

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1992STATE079477

Page: 1

RELEASED IN FULL Channel: n/a

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 079477 131400Z
ORIGIN EUR-01

(E9)

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	DODE-00	HA-09
	H-01	INRE-00	INR-01	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIG-01	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01
	SNP-01	SP-01	SS-01	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	/032R

0597
DRAFTED BY: EUR/EEY: OGDESOTO
APPROVED BY: EUR/EEY: MJHABIB
EUR/EEY: LACLERICI

-----1A3B2E 131432Z /38

R 131400Z MAR 92
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 079477

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PGOV PREL AL US
SUBJECT: SOCIALIST PRESS TURNS UP THE HEAT
ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN, BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEC, VIENNA ALSO FOR
USDEL CSBM, USVIENNA FOR CFE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT FROM FAX NO. 532 DATED MARCH 12,
1992 FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY TIRANA, AMBASSADOR RYERSON.

2. SUMMARY: AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS DEVOTED TO THE "GREAT
VICTORY" THE FORCES OF SOCIALISM WOULD WIN ON ELECTION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 079477 131400Z
DAY, MARCH 22, IN THE LAST WEEK, THE SOCIALIST PAPER "ZERI
I POPULLIT (VOICE OF THE PEOPLE)" HAS REVERTED TO
PRINTING DIRE PREDICTIONS ABOUT THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES
OF A DEMOCRATIC PARTY VICTORY, MANIPULATIONS OF OLD
OUT-OF-CONTEXT STATEMENTS BY FOREIGNERS AND INCREASINGLY,
ATTACKS ON AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS AND ALBANIAN POLITICIANS
FOR HAVING LINKS WITH THE U.S. END SUMMARY.

3. WITH LESS THAN TWO WEEKS REMAINING IN THE CAMPAIGN,
ALL SIDES ARE BEGINNING TO LET LOOSE WITH ACCUSATIONS OF
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RECENT SPATE OF VIOLENCE IN THE
COUNTRY, AND CORRUPTION IN PERSONAL AND PRIVATE LIFE.

Current Class: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page: 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: H E BOVIS
DATE/CASE ID: 25 JUL 2003 200103203

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1992STATE079477

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

AFTER HAVING BEEN ON THE DEFENSIVE FOR SOME WEEKS, ZP HAS GONE ON A VICIOUS OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE OPPOSITION. ZP HAS ATTACKED ALL THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION LEADERS (INCLUDING THE REPUBLICANS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS), BUT HAS SINGLED OUT DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER PROF. DR. SALI BERISHA FOR PERSONAL ATTACKS, ACCUSING HIM OF "FASCIST" DESIGNS ON POWER. SOME ACCUSATIONS ARE TAKEN FROM THIN AIR. THE MARCH 11 EDITION OF ZP, TO TAKE ONE EXAMPLE, ACCUSES BERISHA IN A BANNER HEADLINE OF CONSPIRING TO CLOSE THE UNIVERSITIES IN ORDER TO SERVE HIS PERSONAL POLITICAL AIMS.

4. ZP HAS ALSO BEEN RUNNING CLIPS FROM THE WORKS OF SELF-EXILED ALBANIAN WRITER ISMAIL KADARE, WITHOUT DETAILS ABOUT WHEN OR WHERE THEY WERE WRITTEN, IN AN ATTEMPT TO SHOW KADARE IS BEHIND THE SOCIALISTS (WHEN IN REALITY HE SUPPORTS THE OPPOSITION. THE SOCIALIST ORGAN HAS ALSO BEEN VERY ADEPT AT SELECTIVE USE OF QUOTATIONS FROM FOREIGNERS TO TRY TO BOLSTER THEIR CLAIM THAT THEY ARE THE PARTY TO WIN "FOREIGN INVESTMENT." YET, AT THE SAME TIME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 079477 131400Z
THEY HAVE RUN ARTICLES ABOUT "EXPLOITATION" ON THE WORLD MARKET AND IN ALBANIA.

