (reference) that WOFIRM make a modest contribution to BERISHA's defense fund.



Distribution:

Orig. & 2 - Chief. SB

1 - COS, [] []

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