

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

279-CRIAG

4 August 1952

SUBJECT: BGFIND ROME MONTHLY SURVEY REPORT
15 June to 15 July 1952

TO: Chief, DYCLAVIER
□ □

INFO: Chief, DYCLAVIER
Washington, D.C.

ATTN: □ □

ATTN: □ □

Following is the BGFIND □ □ Station Report for the period 15 June to 15 July 1952, which is late owing to the absence of □ □ and □ □:

1. HTNEIGH Executive Committee:

Politics as usual is about all that can be said about the activity of the Executive Committee for this period. □ □ was absent, having gone to Egypt to visit RNCASTING but the XNMALEDICT continued its effort to sabotage the Committee re-organization and broadening. While □ □ hesitates to cast dispersions on our ZRCROWN partner, there can now be no doubt that the XNMALEDICT was aided and abetted by the ZRCROWNS. □ □ views the XNMALEDICT and the ZRCROWN position as follows:

a. The ZRCROWNS have only one group of friends among the KMWAAHOO exiles--the XNMALEDICTS.

b. The ZRCROWNS see the KMWAAHOO question narrowing down to two forces--those led by □ □, the other probably spear-headed by RNCASTING at the head of a coalition of exiles--strongly pro-PBPRIME and backed by the PBPRIMES.

c. The only opportunity for the ZRCROWNS to establish a government sympathetic to Her Majesty's government is to marry the XNMALEDICT to one group or the other.

d. There is a little likelihood of the exile coalition cooperating with the ZRCROWNS. The best they can do in this respect is to keep them disorganized, hoping to further the strength of the XNMALEDICT and attract individuals who become fed up with HTNEIGH's lack of success--thus the PBPRIME backers.

e. It seems apparent from all reports that an effort to splice the XNMALEDICT to the Identity (1) group has failed.

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DATE 2007

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f Thus the ZRCROWNS and XNMALEDICT are left with only one choice--spar for time, attempt to keep the elements in exile disorganized, and hope that XNMALEDICT can attract the Ockleshaw's who will become dissatisfied with the inactivity of HTNEIGH. Meanwhile the PEPRIMES finance the XNMALEDICT and thus further both the XNMALEDICT and the ZRCROWN aims.

2. Military Junta

There is no activity to report on the Military Junta for the period 15 June to 15 July other than the fact that a change in Commandants at JBPARSON occasioned some difficulty at the time. The political representatives in JBPARSON were insistent that the Military Junta make the PEPRIMES revoke the order dismissing C [redacted]. The Junta was informed that this was a MAGPIE matter and that HTNEIGH had no voice in the decision.

3 BGFLUME Committee

a. KMBUMPSY

KMBUMPSY was not published during the period covered by this report due to the following reason:

For many years the Italian government has been very lenient toward exile groups publishing clandestine material, but recently the government has had a change of heart. This has been brought about by the fact that many publishers enjoying asylum in Italy have not hesitated to slander the Italian state. It has been further occasioned by the fact that some Italian government officials have acted as "dummy editors" for these editors in order to give them a measure of protection. At long last the Italian government has lost its patience and they are now insisting that all publishers of such material must take out a government license. When KMBUMPSY was started, the Italian officials informed HTNEIGH it would not be necessary to have a license. About two months ago they reversed their position and informed us that while we had done nothing to change their opinion, that in conformity with the drive being made to license all publishers they would appreciate our obtaining the license before continuing our operation. Like all things in Italy this took time, but we have since been granted a license and publication has been resumed.

b. QKPALING

QKPALING has been continuing along an even keel and if letters from our readers are any criteria, its stature is growing in the eyes of its readers. The reader will be interested in knowing that not long ago BGFIEND received a letter from the KMWAHOO Youth organization in Iden. (2), telling us what s.o.b.'s we are, which pleases us since it indicates they must be reading our material and are somewhat stunned by it.

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c. Leaflets

Two leaflets were prepared during this period--both at the request of the ZRCROWNS. One leaflet has been translated and sent to BOBIDDY for production while translations on the others are just being completed.

Attach: s/c
Identities

APPROVED:

Chief

5 August 1952

P. S. Also forwarded under separate cover for Washington only is the VERMONT monthly report. This is in compliance with a request made by Headquarters some time ago.

