

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania

See bio data file (qv)

Sent Mentor COMM to Turkey to propagandize among Albanians of Kosovo in favor of DEVA--DEVA wants to get in on Natl Comm., and to prove that he has majority of Albanians with him. ab

RTI-A-1067
6 Jan 50

Leader Albanian Kosovar group; departed Athens 15 April for 15-day visit to Egypt, Syria and Turkey; expected to see ZOG in Egypt and Albanian Kosovars all 3 countries.

OUT-54258(Wash3621)
27 April 50

DEVA still in Alexandria date of cable; saw ZOG but results not known. ab

IN 25249(Cair 069)
9 May 50

Subj., KLISSURA, Jon KARRAGJIONI, ZOG, VERLACI, Ernest KOLIQI, KUPI and others will be encouraged form new comm. probably to be joined by Hasan DOSTI. ab

FR TM-53275
[] 2256(14 Jul 50)
DB-28989

Former Albanian Minister Interior during German occupation; arrived Istanbul 1st part Sept 50 in company of 2 other Albanians (DEVAhad left Rome 31 Aug. & returned there on 11 Oct). Has always been pro-German and violently anti-Communist; desires create "Greater Albania" which would include all of Kosovo area.

80-50188(RTI-A*)
1672 & 1699

ab

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania - 1 a

In Egypt: Minister of Interior under the Germans.

FROM:

Abas KUPI informed Albanians in Rome Subject would be included in American sponsored OPC Committee (IN-35197).

CARD

He realizes he will not be asked to join Committee. His line at present is to campaign in Syria, Turkey, and Egypt for an independent KOSJAVAR party and at last minute present himself to NCFA as only true representative of KOSSAVAR. (Source G-4A, Philby to Yatesvitch, 25 Oct 50)

Now in Rome. Born Mitrovica, KOSOVO (now Yugoslavia). Educated in London. Speaks English and Italian. Heads the Kosovar Group. (See bio data file)

Visited Istanbul at end of November. Was contacted by FIENGA, head of Italian Naval Intelligence at Bari. During visit Duma attempted to recruit thirty Albanians for a Special Mission and intended that they should return to Italy with him. Edigres would not concur without reference to Zog so Subject returned alone. BIS 3 Jan 1 1951. Left Greece 3 Dec 50 after brief visit. While there was in touch with Mikolopoulos, head of Greek Intelligence. Interested in organizing Kosovars in Greece for infiltration into northern Albania. Subject indicated he expected to answer joint statement with Kryeziu asking for unity of Kosovars. Implied he was working with Americans but indicated he had no commitments. SO DB 31945, 11 Dec 50.

Studied engineering in Germany. Leader of group of Kosovars who are not connected with BK. Is against house of the Kryezi, is on good terms with BAI and not on bad terms with Zog. Stavro Skendi, 7 Nov 49.

Native of Mitrovitza, well-educated, energetic and dynamic; has large following among masses of Kosovar, within and outside country. Works to conciliate and moderate anti-Communist

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy ☐

(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒

(2)(C) Foreign Relations ☐

Declassified and Approved for Release
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2003 2005

During his stay in Greece Said KRYEZIU expects to talk with Mehmet AGA, Dem Ali POSARI and with followers of Subject. KRYEZIU now has truce with Subj. which may become an alliance.

SO-50547 SR U-6 50
(TE-4047K [1] 3196)

ab
Abas ERMENTI(qv) described Subject as adventurer who had no support from the Americans. Said Subj's recent journey to Greece and Near East was for "commercial purposes" probably to smuggle gold.

SO-43873/1963/
DB-25991 [1] B-2
dt inf late June 50

Subject arrived in Istanbul in the first part of September 1950 in the company of 2 other Albanians. Subject had left Rome on 31 August and returned there on 11 October.

