Case Number: 2013-1060-M

MR MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Original OA/ID Number: 602				
Document ID: 9506515				
Row: 44	Section: 5	Shelf: 11	Position: 3	Stack: V

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. memo	From Anthony Lake re: Meeting with President Sali Berisha of Albania [partial] (3 pages)	09/09/1995	P1/b(1) VL 4/3/2020
001b. talking points	re: Points to be Made in Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha [partial] (2 pages)	09/09/1995	P1/b(1) VL 4/3/2020
~~001c. memo~~	~~Warren Christopher to POTUS re: Your Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha (2 pages)~~	~~09/08/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015
001d. report	US Govt Report (2 pages)	08/30/1995	P1/b(1)
~~001e. paper~~	~~re: U.S.-Albanian Military Cooperation (2 pages)~~	~~08/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015
~~001f. paper~~	~~re: Domestic Political Situation (2 pages)~~	~~08/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015
~~001g. paper~~	~~re: Human Rights Situation (2 pages)~~	~~08/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015
~~001h. paper~~	~~re: Albanian-Greek Relations (2 pages)~~	~~08/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015
~~001i. paper~~	~~re: Albanian Relations with Serbia and The F.Y.R.O.M. (2 pages)~~	~~08/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015
001j. report	US Govt Report (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)
001k. report	US Govt Report (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)
001l. report	US Govt Report (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001m. report	[Duplicate of 001j] (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)
001n. report	[Duplicate of 001k] (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)
001o. report	[Duplicate of 001l] (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)
001p. memo	From Anthony Lake re: Meeting with President Sali Berisha of Albania [partial] (3 pages)	09/1995	P1/b(1) ✓ 4/3/2020
001q. talking points	re: Points to be Made in Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha [partial] (3 pages)	09/1995	P1/b(1) ✓ 4/3/2020
001r. talking points	re: Points to be Made in Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha [partial] (4 pages)	09/12/1995	P1/b(1) ✓ 4/3/2020

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

~~SECRET~~
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9506515
RECEIVED: 29 AUG 95 09

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: LAKE

DOC DATE: 09 SEP 95
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ALBANIA VISIT

PERSONS: BERISHA, SALI

SUBJECT: BRIEFING PACKAGE FOR PRES 12 SEP MTG W/ PRES BERISHA OF ALBANIA

ACTION: NOTED BY PRESIDENT DUE DATE: 01 SEP 95 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: FRIED LOGREF:

FILES: PA NSCP: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION	FOR CONCURRENCE	FOR INFO
		NSC CHRON
		SCHMIDT
		VERSHBOW

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY DATE BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSASK CLOSED BY: NSJDA DOC 5 OF 5

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/28/2019
2013-1060-M

ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC	ACTION OFFICER	CAO	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED
001	FRIED	Z	95082909	PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE
002	FRIED	Z	95090618	ADD-ON / APPROPRIATE ACTION
003	LAKE	Z	95090718	FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIG
004	FRIED	Z	95090816	ADD-ON / APPROPRIATE ACTION
005	PRESIDENT	Z	95090916	FOR INFORMATION
005		X	95091909	NOTED BY PRESIDENT

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC	DATE	DISPATCH FOR ACTION	DISPATCH FOR INFO
005	950909		VICE PRESIDENT
005	950909		WH CHIEF OF STAFF
005	950909		STEPHANOPOULOS, G

WwD →

Hold in folder 6515

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9506515
RECEIVED: 29 AUG 95 09

TO: SENS

FROM: BRILL, K

DOC DATE: 28 AUG 95
SOURCE REF: 9516178

KEYWORDS: ALBANIA VISIT

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR VISIT OF ALBANIAN PRES BERISHA 12 SEP

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE DUE DATE: 01 SEP 95 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: FRIED LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCP: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION	FOR CONCURRENCE	FOR INFO
FRIED	SODERBERG	HILLIARD
		SCHIFTER
		SENS

COMMENTS: Used in briefing package.

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSASK CLOSED BY: DOC 1 OF 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/28/2019
2013-1060-M

~~SECRET~~
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9506515
RECEIVED: 29 AUG 95 09

TO: SENS

FROM: BRILL, K

DOC DATE: 06 SEP 95
SOURCE REF: 9516669

KEYWORDS: ALBANIA VISIT

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC MATERIALS FOR VISIT OF ALBANIAN PRES BERISHA

ACTION: ADD-ON / APPROPRIATE ACTION DUE DATE: 01 SEP 95 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: FRIED LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCP: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION	FOR CONCURRENCE	FOR INFO
FRIED	SODERBERG	HILLIARD
		SCHIFTER
		SENS

COMMENTS: Used in briefing package.

