

National League of the Mountains, the Central Committee for the
Liberation of Albania

Notwithstanding the fact that this committee was formed only on 9 February 1950 and despite the fact that it found itself faced with great difficulties in the battle against Communist tyranny, its first year produced formidable successes. Aside from the appreciable losses caused to the Communist Party through assassinations and continuous attacks, in a political sense the population took the habit of hating this regime of usurpers which was arbitrarily constituted in our country. After continuous battle during the year the Committee found it indispensable to convoke with the enlargement of its jurisdiction, a larger reunion of nationalist representatives, which were to express, insofar as possible, the desire of the people and see to the election of a larger (or broader) Committee. The meeting took place on 9 February 1951, and the people from all regions of Northern Albania were represented, since it was impossible to have representatives from the other regions because of the vigilance and terror in our country.

After several hours of discussion, the representatives of the various regions present proposed to the Committee the gentlemen persons who, confronted with superhuman difficulties, presented an exemplary resistance without debasing themselves for seven consecutive years afterward, serving in this way the cause of Nationalism.

Program of Resolutions

First of all, the Committee has as its program:

- 1) Battle without quarter against Communism which, since the invasion of our country, has continually been carried out by our national heroes: GJOMARKAJ, Mark; KAZAZI, Jup; etc.
- 2) The overthrow of the present terrorist regime in Albania.
- 3) The restoration of a democratic regime which will represent the national interests of the Albanian people.
- 4) The guarantee of freedom of speech, press, propaganda, religion and those human rights which in general are sanctioned by international law.
- 5) The collaboration with all the anti-Communist Albanian political currents, internal and external (in exile).
- 6) The acceptance as the highest juridical authority, the Free Albanian National Committee (presently in exile) which authorizes the Bloku Kombetar Independent to represent it.

Appeal to All Free Democratic Anti-Communist Nations

The Central Committee of the "National League of the Mountains" for the Liberation of Albania, freely elected from all the regions of Albania, has the honor to present to you, through the services of the Free Albania National Committee, a program of resolutions and a memorandum on the fate and the rights of Albania which has been under red slavery since 1944. Taking into account the many sacrifices made by the Albanian people during these seven years under a barbarous government such as never was met with until now in the history of government, being convinced also of the good will and the readiness of the Albanian people for an internal revolution against that regime with the forces and means at their disposal, Albania could not achieve its goal of National liberation without the necessary moral and material aid; through the Free Albania Committee, therefore, it turns to all free, democratic, anti-Communist states, and especially to the United States of America, to the United Kingdom of England, that they urgently consider the dispatch of such means as clothing, arms, munitions, etc., in order to succeed in the objective of overthrowing the Albanian Communist regime against which the heroes have fought and died: GJEDJAKAJ, Mark; KAZAZI, Jup; Father LULI, Leko; Father HARAFI, Anton; CALI, Prenke; KUPAKAJ, Nico; MESHANANU, Alush; ALIJA, Halil; TROMARA, Kolu; OSMANI, Pajri, who seek the soil of our country in their blood.

In view of the fact that the Albanian question is directly related to the international situation and, as a consequence, the liberation of Albania would free the Adriatic coast forever of the red peril which is attempting to penetrate into the heart of Europe.

Certain that our appeal will meet with your approval, we send you our sincere regards.

Central Committee of the National League
of the Mountains" (signature)

Memorandum

Because of the key position which Albania has held in a political-strategic sense in the Balkan Peninsula since the remote times of Pelasghi the country has been subjected to disastrous wars imposed by aggressors until the period of the national hero Skanderbeg.

Albania, as a small nation finding itself confronted by larger and more powerful states, was often made the arena for the sanguinary battles of foreign invaders.

Only during the twenty-five years of the rule of Skanderbeg could Albania be considered free and independent, because it threw back beyond its borders the Ottoman Army, thus defending not only its own liberty and the independence of the country but also the entire European civilization.

With the death of Skanderbeg, notwithstanding the various attempts at defense by the Albanians, our country was occupied by the enemy for the duration of five centuries. At that very moment when the other peoples of Europe were pushing themselves forward toward civilization and science, our country remained under the claws of the barbarian.

