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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2006

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Kadri CAKRANI

17 October 1951
O Cakrani, Kadri
SOURCE ITS / CIA

1. The following information is available in our files in addition to that contained in reference memorandum from CIA to ID/GS, USA, dated 30 September 1947.

a. Information dated mid-July 1949 lists Kadri CAKRANI as an Albanian refugee in Syria belonging to the National Democratic Front (i.e., Balli Kombetar).

b. CAKRANI was elected a council member of the Ali KLISSURA faction of Balli Kombetar which split from the main party following an assembly convoked by the KLISSURA group at Bagnoli, Italy, in mid-August 1951.

c. In early January 1951 the American Consulate in Beirut, Syria, received the following letter, in Italian, from [] Fermo Posta, Napoli, Italy:

"Kadri CAKRANI or TSAKRANI, Albanian, being kept by the IRO in Syria, is about to leave for the United States. He was Military Commander for Albania in the Balli Kombetare (National Front) from 1942 to 1944. At his orders was a force of thirty thousand men in armed bands, which collaborated with the German troops, burned many villages, and innumerable were the human victims they killed. The grade of colonel in the SS was conferred upon him, in which organization he was decorated by HITLER. His pseudonym was 'Principe.' As the surrender approached he tried to regain territory; he therefore hid three American nurses who had landed in Albanian territory, and protected them by hiding them. This one single action cannot cancel out hundreds of crimes previously committed by him. He is a war criminal, a former Nazi, dangerous for public security, and his place is not in the United States."

SEP 20 1956

REPROFILMED

Subsequent to receipt of the letter, the American Consulate in Beirut advised that CAKRANI had not applied for a U. S. visa in Beirut.

Behind memo written by FDP/Albania
in answer to request for name check
dated 26 Sept 51 From [] FAR
O.S.I.

IR COPY

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COORDINATED WITH Army USAF

ABSTRACT []
DATE 21 SEP 1955

TOP SECRET

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2. Subject's membership in the KLISSURA wing of the Balli Kombetar reflects a conservative but not necessarily anti-democratic political orientation, since the rift in Balli Kombetar resulted from the protest of many members against what they considered a socialist orientation of the organization's leadership.

3. Subject's classification as a war criminal by the present Albanian government should be evaluated in the light of similar classification of most of the important war-time anti-Communist leaders. The extent of Subject's collaboration with the Germans cannot be determined from file traces at this Headquarters; however, it should be stated that many other nationalist and pre-democratic Albanians did collaborate with the German war occupation authorities because the latter were less feared than were the leaders of the Communist-dominated National Liberation Front.

4. In regard to the denunciation contained in para 1, c, above, the information contained therein should be treated with reserve, as probably emanating from a political enemy of Subject.

Encl. 1. AFHQ Form O-522
dtd 24 Sep 51

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[] RSP
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