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Wash

ATTACHMENT TO 279-CRIAG

IDENTITIES:

1. PRIZEN
2. FRAGUE

KOMITETI KOMBETAR
NATIONAL COMMITTEE
SHQIPERIA E LIRE
FOR FREE ALBANIA

NEW YORK

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NOFA
DURING THE PERIOD 10th JUNE - 10th JULY 1952.-

The Executive Committee of the NOFA held several meetings during this period, to discuss the different points which follow:

1. The report to be furnished on the tenth of each month, about the activities of the Committee during the 30 previous days.
2. The report of Mr. Ihsan TOFTALI, on the incidents which took place in Greece.
3. The common memorandum of the members of the NOFA to the Executive Committee.
4. The memo concerning the Welfare Fund.
5. The letter of Mr. Ihsan TOFTALI about the requests of Mr. VELLINI.
6. The note about furnishing travel documents to some people.
7. The note about the English speaking Albanians needed for different services.

The Executive Committee during these meetings was represented by: Mr. Zeq PALLI; Mr. Said FATEZIU; Mr. Selim DAKANI, who replaced Mr. Abaz HUPI absent in Egypt, and in the presence of Mr. Georges BOGN, secretary of the Committee.

About point 1, the Executive Committee has decided it would be the Secretary of the Committee who should prepare and present the report on the activities of the NOFA each month.

KOMITETI KOMBETAR
NATIONAL COMMITTEE
SHQIPERIA E LIRE
FOR FREE ALBANIA
NEW YORK

2.-

The Executive Committee has been deeply affected by the incidents which took place in Greece (point 2), and consequently have decided to communicate to all Albanians the following decisions:

- a) There should be tolerance of ideas, on condition that such will not degenerate in mutterings and affecting things causing disharmony. Each Albanian is free to follow whatever political principle of the Party he likes best, or remain without Party.
- b) In case there are mutterings, acts of violence must never be used.
- c) Eventual conflicts will be resolved only by the National Committee for Free Albania.
- d) The Albanians whoever they are have the duty to live in harmony and complete fraternity, always bearing in mind the efforts for the Liberation of the Fatherland.
- e) The National Committee for Free Albania makes no distinction among the Albanians.

In connection with the incidents which took place in Greece, The National Committee for Free Albania considering the proposal done by the representative of the NCEA in Greece and the backers of the NCEA, have decided to send a peace delegation to Athens composed by: Mr. Zef PALI, and Mr. Selim DANANI, as the latter was already leaving for Greece, in order to gather material for the presentation of a memo to the UNO concerning the forced labour camps in Albania.

This delegation will act in an impartial and decisive manner in order to avoid further incidents.

MR. PALI and DANANI have already their Greek visas, and will leave as soon as Mr. DANANI obtains his passport from the local authorities.

KOMITETI KOMBETAR
NATIONAL COMMITTEE
SHQIPERIA E LIRE
FOR FREE ALBANIA
NEW YORK

3.

Concerning the common Memorandum of the leaders of the Committee (point 3), the Executive Committee has decided to answer this memo, at the beginning of the month of August, when all the members of the Committee will gather in Rome. It is supposed that MR. KOTTA and COSTI, after having participated in the Juridical Congress of Berlin, and gone to visit the regiment in Hohenbrunn, will both come to Rome.

The memo about the Welfare Fund (point 4) presented by Mr. J.L. on the 30th of June has been thoroughly discussed by the Executive Committee, who considering its very delicate character has decided to postpone the matter for further discussion when all the Committee will meet in Rome in the beginning of August.

The Executive Committee after having read the letter of Mr. VELINI (point 5) sent by Mr. TOPTANI, has decided to postpone their answer unanimously.

Concerning the list of the people in need of travelling documents (point 6), it is ready and will be forwarded to Mr. J.L.

The list of the English speaking Albanians (point 7) is also ready and will be forwarded to Mr. J.L.

George Kuvsh

Rome the 7th June 1952.-

The Secretary of the NSRA



*Albanians
Include in
Comm. monthly
Report*

BOOK 663-668

TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR FREE ALBANIA

ROME

Here below I am presenting the details of the incidents which took place on the 23 and 24 of May 1952 in Lavrion and in Athens. The reason for the delay in the letter is due to our waiting to see the measures that would be taken by the Greek authorities.

