

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	<input type="text"/> 2. Promotion of Officers 3. Military Decorations	DATE DISTR.	18 December 1954
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Promotion of Officers

8. Promotions are by length of service, and up to 1952, no examinations were held.

9. Length of service for promotion is:

Aspirant to 2nd Lieut.	- 2 years
2nd Lieut. to Lieut.	- 3 years (?)
Lieut. to Capt. II	- 3 years (?)
Capt. II to Capt. I	- 3 years
Capt. I to Major	- 4 years
Major to Lt. Col.	- 3 years

From Lt. Col. to Col. there is also a fixed period, but from Colonel upwards, promotion is by selection only.

10. Political Commissars were not required to be competent in military matters. This has now been changed. There have always been tensions between the Commanding Officers of Units and the Political Commissars. The Commanding Officers should normally have the last word on matters pertaining to his command, but often a Political Commissar would disagree and use his Party position to have his own way, regardless of his rank. In many cases, the Political Commissar's rank is lower than that of the Commanding Officer, but by virtue of his political influence, he could even have his Commanding Officer removed from his Command.
11. In 1952, the government was giving much thought to the question of promotion and it is possible that a system of examination, in addition to length of service, has been started.

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Decorations

12. The following decorations can be awarded to military personnel:

Medalja e Clirimit (Liberation). Awarded to all who have taken part in fighting.

Medalja e Kujtimit (Remembrance). For veteran service in Partisan ranks. All veterans have it.

Yll i Partisanit (The Partisan's Star). For good leadership in war. Three classes. Only a few hold the 1st class.

Urdhen i Skenderbeut (Order of Skanderbeg). For leadership in war.

Medalja e Trimnis (Bravery). For bravery.

Urdhen i Trimnis. For bravery plus leadership.

Urdhen i Flamurit (Flag). One of the highest honors. For all the leaders who laid the foundation of the I.N.C. (Nat. Lib. Movement)

Medalja e Herojt te Popullit (Medal of the Hero of the People).

- a. Held only by very few of the highest leaders, Enver Hoxha, Mehmet Shehu, Tuk Jakova.
- b. Awarded for specially distinguished action to any soldier. Holders are Captain I, Lum Kata for war service; Spiro Kotta, a soldier who, in 1947, discovered that a boat-load of escapees were making for Italy, and shot them all and brought the boat back.
- c. Awarded posthumously to the War and National heroes such as Qemal Stafa, Vojo Koshi etc.

Comment:

1. Captain I means Captain First Class. See paragraph 9 of the report.

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