SO-51168(ETLA-1672/1699)
[1] C-2
dt inf Aug-Sept 1950

pp

Gjon Markagjoni (qv) in 2 May 50 letter reports that Subject satisfied with his (Deva) visit with Muharrem Bajraktari. Hasim Sali Kenij 11 May 50 reports Subject in Bari trying to recruit Albanians from Kossovar-area, and that they agreed to support him

SO 47947 (see
rpt for original
rpts and source)

gs

[REDACTED]

DTWA, Khavar

SO-DB-31142
at inf 2-6 Sept 50
B-2 7 3

Subject arrived Cairo 2 September 50, and proceeded to Alexandria to meet ex-King Zog (qv). On 3 September 50 Subject met with Mustafa Kruja (qv) and Ago Aga, a second meeting with KRUJA on 5 September, and held interview with ZOG on 6 September 50. On arrival Alexandria, Subject gained impression that Abas KUPI (qv) convinced ZOG that BKI's present position too weak to warrant collaboration of Legality Party with it. Subject unable to convince Mustafa KRUJA (qv) that KUPI's statements exaggerated, but KRUJA assured Subject that ZOG would continue to work for BKI admission to Committee for Free Albania. Subject informed ZOG that Ali KLISSURIA's (qv) activities deprived Ballist members of Committee of majority support in their party. From these discussions, Subject concluded that if ZOG were to collaborate with any of great powers, he desired to work directly with their authorized political representatives since such action would constitute acknowledgement of his claims to Albanian throne. According to Subject, the men ZOG now has at his disposal are no longer physically fit to participate in operations within Albania; those formerly at latter's disposal had been sent to training camps in Germany. Although disappointed by results of Alexandria trip, Subject believed no diminution in cordial relations between ZOG on one hand and DEVA and BKI on other. Subject observed KRUJA continued friend of latter group and aware his political interests identical with theirs.

Recently accepted invitation to take part in discussions with Peasant Party leaders (sic - presumably Sajd KRYEZIU's party - see W.C.). ab

SO DB-31874/vw 10074/
C 7244) C 2 B-2
at inf 18 Nov 50

Arrived at Piraeus on 27 Nov on board the SS BARDETIA en route from Italy to Turkey. Acc. to Subj., he and Sajd KRYEZIU(qv) had reached full agreement that all Kossovars were to consider any orders from KRYEZIU as coming from Subject himself. Again stopped at Piraeus on his return journey from Istanbul to Italy. Stated that he and KRYEZIU expected make joint statement calling all Kossovars to remain united and not participate in other Albanian political groups. DEVA said that purpose of trip was to unite 400 Kossovars in that country--Subj. rptd to have conferred with D. Shukri CUPISHII(qv) and Tahir KOLGJINI(qv). Subj. also let it be known that Hasan DOSTI(qv) had visited him in Rome to express regret that the Comm. for Free Albania did not include Second League of Friends.

NO-35179(IN-11347/
[3, 3518)B-3
(W-11998/C)-3562)

Presently in Istanbul. According to Gazi Han BESSOLT(qv), Subj. obviously organizing Albanian Kossovars in Istanbul in ZOG's(qv) behalf. Altho DEVA and Sajd KRYEZIU(qv) have for sometime been enemies, they have come to an agreement not to compete for support of Istanbul Kossovars--BESSOLT has doubts about this agreement as he says lack of economic opportunities in Istanbul will militate against Subj. who wants to keep Kossovars there until ZOG orders otherwise.

Air Pouch C I 201
28 Sept 50

Sajd KRYEZIU(qv) said he intends work closely with Subject; said that this intention had led to accusations, which had been made to British, that he had entered into secret agreements with "collaborationists."

NO-32305(IN-12973/
[3, 7437)dt inf end
Nov 50; [3 B-3

ab

BRVA, Khafer

Albania--3

Same info as contained in 80-53179, with the following additional SO DB-31945 [7
info: while Subj. in Greece, was in touch with Gen. MIKOLOPOUL. Memo to OPC dtd
LOS(qv), who asked Subj. to remain in Greece several days--Subj. 4 Dec 50; (IN-11998/
told Gen. N. that he would do his best to return to Greece soon [7 3562)
to discuss organization of Kossovars in Greece and to dispatch
teams to northern Albania. Subj. implied he was collaborating
with Americans altho on surface his work was with the Italians;
emphasized that he was on no one's payroll, had no commitments,
particularly with the Italians. Expressed regret that many
American agencies involved in Albanian affairs--according to Subj.,
such a policy resulted in British achieving their own aims.

ab

Visited Turkey end of Nov 50 and departed on 2 Dec 50 for his
return voyage to Italy via Greece. Acc.to source, Tahir KOLGJINI
(qv) was the only prominent Albanian with whom Subj. conferred.
See Wash.Comment.

ab

80-55787(RTIA-1809)

[7 C-3
dt ini early Dec 50

Ali DemPOZHARI(qv) reaffirmed that Subject's party and all collaborating with him are aiming at annihilation of Communism, and that all efforts are against Slavs in order to liberate Kossova. PGA-A-3591
dtd 6 Feb 51

Mehmet AGA(qv) and Adem POZHARI(qv) now have mutual understanding and are awaiting orders from Subject to cooperate with Hajd KRYEZIU, who in turn has come to an understanding with Subject.

PGA-A-3591
dtd 6 Feb 51

Subject, Mentor GOKU and Pandali PAPALILLO(qqv) are reported as actually working for the Albanian Committee and as engaged in recruiting volunteers for formation of "commandos" to be sent to Albania.

FIR-8818 (n.d.)
Dt inf Feb '51

Ali KLISURA is strongly anti-Hasan DOSTI(qv) and says that DOSTI cooperated with Fascists so why criticize Subject for having worked with Germans. KLISURA states he and Subj made agreement

SO-60142 (rw 28838)
15 Mar 51 [] 4732
[] B-3

two months ago to meet in Athens at this time and KLISURA unable to understand why Subj. not here. Says Subject made report to Americans on availability of Albania manpower.

Reported as chief of the Albanians from the Kossova. Agent for Et. DOC. (Bureau de Documentation) of the French SDECE (Service Documentation Extérieure et Contre-Espionage).

FIR-9771; dt inf
Dec 1950 to earl.
May 1951

[] B-2

Would be the local leader of the Kossovar Albanians. Bordin Mitrovica about 50 years ago. A Moslem and graduated from Roberts College in Istanbul. Completed his education as an engineer in Berlin. Had no political standing in pre-war Albania, but was noticed when the German Army occupied Yugoslavia and later Albania. The German Military Command trusted him completely and charged him with the recruitment of Kossovars to fight against the Communists in the Kossovo region of Yugoslavia and in Albania. In 1943 Subject returned to Albania from Yugoslavia and took charge of the Ministry of Interior and used this position to ruthlessly kill off the Communists. His anti-Communist activities over a period of 2 years made him popular among the Albanian Kossovar groups. He is described as a man whom the Hoxha regime would fear if he were placed in charge of underground activities. Subject speaks Albanian, Yugoslav, Turkish, German, English and probably Italian. Since he was educated in an American school he would probably favor the Americans rather than the British.

PTAGS-1125
dtd 12 Jan 1953
Source:

af

Subject is 44 years old. Born in Mitrovica. Finished his studies of engineering in Vienna, Austria. He comes from a rich family which is without political influence. Being a Kosovar therefore he hates Yugoslavia. On the other hand having finished his studies in Germany he is a well known Germanophile. That is why it is not astonishing that during the last war he was body and soul with the Germans, especially when Germany proclaimed and created a greater Albania (that is when Kosova was joined with Albania). It was because of the Germans that he became Albanian Minister of Interior and during all the German occupation he

RTIA-1454
10 May 50

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania p.4

Leading exponent in Italy of Prizren League. Subject recently made 2 trips to Graz, Austria to contact Albanian refugee Dr. MALOKI (q) Purpose of visits has not been learned but MALOKI is known to write articles on the current Albanian political situation.
okd

PTI-1544
DofI: 7 July 1950
C-3

Din KHUB I(qv) will be sent to Italy in Dec 51 by Qazim QOVANI(qv) to contact Kol LESHAJ(qv) in Rome. KHUBI made a similar trip to Italy in 1950 when he had secret meetings with Kol LESHAJ, Subject, and Sajo KREZIU(qv).
ab

PTI - 3067
dt 31 Nov 51

Concerning Greece, Subj. states there must be friendly understanding between the 2 countries, and that the Northern Epirus question must be settled on basis of the line of Evangelos KYRKOS(qv) (i.e., Federal Union of the 2 countries). Subj. stressed he will tell the Greek officials that KYRKOS is the only Albanian in Greece whom the Albanians abroad trust.
qd

PCA-4-5879 dtd
7 Feb 51
Ref: C-8809,
WASHF-25471

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania - 8

In Kosova, he is known and appreciated as the best Albanian and the rock of the Albanians and also as chief of the Balli (Sic). This has been reinforced and put in evidence by a film which the Yugoslav authorities made against the Balli Kombetar, putting at its head Xhafer Deva.

OIR-15866
Dtd 12 July 1955
Source: C

stated that subject was Agent Number One of the "Italian General Staff"

OIRA-8255
16 August 1955
SOURCE: C

See reference for Istanbul traces on subject. DECADEAL file, SE/A.