This report does not attempt to judge the guilt of anyone but only to present the actual facts as well as the different version of the two parties on those points upon which they differ. The ascertaining of the facts and guilt, as well as the resolving of such conflicts must be accomplished by an official commission composed of representatives of the parties who have sufficient authority to take full responsibility for the actions of their members.

The root of the conflict in Lavrion lies in the propaganda activity in the camp. The Legitimists hold to the principle that no one should make propaganda in the camp and particularly not among any registered member of their party. The Ballists claim the right to explain the program of their party to everyone who will listen to them, and this propaganda has been going on now since the camps came to existence. Both parties, of course, accuse one another that the other party uses offensive expressions in their propaganda, and both deny such activity.

As a consequence of this situation Hamdi Zypce, about three weeks prior to the outbreak of violence at Lavrion, told Skender Dume that he was notifying him in the name of the Legality Party not to proselyte any member of Legality, and if he persisted in continuing to proselyte some unpleasant things would result against Skender Dume; furthermore the leaders of the Legality were unable to control the actions of their members and consequently could not take any responsibility for any eventuality.

Skender Dume answered that he would continue to explain the program of his party, and that the Legality has the same rights toward the members of the Ballist Party.

On Friday the 23 of May 1952, at 3 p.m. a political discussion took place in a cafe in Lavrion between Skender Dume, Hamdi Kondi, Refik Talo and Nedin Totolaku, the first two being Ballists, the latter two Legitimists. According to the Legitimist version of the story, the Ballists made propaganda for their program using offensive language against Legality. The Ballists, on the other hand, admit the propaganda but deny the use of offensive language. After this discussion, Skender Dume went to the office of the NCFR where he works (Hamdi Zypce also works here but was absent at the time) for the Committee. At 3:30 pm a group of Legitimists arrived in the office and asked Skender Dume to desist from making any further statements

in the office and asked Skender Dume to desist from making any further propaganda on behalf of his party. When Skender Dume refused to make such a promise, they beat him up and left the premises. According to the declaration submitted by Dume the persons who actually entered the office and beat him are the following:

Refik Talo
Niazi Kaso
Ibrahim Mullai
Iljaz Aliu
Niazi Mullai
Qamil Mullai
Muharrem Sofka

and in addition fifteen other persons waited outside the NCFAs office. The Legitimatists admit that four of the above individuals have beaten up Skender Dume.

As soon as Muharrem Bajraktari learned about the incident, he went to the NCFAs office where he found Skender Dume. He at once sent a messenger to call Hamdi Zypce in order to clarify the situation. In the meantime a group of four Ballists who had heard about the incident met Zypce while he was on his way to the NCFAs office and one of them, ~~Hamdi~~ Çane Dervishaj struck Hamdi Zypce who continued on his way. The names of the Ballist group are as follows:

Çane Dervishaj
Koci Zani
Qani Pepellashi
Xhelo Kociu

At 6:30 pm after the beating up of Hamdi Zypce became known, another group of Legitimatists (according to Skender Dume) headed by Et-hem Hadëri (Alarupi), Niazi Kaso, and Niazi Mullai went to the NCFAs office but did not enter and soon withdrew. In the meantime, the command of the camp was informed about the incidents and sounded a signal for the refugees to gather in the camp. Shortly after the entrance of the refugees into the camp, a riot broke out which resulted in the knife wounding of four individuals, two Ballists and two Legitimatists: Xhelo Kociu and Xhelo Sadiku from Balli, and Zenel Fejzo and Niazi Mullaj from the Legaliteti. These four and Skender Dume were confined to the infirmary of the camp.

The investigations were made on the spot by Chief of the Aliens Section of the Greek Gendarmerie for Continental Greece himself, Lt.Col. Niko Panajotakopoulos and by Captain Psimari, who intervened and took the word of both parties that such in-

idents would not be repeated. The following people were arrested:

From Balli Cane Dervishaj	From Legaliteti	Iljaz Alija
Koci Zani		Ibrahim Mullai
Qani Pepellashi		Refik Talo
Shefqet Kello		Qamil Mullai
Hamdi Kondi		Muharrem Sofka
Alush Cako		Mustafa Meco

no party - Istref Dogjani

All of the above were soon released from custody of the police. The two following persons were arrested on the charge of using knives and were sent to Athens:

Hysen Xhelili from Balli

Ilijaz Aliu from Legaliteti

But because of lack of evidence they were also released after three days detention. Thus ended the incidents insofar as Lavrion was concerned but unfortunately this did not end the affair.

In the afternoon of the 24 of May, after an argument Ditar Hasani struck Faik Bukmiri in Cafe Bernitsa in Athens. Each party describes the incident differently. It is impossible to give a concise description of just what took place, and the matter remains to be clarified by high level representatives of the two parties.

As an Albanian, I have deeply regretted the violence committed on the persons of Faik Bukmiri as well as Skender Dume and Hamdi Zypce, regardless of the circumstances; I have told each of the above persons that I would do my best to see that they obtain personal satisfaction in this matter.

To tolerate any violence provoked or not in the situation in which we are in today means to destroy any cooperation among us, and also discredits us in the eyes of those who are supporting our cause. Therefore I consider ^{it} absolutely essential and only just that immediate and example setting measures be taken against all those who have committed acts of violence personally regardless of party membership, and regardless of any justification whatsoever. The solution of any conflicts which come up between the parties must be handled by the respective leaders of the parties. Unfortunately for reasons out of my control, it was not possible to take these measures. I have told the above to our ~~common~~ friends in common and to the party representatives. So far as the role of the friends in common is concerned, you will hear directly from them.

The Greek authorities took the following measures: First, they interned Ditar Hasani to the island of Syros, and secondly they removed from Lavrion, Hysen Xhelili and sent him to Athens saying this was a temporary measure to calm down the situation in Lavrion. The Greek authorities also declared that they did not consider it necessary to take any other measure since they believe the situation to

be under control. As for myself, I have not considered it wise to approach the Greek authorities. They certainly would have carried out their opinions. If I would have intervened, any measure they took would have been interpreted as being inspired by me. Besides to utilize the services of the Greek police to prosecute the offenders is a debateable question, notwithstanding that there is often no other recourse in ~~such~~ such cases as the present.

Though the situation has calmed down on the surface appearance, the tension continues in reality and will not decrease without radical intervention by the party leaders into their own party membership. As a consequence of these acts of violence, the prestige of the parties ~~is~~ from the point of view of power has begun to ~~play~~ play an important role. The entrance of this prestige factor is an unending source for further acts of violence.

In order to create a tolerable situation, I recommend that a commission be formed to carry out any investigation of these incidents, and to close them in a formal manner. What I consider even more necessary is an agreement concerning a minimum of courtesy with regards to propaganda at least until the beginning of elections campaigns. Another duty which the parties must assume is the solution of every conflict by means of high level discussions, and also assuming the responsibility for the political acts of their party members. If nothing is done in this direction, the incidents will recur, and cooperation will soon become impossible.

The matter is important and should not be left hanging. I expect that you will let me know ~~what~~ ^{when} you have decided what should be done.

I send you my greetings,

Ihsan Toptani

Copies sent to New York Headquarters for information

*Copy sent from Grand
Party*

RANDOLPH CHURCHILL INTERVIEWING MARSHAL TITO. (April 1952)

QUESTION : Which is Your present attitude towards Albania ?

ANSWER : "Our attitude with regard to Albania remains unchanged. We do not have deeper motives on this matter. We think that Albania must remain independent, and that any interference into the internal affairs of this country no matter from wherever it may come and regardless of the regime in power in Albania, would constitute a big mistake. Because I think that the Albanian People will gather enough strength to overthrow the present satellite government and to establish a perfect democratic regime and, more generally, a system. Any other solution would endanger the peace in this part of the Balkans. Yougoslavia has moral responsibilities towards this problem."

*

Translation from greek

copy sent for work
July 1952

Dear friend Ihsan Toptani,

Several days ago I had the opportunity, in the course of a friendly conversation, to draw to your attention a cutting of an article published in VIMA on May, 4th, in which Marshal Tito expressed his opinion in an interview with the son of the British Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, regarding the future of your country.

It appears as if Marshal Tito has consciously intended to summarize his views on his future attitude towards your country.

