

**SECRET**

OSLN-3530

MAY 5 1954

ATTN: Chief [ ]  
ATTN: Chief, SE [ ]  
THRU: Chief, WE [ ]

INFO: [ ]  
ATTN: [ ]

- SHAM/CBCPUS
- Attached Intelligence Summary

REFERENCE: OLA-4111

1. In accordance with the commitment undertaken in paragraph 4 of the first attachment to the reference, we are herewith forwarding to London for passing to VALUABLE a summary of available intelligence on Albania produced in the period since the last summary in this series.

2. We request that at the time you pass this attachment to VALUABLE you express our regrets that the summary is not a meaty one. This is partly due to the inevitable difficulties of collecting information on a denied area and partly to the fact that we have limited ourselves to material received in the period since the last report, a period of four months.

3. Some of the items in this report may have already been passed to VALUABLE through other JAVELIN/EUBARK liaison channels. We apologise for any duplication but have no way of knowing when a given item has been passed through these channels.

4. We would welcome any comments JAVELIN may wish to make on any part of this summary.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
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SE/1-jdk

27 April 1954

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Attachment o OELW- 3530

**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY:** Albania

**PERIOD:** December 1953 - April 1954

**KEY:**

DA - Date acquired  
DOI - Date of information

**NAVAL**

**Submarine Base**

The Soviet Union is reported shipping prefabricated submarine parts to Durres in the anticipation of establishing the First Soviet Adriatic Submarine Unit which will be activated sometime in 1955.

Admiral I.N. TIKHONOV of the Soviet Navy has arrived in Tirana via Prague with Soviet naval experts. Admiral TIKHONOV will supervise the construction of the submarines and will command the First Soviet Adriatic Submarine Unit.

Since 1953 the Soviet vessels SS OKHOTSK, SS KURSK, and SS CHUKOTA have been unloading prefabricated submarine parts for both small and medium size subs. These shipments have increased considerably in December 1953 and are expected to continue throughout 1954.

Technical equipment for this submarine base will be flown to Albania from the CED-SOKOLOVO factory in Prague, Yugoslavia, over whose territory the equipment will be flown, is not expected to make any opposition.

**SOURCE:** An untested source. DOI January 1954

**COMMENT:** Unconfirmed reports have been received sporadically on the existence of a submarine base in Albania and on the presence of prefabricated submarines both in Durres and Vlone. It is not possible at this time to evaluate this report; however, the Department of the Navy does not believe that a submarine base exists in Albania. This office finds this report interesting because it is the first on the subject of submarines in which a target date for the completion of the alleged submarine base is mentioned and in which a Soviet Admiral has been named as commander of the base.

According to the Department of the Navy lists of Soviet naval officers, there is no record of an Admiral I.N. TIKHONOV. The existence of the CED-SOKOLOVO factory in Prague is known. This factory is engaged in the construction of heavy steel items such as tanks, cranes, steam engines, and steel forms. The Soviet vessels SS OKHOTSK, SS KURSK, and SS CHUKOTA are part of the Soviet merchant fleet, but this office has no record of their stopping at either Durres or Vlone for cargo operations.

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MILITARY

Chief of Artillery

Major General Tahir KADAREJA is the chief of artillery for the Albanian Army.

SOURCE: An Albanian refugee. DA January 1954.

Corps Headquarters in Kruje

Headquarters for the independent infantry brigades in northern Albania is located in Kruje. This is a senior army headquarters of corps echelon and it is believed exercises administrative control over the independent brigades in northern Albania.

SOURCE: An Albanian refugee. DA January 1954.

Training

The 23 Coastal Artillery Brigade has an artillery school under its command. The school has approximately 900 students. For administrative purposes the student body is divided into three batteries of 300 men each. The school is located near the Hotel Volga in the vicinity of the port area of Durres. Commandant of the school is Lieutenant Misto KITA, 35 years old, and a native of Korea. The school was activated in 1950.

Students are assigned to one of the three batteries according to the course of study they are to pursue.

The first battery specialized in map reading, telemetry, telephone operations, radio receiving, and transmitting.

The second battery specializes in the use and nomenclature of artillery pieces and mortars.

The third battery specializes in the use of heavy cannons.

SOURCE: An Albanian refugee who served in the Albanian military forces. DA November 1953, DOI mid-1952.

Recruitment

In October 1953, the class of 1934 was called to active duty. At the same time all troops completing two years of service were discharged.

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The Albanian government announced that hereafter (after October 1953) the tour of active duty for all branches except infantry will be extended from two to three years. Those serving in infantry will continue to serve for two years.

SOURCE: An Albanian refugee. DA February 1954, DOI late 1953.

### ECONOMIC

#### Petroleum Shipments

During the period January - February 1954, approximately 9,560 tons of petroleum and petroleum products were imported by Albania. Albania exported approximately 7,500 tons of crude oil during this same period.

SOURCE: A reliable informant in shipping circles. DOI 1954.

#### Maritime Shipping

The following vessels have stopped at Albanian ports for cargo operations from 1 December 1953 to April 1954.

SS ASTERIA (Rumanian)	SS MARGHELENSKI (Polish)
SS CHIATURY (Soviet)	SS MESAPLIKU (Albanian)
SS CHRISTINE (Italian)	SS MYRONIC (Soviet)
SS DIMITRI POZHARSKIY (Soviet)	SS NIKOLA VAPTZAROV (Bulgarian)
SS ELIN (Danish)	SS NOGIN (Soviet)
SS FRANCO LISI (Panamanian)	SS OTIS (Italian)
SS GEMMAINE (Panamanian)	SS PIAST (Polish)
SS GIULIANA SINA (Italian)	SS PLESHANOV (Rumanian)
MS NEHAL STAPA (Albanian)	SS RODINA (Bulgarian)
SS KHRISTO SMIRNENSKI (Bulgarian)	SS SAMARINE (Italian)
SS KIM (Soviet)	SS SANTANHA (Italian)
SS KOLNO (Polish)	SS STANIRA (Italian)
SS KOTOVSKI (Soviet)	SS SUKHONA (Soviet)
SS KRASHODAR (Soviet)	SS TEUTA (Albanian)
SS KRUBAA (Danish)	SS TCHUN (Albanian)
SS LECHISTAN (Polish)	MS TRANSYLVANIA (Rumanian)
SS LEHMONTOV (Soviet)	SS VARIOTTI (Italian)
SS LEWANT (Polish)	SS VILGREN (Italian)
MV MARACAIBO (Panamanian)	MS YLLI KUQ (Albanian)

SOURCE: A reliable informant in shipping circles. DOI December - April 1954.

COMMENT: The MS YLLI KUQ (Albanian) a 200-ton coastal type vessel and the MS NEHAL STAPA (Albanian) make regular runs between Durres and Bari, Italy carrying some cargo but mostly mail, diplomatic couriers, and some passengers.