STIA-1045
26 Oct. 1955

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania - 5

played an important part. Because of his blind loyalty toward the Germans he was in disagreement with the other Albanians. Although he was a good patriot and very energetic man, his anti-communist efforts were not successful, for he did not know at all the situation of the old Albania. As for the emigration, Subject for a long time showed no interest or activity for he feared being sought after by the Allies as a war criminal. Later when the situation changed a little, Subject went to Cairo where he had an audience with the King and then returned to Rome via Syria. Subject does not wish to collaborate with either the nationalist party or the KRYEZIU. He aligns himself with the independent and "Legality" bloc. Meanwhile, considering himself as the chief of the second congress of Prizren, he is in the process of conducting an independent policy. Toward the Albanian National Committee, Subject maintains both an indifferent and hostile attitude, but it seems that he was angered by not being taken into the Committee. His relations with the King are neither good or bad. In character, Subject is an honest, active, courageous man who also has a weak side. His weakness is that he is very quickly influenced and is very full of pride.

af

Son of Ibrahim DEVA who is a merchant of the borough of Mitrovicha, Kosova. Prior to World War II, Subject completed his training in engineering in Germany. Subject was a great German partisan. Collaborated with the Germans after they occupied Yugoslavia, and, after the collapse of Trieste (in Yugoslavia)(sic), while the German Army was occupying Albania, he was brought into the Ministry of Interior in the newly created government at German behest.

RTIA 1454
con't

RTI-1225
29 May 50
doi "current"
B-2

During the period that he remained in this Ministry he did a great deal of work against the Communists. However, because he, himself, was completely a stranger to Albania, he could not possibly understand the mentality of the people. Because of this, when he and Mehdi FRASHERI, who was the King's lieutenant at that time, had a misunderstanding, he was withdrawn from the Ministry of Interior. On returning to Kosovo, he gathered together a battalion called the Iskender Bey Division and composed completely of natives of Kosovo for the purpose of aiding the Germans. When the Germans retreated, this battalion fatigued the Bulgarians very much and inflicted great casualties. Subject retreated from Kosovo with the Germans and went to Italy via Vienna. The Allies searched for him at first because of his war guilt, and concealed himself in Italy for a time. Subsequently going to Syria and from there to Egypt he returned to Rome after conferring with King ZOG. At present, not being included in the Albanian National Committee in Italy, he is working as president of the organization called the Second Prizren Federation.

RTI-1225

con't

The day before Subject left for Italy he went to see the American Consul in Istanbul. Subject gave his address as Care of Dr. LAFRANCESCO, Brescia, 25 Rome. Subject stated that he graduated from Robert College in 1913 and comes from Mitrovitsa in the Kosovo region of Yugoslavia. He is an ardent Kosovar nationalist, and served as Minister of Interior of Albania under the German occupation in 1943-44. In Nov 1944 he escaped to Austria and thence made his way to Italy, later to Syria and Egypt. He returned to Italy 1948. For the last several months subject has been in Cairo, where he said he had had many talks with ex-King Zog. Subject stated that he travels on an Italian passport for refugees. He speaks French, German and excellent English. Source Comment: The tenor of his conversation would seem to confirm the opinion of Gazi Han BESSOLT that subject and Zog may have some understanding with the Italians. Subject does not look forward to Yugo participation in the liberation of Albania and thinks the only hope for the Kosovars lies in a UN plebiscite.

St Dept
Besp 235
Istanbul
12 Oct 50
ref: Istanbul
Desp 201
8 Sept 150

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania - 6

Subject went to Istanbul from Iskenderun on 15 Sept 1950 and settled in Pendik in the house of his older brother Ismail DEVA, a Wagon-Lits. Passport issued in Rome, no 156416 dated 27 March 1950 and had it and check no 380314 with him when he entered Istanbul. Subject went to a rekature ub /Bursa on 3 Oct 1950 and returned from there on 8 Oct. He left for Rome by an Italian plane on 10 Oct '50. While he was in Italy, Subject had private interviews with Albanians belonging to different groups and political parties. Addressed the Albanians from Kosovo once at Ryup and a second time in a coffee house at Karaguruk and stated that Albania's future and independence depend on the annexation of Kosovo. To everyone he spoke with he said that he was opposed to the enlistment of any Albanians in the international army which is meeting in Munich and that c. the Albanians are weak as a nation they should not try to strive beyond their national aims or be used as instruments by other countries. Consequently, it will be wise to have patience until the day they are liberated and advised that all men who can use arms should always keep together. Though the Albanians living in Istanbul were familiar with these ideas most of them did not like Subject's activities on this question, because he is the leader of the Kosovites and a man who places their interests above all others. According to certain reports not confirmed as yet, the activities of Subject, who had an agreement and cooperates with Dr. LACHEK(sic), are also approved by Cog. However, his activities in Istanbul did not create a favorable impression on the pro-King Albanians. Subject is of the opinion that the Albanian National Representative Committee under the chairmanship of Hasan DOSITI in Italy fails to represent the Albanians, and maintains that all political groups and parties, no matter what their beliefs and aims should have a place and be represented in such a committee. Though Subject's attitude towards the committee is connected with the

