

Extract from Report of Operations for the Quarter Ended 31 March 1951.

BGFIEND

1. The purpose of this project is by covert media to maintain and strengthen the morale of the Albanian people against the Hoxha regime; to establish and develop underground reconnaissance and resistance nets; to create capabilities for the conduct of guerrilla warfare to counteract Soviet-inspired military action against TITO and/or a renewal of guerrilla activities against Greece; to place OPC in a favorable position to exploit any eventual large-scale resistance movement aimed at the overthrow of the Hoxha regime. A recent revision of this project, approved by the Department of State, calls for broadening and intensification of the operations concerned in such a manner as to increase the assets available to OPC.

2. The project envisages four lines of operations:

a. The establishment and exploitation of a National Committee for Free Albania as a cover for OPC operations and as a propaganda symbol.

b. The establishment and exploitation of propaganda media, including black broadcasting facilities, a newspaper, and leaflet drops.

c. The organization and training of Albanian agents for infiltration into Albania for purposes of operational reconnaissance and for the establishment and support of underground resistance nets.

d. Economic warfare.

3. During the quarter under review the following progress has been made:

a. Although the difficulties within the NCFA, arising from political divergencies and competition among Albanian political leaders in exile, continued to plague the operation of the Committee, nevertheless certain progress was made in the pursuit of the Committee's (and OPC's) objectives. It expanded dissemination from New York of the SHQIPERIA, a semi-monthly newspaper in the Albanian language. Plans are under way to induce all party members of the NCFA to support the paper; to improve its editorial staff, and in general to make it a worthy representative journal of the Committee. Moreover, beginning in April

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or May the paper will be published weekly instead of semi-monthly. A propaganda subcommittee of the NCFAs has been established in Rome to furnish support to OPC PW activities under the guidance of an OPC specialist. Efforts are being continuously exerted to smooth the relations of the various political elements constituting the Committee. [] has been assigned as chief liaison with the NCFAs elements abroad, with headquarters in Rome.

b. In the field, of propaganda, the leaflet dropping activities continued on a regular schedule basis of approximately once a month with alternate drops being made by U.S. and British aircraft. Leaflets were also dropped (26 January) by a British aircraft in implementation of the aforementioned OPC-[] arrangement. Black broadcasts into Albania will be inaugurated on or about April 1951 by a shipborne BGFIEND transmitter. The OPC propaganda vessel has now reached its base in Patras, Greece. It will be diverted to the Aegean for a propaganda program for a short mission on behalf of QKSTAIR after which it will take up its main duties of broadcasting into Albania from the Adriatic. The propaganda center in Athens has assembled the regional staff and base technical facilities required for implementation of the vessel's propaganda program.

c. Agent Activities: Of the nine agents dropped into Albania on 11 November 1950, the Northern Team of four men operating in Kukes are maintaining contact by letters. OPC is planning to send a resupply mission as soon as the proper arrangements can be made. The team of three men dropped in the district of Dibra has not been heard from; while the two members of the Kruya team have fallen into Communist hands. For the spring operations, supplies have been reaching the field in adequate quantities during the quarter under review. The agent training facilities have been augmented by the construction of an extensive tent camp in Germany. The pool of agent personnel is now being screened by a psychological assessment team in Germany. Operational candidates have been selected by the NCFAs party leaders on a recent visit to Munich. The C-47 aircraft has now become unsuitable for the expanded operations envisaged, and a B-26 has been ordered through the Army, which will be appropriately modified and become available in 30 days. An additional B-26 and Convair type aircraft are under consideration. Additional crews are being recruited in England, and 36 Polish candidates are being

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cleared for the use of EE. By arrangement with the L
] on 1 February certain rejects were flown to Greece
and are now disposed of in various mountain villages in
Greece. In the meantime, an arrangement has been made with
the British for the disposition of future rejects by send-
ing them to England for use by the British Labor Department.

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