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Decadal

WIRA - 602

KAPOK Italy 1980

16 May 1952.

From : Washington

Subject : Albanian Legation Rome Plans to Rent Villa at Lido of Rome.

Source : DECADAL

Enclosures : 1 (Went Ad Clipping).

1. On 20 April 1952 the following want ad, original of which is attached hereto, appeared in the Rome newspaper "Il Messagero":

Wanted, small villa at Lido of Rome,
7-10 main rooms, independent garden,
telephone 850-219.

2. The proprietress of a villa at Rome-Lido, an acquaintance of [redacted]'s landlady replied to the advertisement, and discovered that the telephone number given is that of the local Albanian Legation. This matter was reported to Source on 27 April by [redacted], with the suggestion that the matter might be further developed along lines of an intelligence interest. On 29 April Source requested [redacted] to obtain fuller information, but in the meantime the proprietress of the Lido villa had left Rome for an unknown address, and no further steps could be taken. Despite this fact, it is apparent that the local Albanian Legation has either rented a villa at Rome-Lido or plans to do so.

3. This possibility could be exploited in one of two manners either by renting a suitable villa at the Lido and re-offering it to the Albanian Legation at an attractive rental; or by renting an apartment or villa in the vicinity of the one taken by the Legation in order to maintain surveillance over the persons living there.

4. It would appear that the best way to handle any further exploitation of

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this situation would be through a trusted Italian agent supplied with the necessary financial means. Handling the matter through an Albanian agent would undoubtedly lead to the project's blowing.

5. Field Comment: In view of the recommendation made by Source in paragraph 4 above, copy of the present report is being turned over to for discussion with order to determine whether the latter is interested in further exploring the possibility offered. In the event nothing can be done in this direction during the present summer season, it is suggested that Headquarters consider the possibility of renting a villa at Rome-Lido in late winter of next year with a view to enticing Albanian Legation tenants next summer.
6. No copy is retained in our files.

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