RTTA-1776
67
dtd 24/10/50
1950

fact that he was not accepted by the Free Albanian Committee, his views about the committee are shared by some of his opponents too. Subject has however succeeded in some of his aims by this trip and has influenced as well as inspired the Kosovites. Some sources claim that Subject lives on the considerable amount of gold he carried away with him when he left Albania while others state that it is not known who are financing him. However, it is certain he works for the Italian Intelligence.

BTIA-1776

cont

af

Held series of meetings with Kosovar emigrants in Istanbul. Most imp't meeting held on 28 Sep 5 1952; approx. 40 Kosovars attended. Subject stated his peace with Sajt KRYEZIU(qv) would end with return of Subject and his group to Kosovo.

SO-104402
(NIRA-1274)

ab

According to issue of Vardar (Istanbul) dtd 28 Nov 1952, Subject president of the Kosovar organization Lidhja e Dytë e Prizrenit (Second League of Prizren) arrived in Istanbul from Italy and met with various Kosovar exiles in Turkey. Subject is said to have given detailed information on the situation in "Kosova" and on the activities of organizations directed toward the incorporation of Kosova with "Mother Albania."

IR #5635.102
dtd 4 Feb 1953

jdk

Leader of the Lega II e Prizrenit (2nd League of Prizren) in Rome in 1949-50. Hajredin VUCITERHA (qv) took part in a clandestine mission in Puka, Albania, for Subject and met Zekë PIRRI (qv).

BTIA-2241/KAPOR-670
1 July 1953
Source: []
(Informant [])

jdk

DEVA, Xhafer

Albania - 7

Re Subject's March 1953 visit to Istanbul.

GIRA-1682
(Espok Italy #2580)
dtd 22 July 1953

ab

Subj. visited Istanbul on three occasions during 1953. During each visit arrived in company of Italian IS members. Born 1904 in Kosovska Mitrovica, Yugoslavia, holder of Italian passport #4291943, issued Rome 11 Dec 52. Subject attempting organize intelligence network among Albanian residents of autonomous region of Kosmet (Kosovo and Metohiya), Yugoslavia, on behalf of Italian military authorities.

NRIA-1719
dtd 18 Dec 53
Source: C

ab

Subject was Albanian Minister of Interior during the period from 1942 to 1944, while Yugoslavia was occupied by Germany, and at a time when the Kosovo and Metohiya Districts were part of the Axis sponsored Albanian State. Nexhip MUSA(qv) was a constant companion and bodyguard of Subject. The two have corresponded with one another.

Attach. A
NRIA-1763
dtd 22 Jan 54

jdk

Both Waxhip MUSA and Serif AHMEDA(qqv) have seen Subject on a number of occasions since he arrived in Istanbul on 9 January 1954. Attach. A

NRIA-1796

ATA 12 Feb 1954

(Ref. NRIA-1796)

jdk

During German occupation when Subject was Ministry of Interior, Islam SHENU(qv) was an agent in Subj's Ministry and was in especially close confidence with him.

OIRA-2787. 26 Feb 54

Source: []

ab

[] told [] that in March subject took Abas KUPI to see General MUSCO of the Italian General Staff, Chief of the "SIFAR" where he also met General SCARPA. The meeting concerned the formation of an Albanian Force comprising such persons as KUPI, Arfan OHR, Qasim MULLISI, Selim DAMANI, Xhafer Deva and Mentor COKU. Rauf FRATARI and Dilaver BEBERI are known to be at the service of "SIFAR".

OIR-14495

13 April 1955

cw

Subject while recruiting Albanians for the American Army in behalf of USEP was in contact with Faik GURANI (iv) a suspect Albanian.

OIR-15663

24 June 1955

cw