5. IN THE PAST WEEK THE ATTACKS HAVE ALSO TURNED AGAINST THE VOICE OF AMERICA, SINGLING OUT THE DIRECTOR OF THE ALBANIAN SERVICE. DR. ELEZ BIBERAJ. THE VOA IS ACCUSED OF BEING A TOOL OF THE OPPOSITION, AND OF GIVING AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE TO BERISHA AND THE DEMOCRATS. WHEN A SWISS/BRITISH CITIZEN, MR. JOHN MCGOUGH, RAISED ON TELEVISION THE ISSUE OF TONS OF GOLD ALLEGEDLY WISKED FROM OFFICIAL COFFERS TO SWISS BANK ACCOUNTS IN OCTOBER, 1990, AND THE NEGLIGENCE OF SOCIALIST LEADERS IN ENSURING THAT FOREIGN HUMANITARIAN AID BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE PEOPLE RATHER THAN SOLD, HE WAS ACCUSED OF BEING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO HAD COME TO ALBANIA AS PART OF A LARGER PLOT TO DISCREDIT THE SOCIALIST ("FORMER" COMMUNIST) REGIME. MCGOUGH WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN A GREEN BERET, AND A PICTURE, SUPPOSEDLY OF HIM IN VIETNAM, WAS RUN IN SOCIALIST PUBLICATIONS.

6. ALLEGATIONS THAT THE U.S. IS IN SOME WAY PAYING BERISHA, OR NEGOTIATING IN PRIVATE WITH HIM FOR INFLUENCE IN ALBANIA IN RETURN FOR HUMANITARIAN OR OTHER ASSISTANCE WITH WHICH HE CAN BUY VOTES, APPEARED IN ZP MARCH 10. ZP ALSO ALLEGED THAT PD DEPUTY GRAMOZ PASHKO RECEIVED USG

Current Class: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1992STATE079477

Page: 3

Channel: n/a

PAYOFFS. BUT, THE PAPER PULLED OUT ALL THE STOPS AFTER THE RECENT VISIT OF BRITISH MP GEOFFERY PADDY, WHO SAID THAT BRITISH INVESTMENT AND AID TO ALBANIA WOULD INCREASE AFTER A DEMOCRATIC PARTY VICTORY, LED BY BERISHA. A RECENT SERIES OF ZP ARTICLES HAVE TRIED TO TURN PADDY'S WORDS AROUND, ARGUING THAT HIS DENUNCIATIONS OF

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 079477 131400Z
"COMMUNISTS AND CRYPTO-COMMUNISTS" WERE REALLY MEANT FOR BERISHA HIMSELF.

7. FOR HIS PART, BERISHA HAS MAINTAINED THE HIGH ROAD, RUNNING A CALM CAMPAIGN WHICH EMPHASIZES WHAT THE PD CAN OFFER ALBANIA, WHILE ALLOWING THE PD PAPER "RILINDJA DEMOKRATIKE" (DEMOCRATIC RE-BIRTH) TO SHOOT BACK AT "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE." "RILINDJA" POINTS OUT IN ITS MARCH 10 EDITION THAT IN THE PAST, WHEN ZP WAS THE ORGAN OF THE "FORMER" PARTY OF LABOR, THEY OPPOSED THE ENTIRE WORLD. TODAY ZP IS THE ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY, AND TOGETHER THEY OPPOSE EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING IN ALBANIA NOT CONTROLLED BY THE PARTY. "REPUBLIKA," THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PAPER, AND "ALTERNATIVE," ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PARTY, HAVE BEEN MORE COMBATIVE, HIGHLIGHTING THE ROLES OF "REFORMED" SOCIALISTS IN THE CORRUPTION OF THE "FORMER" COMMUNIST REGIME, ESPECIALLY THE GOLD SCANDAL.

8. COMMENT: FORTY-SOME YEARS AGO ENVER HOXHA AUTHORED "THE ANGLO-AMERICAN THREAT TO ALBANIA." AS THEY SEE THEIR POLITICAL FORTUNES WANING, THE SOCIALISTS, ALL "FORMER" COMMUNISTS SCHOOLED IN THE WORKS OF THE DICTATOR, SEEM TO HAVE REVERTED TO WHAT THEY KNOW BEST - MANIPULATIONS OF STATEMENTS, APPEALS TO XENOPHOBIC FEARS, AND ATTACKS ON THE U.S. ALL THESE POINT TO DESPERATION BY LEADERS TRYING TO CLING TO POWER. END COMMENT.
BAKER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NN

Current Class: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED