

11452

PROJECT STATUS REPORT				REPORTING PERIOD May 1954	
1. CRYPTONYM		2. DIVISION OR BRANCH		3. COUNTRY	
a. Program	b. Project CECFUS	SE-1		Target Albania	Base Greece
5. NAME OF CASE OFFICER		ROOM NO. 1313 J	EXTENSION 672	4. DATE ORIGINALLY APPROVED a. Program b. Project 22 June 194	
6. TYPE OF PROJECT		DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUPPORT		CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY			
7. STATUS		SUBJECTS ARE EXEMPT FROM 3028			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> LIQUIDATING		NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT			
8. PERSONNEL ASSIGNED		9. FY ALLOTMENT TO DATE		DATE 2007	
U.S. -----	O/S 17	U.S. -----			
FOREIGN NAT'L -----	65				
TOTAL	82		\$		\$

11. Summary

Mission and Plan

Utilization of all available covert assets to exploit the resistance potential in Albania, undermine the Soviet power complex, develop a covert offensive in support of U.S. policy aims in the Balkans, and when feasible, to support a coup d'etat to replace the Communist regime with one acceptable to the West.

Summary

Paramilitary

There were no paramilitary activities during the month of May. However, planning and recruiting were undertaken for PM activities scheduled later this year.

Political-Psychological

(1) On 7 May, at a meeting of the NCFA in Rome, the British case officer announced his withdrawal from Rome in accordance with the agreement made with the British that both they and we would withdraw the case officers assigned to the NCFA. The new budget under which the NCFA will be expected to operate was outlined at the same meeting.

(2) The members of the Legalitet Party who resigned in protest over the dismissal of Mr. George Gogh from the party by Mr. Abas Kipi, have formed a new Monarchist Party, which will be led by Mr. Gogh. Both the Legalitet and the Monarchist Parties will support ex-King Zog and both will be represented in the NCFA on an equal basis.

(3) On 15 May voting opened to elect an Executive Committee of the NCFA to replace the Provisional Executive Committee in existence since the Committee broadening in December. The election polls close at midnight on 5/6 June.

(4) Members of the dissident "Professor Group" of the Balli Kombetar Party, in discussions with Mr. George Weller, Chicago Daily News correspondent in Rome, gave Mr. Weller details of the American and British support of Albanian emigre activities, including such information on agent operations as was available to them. Mr. Weller informed [redacted] that he intended to write an article on Albania and requested verification of certain facts. The

CLASSIFICATION REVIEW DIVISION

[redacted] 94835

[] is concerned over the possibility that Mr. Weller, following the line given him by the "Professors", will place too much emphasis in his article on agent operations and the Italian influence over the NCEA. Mr. Weller is expected to arrive in the U.S. soon and arrangements have been made with the National Committee for Free Europe for the SE-1 Branch Chief, ostensibly as a representative of the NCFE, to interview Mr. Weller in New York in an effort to ensure that no sensitive operational details are exposed in his article.

(5) Mr. Hasan Dosti left Rome for Greece on 22 May. While in Athens Mr. Dosti will try to unify the members of the Balli Kombetar Party in Greece and ensure their support of the NCEA. Mr. Dosti also hopes to have conversations with various high-ranking Greek officials on the subject of rumors that Greece and Yugoslavia will reach an agreement on Albania during Marshall Tito's current visit to Greece.

(6) Press reports in Cairo on 21 May stated that the Egyptian courts on 20 May ordered the release of ex-King Zog's assets in 15 Egyptian banks. Unless the Ministry of the Interior refuses to grant Zog and his entourage exit visas or the Fiscal Parquet trumps up new charges, Zog should now be free to depart from Egypt for the U.S.

(7) A successful leaflet mission was flown over Albania on the night of 12 May.

(8) The NCEA newspaper Shqipëria was published in Rome on schedule. Due to immigration complications over the entry to the U.S. of the member of the NCEA appointed as editor of the paper, it has been decided not to move it to New York. Shqipëria will continue to be published in Rome, although it is possible all material for the paper will be prepared in Athens.

(9) A regular broadcast schedule was maintained by the clandestine radio transmitter located near Athens.