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MAY 27 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Entry into United States of King Zeg and his immediate family.

1. It is requested that you use your authority under Section 8, Public Law 110, to effect the entrance into the United States of King Zeg of Albania, his wife, and seven members of his immediate family, on the basis of urgent operational requirements.

2. All other possible means by which this might be accomplished have been explored by this division, in cooperation with the office of Alien Affairs (I & B), but with negative results. Employment of Section 8 is deemed by all concerned the final and necessary resort.

3. For nearly two years, Zeg has been the SE division's only valuable source of relatively high-level Albanian infiltration agents; all indications point to an even greater operational profit to us in future than in past relationships.

4. Because of his great value, we are assisting him in his effort to move his family to his home on Long Island, where he intends to remain indefinitely or until the political situation in Albania permits his return. In view of the patriarchal nature of the Zeg household, his desire to take up residence in the United States is predicated on the understanding that his family will be able to accompany him.

5. Zeg does not wish to prejudice his present or future political claims by entering this country on any kind of visa indicating intent to become a citizen. Further, he feels that entry under a DP or immigrant visa would impair his prestige and detract from his claim to the Albanian throne; it is our view that his entry under such conditions would also detract considerably from his value to us. The Commissioner of Immigration has refused to permit his entry on a waiver of documents or as a visitor, because such entry would be in violation of existing laws.

6. CIA assistance to Zeg extends only to arrangements for his entry; no financial commitments are involved. Likewise, this case presents no problems as to custody, surveillance, special treatment or ultimate disposal. His trips out of the country can, under Section 8, be controlled by CIA without Zeg's knowledge if desired. He, of course, will have no knowledge of our use of Section 8.

7. Attached is an

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1. CIA's relationship with King Zog of Albania during the past two years has developed into one of our most valuable and promising assets in an extremely complex operation. Our direct liaison with Zog was developed and maintained by [redacted] formerly SE/CPP and currently [redacted] with the result that our ties with Zog have been unusually cordial and productive. The King is not directly associated with the CIA political front, National Committee for a Free Albania. The Legitimist Party, which advocates the restoration of the monarchy, is however represented in the Committee. Zog, who has astutely remained in the background, enjoys such personal prestige as to constitute a factor of continuing importance in the Albanian political scene. This factor, we know, is taken into account by all the governments adjacent to Albania and/or interested in its future political complexion. In this connection, Zog has indicated on several occasions that he considers the United States viewpoint as being paramount. This favorable attitude toward the United States, in conjunction with the fact that he can command a large personal following both among the exiles and inside Albania (he claims support within the Albanian Army and Government), will be of particular interest to us in the next two years, during which time it may be possible to unseat the present regime. From CIA's point of view, Zog's presence in New York would facilitate the establishment of alternate liaison channels between the SE division and the exiled Albanian King.

2. Our relationship with Zog has been most profitable in both FI and PP/PM activities. In the course of 1951-1952 Zog personally kept us informed of his efforts to seek a rapprochement with the Yugoslavs for support in overthrowing the Tirana government, providing us with a detailed account of the meeting that took place in Skoplje at the end of August 1952 between three of his emissaries and two Yugoslav representatives. It was agreed at the meeting that the matter would be pursued further. Although no follow-up has been made by the Yugoslavs as agreed, we can expect to be kept fully informed by Zog of any further development in this, as yet, exploratory arrangement. Zog has indicated he is reopening the matter.

3. Joint penetration operations under CIA control, with Zog supplying relatively high-level leaders and contacts within the country and CIA providing W/T operators, training, supplies and operational support, were initiated just over a year ago. The first four-man team under this arrangement was sent into the country at the beginning of May 1952. It has remained in the country within a few miles of Tirana ever since, and is our most successful long-term penetration to date. The team's objective has been to assess Zog's relative strength in various areas in Albania and to contact the leaders of loyal clans and officers in the Albanian Army. Zog has promised to provide us with three more team leaders (two of whom have arrived in Greece) to be sent in before the end of the present operational season. This total of four teams will afford reasonably complete area coverage of the country. The teams will operate without the knowledge either of the NCFA or the BIS and should provide us with

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valuable unilateral assets. It is stressed that Zog is presently our only source of high-level agents and internal contacts.

