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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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INTELLOFAX

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 23 May 1951

SUBJECT Bureaus of the Communist Party of Albania; Communist Organization in Army units; Komiteti Officials; Political Commissars

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Bureaus

1. The Bureaus are elected by the Organizata Baze, which is the smallest unit in the Communist organization. It exists in the Army, the factories, the Lokalitet, and wherever there are government or civilian activities. An Organizata Baze has the right to elect a Bureau when it numbers 20 or more Communist Party members. The Bureau is composed of three officers:

   a. Political Secretary of the Organizata Baze.
   b. Organizing Secretary of the Organizata Baze.
   c. The "Responsible" for labor of the Organizata Baze.

2. Bureaus may be found in factories, associations, professional organizations and labor groups as long as there are 20 Party members in the Organizata Baze.

Method of Operation of the Various Party Organizations.

3. The whole system operates in a dictatorial fashion, although it gives the appearance of a democratic administration. For example, when an Organizata Baza wishes to elect the Bureau a meeting is held ostensibly to choose its officers. In reality, however, before the voting a secret communication from the Komitet specifies who is to be elected. Then, after a whisper campaign and psychological pressure, they elect those whose names have been given to them. In case some "undesirable" is elected, the Secretary of the Organizata Baze reports this to the Komitet, saying that the person elected is unsuitable, and he is removed from office immediately.

4. The same procedure is followed in the case of candidates for the Komitet. The Organizata Baze sends to the capital of the province, three, five or seven representatives, depending on whether the organization has 20, 50, or 100 members, in order to elect the Komitet of the province. In this case

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secret instructions from the Central Committee indicate the number and names of those who are to be elected.

Communist Organization in the Army

5. There are Bureaus in Army units from the battalion up. The Battalion Bureau is under the Regiment Bureau, which comes under the Political Commissar of the Division, a Lieutenant Colonel or Colonel appointed directly by the Central Committee.

Komitet Officials

6. Certain Komitet officials are listed below, by location and position:

Korce:

a. Political Secretary: Rita Marko*
b. Organizing Secretary: Foni Lako

Durres:

a. Political Secretary: Nonda Butka
b. Organizing Secretary: Rexhep Guma
c. "Responsible" for factory: Michael Puli

Tirane:

a. Political Secretary: Fiqret Shehu (wife of Mehmet Shehu)

Peshkani:

a. Political Secretary: Jashar Mexhelexhiu

Shkoder:

a. Political Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel Tonin Jakova

Elbasan:

a. Organizing Secretary: Captain Muc Pajenka

Political Commissars

7. There follows a partial list of Political Commissars in the Albanian Army (primarily in the 8 Division):

The 8 Division: Lieutenant Colonel Halil Pulo, [redacted] assisted by Captain Kostas Karantzas [redacted] The "responsible" for propaganda is Captain Izedin Dimo [redacted] 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

The 9 Regiment: Captain Gaqo Boboshtica, [redacted] political and organizing secretary of the Regimental Bureau.

The 14 Regiment: Captain Fani Papa, [redacted] political and organizing secretary. 50X1-HUM

The 26 Regiment: Captain Bairam (Imu), from Vlone, political and organizing secretary; in 1949 he returned from the Soviet Union after graduating from the Military Academy. Lieutenant Kolis, from Devolli, is the political and organizing secretary of 84 Battalion of 26 Regiment.

Artillery Regiment of 8 Division: Captain Ilia Furxhiu, [redacted] [redacted] political and organizing secretary. Lieutenant Fejzo Hoxha, [redacted] is political and organizing secretary of the Communications Battalion (presumably of 8 Division). 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

Captain Gaqo Pefteku, from Korce is political and organizing secretary of the Independent Training Battalion for non-commissioned officers, which is based in Korce.

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[redacted] Comment: Rita Marko was relieved of his duties as Minister of Industry and "entrusted with other important duties" on 5 March 1951 according to Radio Tirane. It is not clear whether Marko is under arrest [redacted] or whether he retains some of his previous positions such as Secretary to the Albanian Workers Party Central Committee as more recently announced by Radio Tirane. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

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