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DIPLOMAT REVEALS POLITICAL SITUATION IN ALBANIA

Information on the political situation in Albania has been given by a diplomatic personality from a country behind the Iron Curtain who recently fled to Switzerland and is now in Geneva. In his report, he stated that Mehmet Shehu is Minister of Interior, Manush Mufti, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Bequir Balloku, Chief of General Staff of Albanian Army.

The Central Committee of the Albanian Communist Party is located at Tirana, and its chief organizer is Tuk Jakova. The Central Committee consists of 22 members of whom the following make up the Politburo: Enver Hoxha, Tuk Jakova, Bedri Spahiu, Mehmet Irlu, Gogo Nushi, Spiro Koleka, Manol, Koncomi, Petri Dume, Pilo Peristeri, Huzni Kapo, Liri Belishova, (fiancee of the assassinated leader of the Communist youth Fako Spirou), and Hedjme Hoxha.

The Security Corps, divided into Civil Security Police and regular Police, is always in close contact with the Politburo.

The Civil Security Police has the duties of guarding the frontiers, the Albanian coast, cities, and towns, as well as protecting the present form of government against any revolutionary movement by anti-Communist elements. The chief of the Civil Security Police is Lt Col Teme Beko, originally from the town of Philistea, Greece, but who lived, until recently, in Konispol, Albania. The headquarters are located at Tirana. The Civil Security Police are under the command of the General Staff of the Army. The regular police are under the command of the Ministry of Interior and consist of persons who are bona fide supporters of the present regime in Albania.

The influence of Communist propaganda in Albania, aimed at a population which is mostly illiterate, is slight. According to the highest estimates, only about 10 percent of the Albanian population is made up of bona fide Communists.

The Youth Organization, upon which Hoxha is basing all of his future hopes, includes all the youth of the country both male and female from the ages of 13 to 26. At first the youth was divided into two groups, (1) the Communist Youth, which included all the bona fide Communists; and (2) the People's Youth which

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included the rest of the young Albanians who were not Communist but sympathizers. Since this system began to fail, the Politburo recently decided to consolidate the two groups into one organization called United Youth.

A special technical school is located at Tirana for the training of all convinced ideological followers of Communism. All such Communists are given 4 years free education in various trades. If any student shows a high proficiency in his studies he is usually sent to Russia for more specialized work.

Resistance to the present regime has long been noted in Albania and the recent formation of the Free Albanian Committee abroad has extended this movement. According to the diplomatic personality involved, successful anti-Communist activities are being carried out in the areas of Mirdita, Kruje, Surrrel, and especially in Northern Albania. There, various chieftains under the commands of Sul Merlika, Ram Hamibibi, and Ghion Markaghion, have openly revolted against Hoxha with support from Albanian units originating from the Yugoslav area of Kosifopedhion.

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