Basing itself upon the troubled situation created in Albania by a long occupation, and for other reasons of an international and political character, the Congress of Berlin arbitrarily decided that from the neighbors of Albania should be created by internal revolutions and many times also aggressions across the borders, a new smaller Albania. The little independent Albania was accepted and recognized by all the nations; an Albania, however, without its own true and richest territories, such as Kossovo and Cameria.

The early days of the small independent Albania were passed in a war between parties and various political currents until the advent of Ahmet Zogu who, on his special merits, was entrusted with the helm of state and later was also crowned as King of Albania.

Therefore, during its twenty-seven years of independence, Albania, although small and torn by conflicts made great progress in proportion to the time that it had at its disposition as an independent state from the point of view of reconstruction of the country and also from the point of view of social, political, economic and cultural improvements.

In a period when the entire people were preoccupied with reconstruction and development, the Fascist aggressor, with obvious betrayal, struck at Albania and on 7 April 1939 occupied it, forming in this way a very important base for its imperialist ends in the Balkan Peninsula.

Moreover, this great catastrophe for Albania was tolerated by the Great Powers of the West; with all the desperate appeals that were made in that period no moral or material aid was forthcoming to defend the rights won by such bloodshed throughout the centuries.

Conquered but not dominated, the Albanian people, despite the tyranny, continued in silence their attempts to attain national rebirth.

Due to the circumstances of World War I and as was the case in all other countries, disoriented political currents were created. Finding favorable terrain, the international communist movement organized its forces with aid from neighboring states, especially Yugoslavia. Abusing and betraying the sincere sentiments of collaboration and the national aspirations of the Albanian people, they took advantage of the opportunity to penetrate into the heart of the people and to spread the poison of Communism throughout the greater part of the ignorant and politically immature Albanian masses.

Three parties were formed: Legaliteti, Balli Kombetar, and Nacional Cliristar, and a later Nacional Independent. The three nationalist parties, that is: Legaliteti, Balli Kombetar and Nacional Independent fought against the occupation in favor of a free, democratic and independent Albania on a western pattern, while the other party, the Nacional Cliristar, together with a great number of Communists, fought not only the occupation but also the above-mentioned nationalist parties.

The Allied missions which operated at that time in Albania created a disorderly state of public opinion because they aided not only the nationalists but also the Nacional Cliristar which later openly declared itself as fighting for a Communist Government. Although too late, the nationalist parties were also forced to attack the Nacional Cliristar, until, tired and their grandiose illusions crumbled one part took the way of emigration and the other the way of illegality

As a consequence, on 29 November 1944, Albania fell again, this time under Communist tyranny.

Notwithstanding the assumption of power by that government, the attempts for the liberation of Albania continue; the Communists are being fought politically and with arms. One cannot do less than mention as examples of Albanian nationalism the heroes QJOMARKAJ, Mark; KAZATI, Jup; and Father LULI, Leka, besides other nationalists who fell in continual battles in the mountains and on the plains of Albania.

During the period of Communist slavery, horrible scenes have confronted and are confronting our people every hour in the so-called "Special Peoples' Courts" through which have been made to disappear the best and greater part of the nationalists.

Among those who have been shot, hanged and tortured to death are: TROMARA, Kole; KOTA, Kostag; TATZAZI, HAKI Ismajl; WOSI, Lef; Father HARAPI, Anton; BUSHATI, Malig; Father SWILAKU, Gjon; HARASHI, Llesh; CALI, Fronk; CERIBASHI, Sami; BEJA, Shengent; PALI, Paulin; PIPA, Musafet; UEDA, Koles; and others. Aside from these, they continue to torture in a bestial manner the greater part of the families of the nationalists in the concentration camps.

With the torture and the various other forms of pressure, the Albanian people continues its resistance against the present Communist Government with decision and abnegation for the liberation of Albania.

The Albanian people has decided to fight until the end at the side of its anti-Communist Allies and to give itself for the victory over Communism.

Central Committee of the "National League of the
Mountains"

(written by CUMI, Kole)