The terms it chose to use leave sufficient space for a variety of interpretations and, I am sure You are more competent than I am to judge which interpretation comes nearest to the interpretation of the Committee for Free Albania to which you belong.

It appears to me as lying within the spirit of our friendly exchange of views when I make the suggestion that You ask Your fellow countrymen in Rome, with whom You collaborate, what their opinion is, on the expression "moral responsibility of Yugoslavia in Albanian matters," used by Marshal Tito.

If You agree to pass on this question to them, I am of course willing to pledge myself to make only limited use of it and to forward the answer only to political personalities who have concerned themselves with the Albanian question and who have taken a close interest in it; Under no circumstances would I make available to the press the thoughts expressed and their formulation.

I wish that this occasion would contribute in establishing a confidence within the possibilities of general necessities and correlations.

With very cordial greetings, I remain

Mr. IHSAN TOPTANI
ATHENS
13 May 1952

Signed : Alexandros Vellinis
Zirini, 2 KIFISSIA

*Also
Include in
Comm. monthly
Report*

*copied for
Wood - July 1*

SECRET

To the
I.C.F.A.
Piazza Fontana del file 7/10
SECRET

Dear Friends,

As I had told you during my stay in Rome, here in Athens I am in intimate contact with Mr. Alexander VELLINI, who is known to the members of the Committee who were in Greece in 1950. Mr. VELLINI is deeply interested in the Greek-Albanian relations, and has always shown the desire of finding a way of a peace. During one of our last meetings, Mr. Vellini has been more interested than ever, about the interview given by Tito to Randolph Churchill, and he wanted to know what the Committee thought of this interview. I answered that if there was someone very interested in knowing this opinion, he should use the usual official way for such cases. I answered in this manner to let him understand we are conscient of the attitude of the Greek government towards us, while I knew such a step could not have been expected actually. Mr. VELLINI pretended not to hear my proposal and suggested he would address himself, personally to me, a letter. This proposition I accepted giving him assurance I would send it immediately to the Committee. Thus he brought me the letter I here enclose. The English translation has been done by both of us in order to have no disagreements. The text of Tito's interview is translated from Greek. I am sure you have seen the original or that you will find it.

The letter of Mr. Vellini, as you may see for yourselves is formulated in a rather diplomatic manner and with some reserve. In spite of this, it seems to me a good occasion to present the thought of the Committee, to the Greek personalities and show our promptitude to have some exchange of views, independently from the official relations. From what I understand, the answer of the Committee, can also be sent to the Interior Minister Mr. STAMIS, who according to what they say, is favourable for a realistic policy towards Albania.

In your answer you must not forget to say if you wish me to give an integral copy to Mr. VELLINI or, if you wish to paraphrase it in a letter I will send him.

The political atmosphere here shows more moderate signs although the indices are very small. The principal reason for the non-extension of this atmosphere, is the fright the politicians here have of being accused as traitors. However it seems that many have at last realized that Greece has no hope of taking Southern Albania and that they are getting ready for compromises. One thing seems sure: there is no Greek who considers it impossible for the Government to make a liberation on the respect of the territorial integrity of Albania, in case the Great Powers ask it. And this gives you a

20th May 1952.-

IMRAN KHAN

Sincerely yours,

clear idea of the situation here. Those who are presiding the selves
 for a compromise, with some concessions in the cultural field, lan-
 guage etc. One of their feelings is for instance, that Greek be
 taught in the religious orthodox schools so that they do not face
 the Balkan generation. They think that the Autocephalous Albanian Church
 has not the necessary texts for the establishment in Albania, and thus
 is obliged to use Greek or Slav.

Other interesting points are: the Greek Government has
 signed a Convention with the European Migration Commission, according
 to which they take many obligations, but this agreement has not
 been in force yet because it has not been ratified. As things are,
 the authorities here have become receptive to the opinion of the United
 Nations and the Continental Powers. According to some latest news,
 really consensual, come time and the Greek authorities, after having
 protected, have liberated in twenty four hours a Bulgarian who had
 been arrested under the accusation he was the center for Macedonians
 against the Greek interests. If the change of attitude goes on,
 there will be quite a new situation for us.

If there will be new developments, I will write you again.
 I am expecting your answer about the question of Alexander Vellani.
 Please don't be late to send it. It seems he expects it with a
 wide curiosity.