

SECRET

Memo # 11

SECURITY INFORMATION 19 February 1952

MEMORANDUM TO : Chief, SE/PC
ATTENTION :
SUBJECT : Albanian Documentation

1. A review of documentation with an Albanian Consultant last week led to the conclusion that the membership card of the Fronte Demokratik of Albania is practically indispensable for agents under upper or middle class cover. No Albanian could hold a job, or travel, if he were not a member of the Communist Party or a sympathizer with the regime. All sympathizers, who are not party members, may obtain the Fronte Demokratik membership card for a fee.

2. Headquarters has four examples of this card, one each for Tirana and Elbasan, and two for Gjinokaster. Of the two for Gjinokaster Pref., one was issued in Libohove in 1947 and one in Delvine in 1948. The grey color of these cards differs only slightly, the underlying tint is green and the format is the same. The Gramsh-Elbasan card is of a much smoother finish and is of a bright orange color. It was issued in 1947. The Tirana card is a dirty white with an underlying tint of light grey blue. It more nearly resembles the Gjinokaster card in texture. It was issued in 1947.

3. Are we correct in our understanding that the cover for your agents is to be that of middle class townsmen of North Albania? If they are to travel they must have the Fronte Demokratik membership card if possible in addition to the Leter-Njoftim for their town and a Lib-reze Ushtarake. They should also have ration stamps if they are under city cover.

4. We would like to have information as to what towns you wish to use in your cover stories and whether the C, Q, and S Series Leter-Njoftim have been issued in these towns. (These three Series are the only ones we have) Photos of Leter-Njoftim for the towns chosen showing the Series, would be helpful.

5. Photos of Fronte Demokratik membership cards for these same towns should be obtained with, if possible, a sample of the paper or comparison with some original that has been sent in. Originals are preferable.

6. Samples of 1952 ration cards for these towns should also be procured. Good photos, with samples showing design and color, (for instance one of the tickets torn off a card) might be sufficient for reproduction purposes of complete originals are unobtainable.

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7. It is possible that if we supply plates that our man in the field will be able to make these ration cards for you as soon as he knows the color for the next month's cards.

8. We have previously suggested that a penetration of one of the printing establishments that have government contracts, would be an excellent investment.

[Acting Chief, ID/TSS/DD/P]

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