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SECURITY INFORMATION

18 April 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANS (ADMINISTRATION)

VIA: ADPC

SUBJECT: Procurement of Albanian Lek

REFERENCE: Secret Memo dtd 17 January 1952 from SE/PC to Chief Monetary Branch; Subject: SE/PC Requirements for Bulgarian, Albanian, and Rumanian Currency for 1952 Operations. (Attached)

1. Referenced attached memorandum was directed to the Chief, Monetary Branch, CFB, after discussions with your office and the Chief, TSS/DHP with the distinct understanding your office was in a position to satisfy our requirements. At the time reference memorandum was written and also in December 1951 when the [] Chief was in Washington, it was made clear that a ready supply of the various types of indigenous currencies were absolutely necessary for successful execution of 1952 operations. It was also pointed out at the time that the supplies of currency in the field were virtually non-existent.

2. A cabled request from [] for information on the delivery date of a shipment of urgently needed Albanian currency was received on 26 March and contact was immediately made with the Office of the Chief, Monetary Branch. Unfortunately, that office advised that all their efforts to procure Lek have failed to date and moreover, they do not anticipate any success in the foreseeable future.

3. According to a cable from the field, if further delays occur in supplying our requirements for Albanian Lek, agent operations against Albania may have to be suspended pending the receipt of required currency. Such a setback to our efforts at this critical date could seriously jeopardize the future of CIA/ops against Albania and as a corollary prevent CIA/ops from reaching its assigned objectives in this area. In light of the foregoing, your attention is

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drawn to the urgency of our currency requirements with the reiteration that all other sources have been thoroughly investigated and that we are dependent on you to provide the necessary assistance in this instance. Please provide us with an indication when we may expect delivery of this currency in order that details of operational plans may be completed.

[]
Deputy for Policy Coordination, SE

Attachment

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