4. Although it is perhaps premature to assess Zog's future political potential in Albania, our experience with the NCFA, with our British counterpart, and with Yugoslav Intelligence would strongly indicate the desirability of maintaining the closest possible hold on the exiled Albanian King. It is believed that Zog's own strong personality and following within the country could prove decisive both prior to and following the liberation of Albania, either as a bargaining point in the development of a joint United States-Yugoslav operation against Albania, or in the event of a split among the parties now comprising the NCFA. Eventually, his attitude toward the United States might determine the extent of American influence in the post-liberation government of Albania.

5. Although the complexities of United States Immigration Laws have been explained to Zog in detail, it is quite likely that he would consider our failure to effectuate his entry into the United States as incomprehensible and indicative of weakness in the United States services. At the least, it would come as a great disappointment. Zog invested heavily in his preparations for the move and in the purchase of an estate on Long Island at the time of his earlier trip to the United States in 1951. He has also expressed the hope that by taking up residence in this country his son could be given an American education.

6. The inclusion of Zog's nephew and wife in the category of "immediate family" is considered necessary, since both have long been completely dependent on the King and are regarded by him as forming an integral part of his household.

7. In the event the King and his entourage are admitted to the United States under Section 8, the nature of the legal device employed will be concealed by providing the group with visitors' visas. The party would thus enter the country ostensibly as visitors, but CIA would thereafter be in a position to control fully any future trips that the King may desire to undertake outside this country.

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King Ahmet Zog

Personal Data: Born October 8, 1895, Burgajet, Mati District; from a long line of hereditary chieftains dating back to fifteenth century. Married Countess Geraldina Apponyi, 1938; one son, born 1939. Six sisters.

Present Location: Egypt

Education: Attended secondary school and later military school in Istanbul.

Languages: Turkish, German, French, Serbo-Croat.

Career:

1914-1918 Fought with Central Powers, but was finally interned in Vienna.
 1920-1923 Successively Minister of Interior, Commander-in-Chief of Army, Prime Minister.
 1924 Fled to Belgrade when Fan Noli assumed power; Invaded Albania from Yugoslavia and overthrew Fan Noli, December.
 1925 Proclaimed President of Albanian Republic, January 31.
 1928 Proclaimed Zog I, King of the Albanians, September 1.
 1939 Fled to Greece upon Italian invasion of Albania, April 7.
 1940-1946 Resident in England as a private individual, arrived June 27, 1940.
 1946— Resident in Egypt, arrived February 23, 1946.

Physical Description:

Height: 6'1"
 Weight: 190 lbs.
 Eyes: Blue
 Hair: Greying blond, reddish mustache
 Coloring: Fair
 Military bearing

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Susan Geraldine (nee Countess Appenyi)

Born: 6 August 1915, Budapest, Hungary
Married: April 1938
Languages: English, French, German, Hungarian, Albanian
Religion: Roman Catholic

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Prince Leka Zogu (son of King Zog)

Born: 5 April 1939, Tirana, Albania
Languages: English, French, German, Albanian
Religion: Moslem

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Princess Hafie Zogu (sister of King Zog)

Born: 7 January 1896, Mati, Albania
Married: 1922 to Ceno Kryeziu (assassinated October 1927
in Prague)
Religion: Moslem
Education: No formal education.

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Princess Senise Zogu (sister of King Zog)

Born: 15 November 1908, Mati, Albania
Married: January 1936, Tirana, to Mehmed Abid Effendi, son
of Sultan Abul Hamid II. Deserted after 6 months.
Religion: Moslem
Education: No formal education.

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Princess Mxhida Zogu (sister of King Zog)

Born: 8 October 1911, Mati, Albania
Religion: Moslem
Education: No formal education.

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Mr. Tati Koussou (Kryesia) (nephew of King Zog)

Born: 24 December 1923
Education: St. Cyr Military Academy, France
Religion: Moslem
Married: Hourire Sabri, c. 8 March 1952
Height: 5'10"
Weight: 165 lbs.
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Black-brown
Complexion: Sallow

NOTE: Acts as Aide-de-Camp to Zog.

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Mrs. Mounira Kossova (wife of Tati Kossova)

Born: 19 December 1921, London, England, nee Mounire Oldland
Married: Ismail Fawzy Sabri (Egyptian), divorced. Tati Kossova
3 March 1952.
Children: Yussef Sabri, 16 July 1945. (has custody)