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSASK CLOSED BY: DOC 2 OF 2

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/28/2019
2013-1060-M

National Security Council
The White House

rec'd 9/7
6:15pm

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 6515

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG MC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Harmon			
Dohse	1	D	
Sens			
Soderberg			
Berger	2		
Lake	3		
Situation Room			Stvn
West Wing Desk	4	DPS 9/9	D
Records Mgt.	5	DPS 9/12	N

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc:

COMMENTS: Bersola mtg package

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

recd 9/7
6:15pm

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 6515

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG MC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Harmon			
Dohse	1	D	
Sens			
Soderberg			
Berger	2		
Lake	3		
Situation Room			Stevn
West Wing Desk	4	DPS 9/9	D
Records Mgt.	5	DPS 9/12	N

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc:

COMMENTS: Bersola mtg package

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. memo	From Anthony Lake re: Meeting with President Sali Berisha of Albania [partial] (2 pages)	09/09/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

~~SECRET~~

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
9/12/95

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 9, 1995

MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT SALI BERISHA OF ALBANIA
DATE: September 12, 1995
LOCATION: Oval Office
TIME: 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE

I. PURPOSE

To encourage Berisha's constructive policies while cautioning him against his authoritarian streak in domestic affairs.

Key Points

-- **Albania should continue playing a responsible role with the restive Albanian Diaspora in Kosovo and FYROM.**

-- **Democracy, rule of law in Albania are crucial to bilateral relations; Berisha should respect judicial independence.**

-- **Albania needs to address the interests of ethnic Greek minority in Albania, especially in education.**

-- **U.S. will continue to support Albanian economic reforms.**

-- (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6)

II. BACKGROUND

Europe's poorest country, Albania is still waking up from its long Stalinist nightmare. President Sali Berisha defeated the communists at the polls in April 1992 and launched democratic and dramatic market economic reforms.

But Berisha has lost much of his luster and support during the past year. Berisha's authoritarian style and some of his actions have weakened his standing in the country and damaged the electoral prospects of his Democratic Party (DP), which could lose to the Socialists in parliamentary elections next spring.

Declassified in Part
Per E.O. 13526
VZ 12/05/2019 (1.02)
2013-1060-M

Still, Berisha has been helpful in preventing a dangerous explosion among Diaspora Albanians in Kosovo and his economic reforms should help entrench democracy over time. Our growing military cooperation is also strongly in our interest. The challenge of this meeting is to express satisfaction at Berisha's achievements while expressing clear concern over creeping authoritarianism. Berisha should understand our support is conditional on his adherence to democracy. Articulate and charismatic, Berisha can react badly to direct criticism but can rethink his positions if we approach him firmly, but as a friend.

III. ISSUES

Former Yugoslavia. Berisha has pursued a responsible policy toward former Yugoslavia, counseling moderation among ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). This has helped prevent an explosion in Kosovo.

Berisha is concerned over Serbia's announced plan to resettle up to 20,000 Krajina Serbs in Kosovo (in fact, only about 5,000 have been sent there compared to an Albanian population of 1.5 million). **You should express support for Berisha's responsible policy on Kosovo and FYROM, assure him that we are watching the Krajina Serb resettlement situation closely and reassure him we intend to keep the pressure on for restoration of autonomy in Kosovo.**

Democracy and the Rule of Law. The continuing imprisonment of former Prime Minister Fatos Nano on questionable charges has attracted international attention. Berisha has also attempted to remove the Albanian Supreme Court's Chief Justice and maintain firm executive branch control over the judiciary. The U.S. has funded several projects to strengthen democracy and we are prepared to offer an additional $1 million to provide training for judges, prosecutors and community policing. **You should stress Albania needs to watch out for creeping authoritarianism, in particular to take steps to insure an independent judiciary and assure the rule of law.**

Greece. Partly in response to U.S. pressure, Berisha has moved away from his confrontational stance toward Greece, although problems have recently developed over educational opportunities for Albania's Greek minority. **You should express satisfaction at the improvement of Greek-Albanian relations, while encouraging Berisha to follow through on**

needed reforms, particularly in the area of minority education.

Economic Assistance. Thanks to deep market reforms and cooperation with the IMF and World Bank, Albania's economy is growing at six percent. Unfortunately, Albanian domestic expectations have grown even faster and Berisha is in political difficulty after three years of austerity. Through FY 94, the U.S. provided Albania with $142 million in economic assistance. Depending on final Congressional action, we expect to contribute another $45 million in FY 95-96. **You will be able to review some economic initiatives we have prepared.**

Military Cooperation. U.S.-Albanian military ties have grown rapidly under the Berisha government. (b)(1) (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6) (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6) The day after your meeting, Secretary Perry will inform Berisha that we intend to equip and outfit an Albanian PFP peacekeeping company and are prepared to sell Albania antitank and antiaircraft weapons, and to double the size of our IMET training program. **You can preview these announcements in your meeting and express our desire to continue to develop our military cooperation.**

Attachments
Tab A Points to be Made
Tab B Memorandum from Secretary Christopher
Tab C Scenario
Tab D Biographies

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001b. talking points	re: Points to be Made in Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha [partial] (1 page)	09/09/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

POINTS TO BE MADE IN MEETING WITH ALBANIAN PRESIDENT SALI BERISHA

Greeting

-- Albanian security and democratic, free-market transformation important to U.S.

Post-Yugoslav Issues

-- Appreciate Albania's responsible role with respect to Albanian populations in Kosovo and FYROM. Action key to preventing dangerous escalation in south Balkans.

-- Know your concerns about resettlement of Krajina Serbs in Kosovo. Raised issue with Milosevic and will continue to follow. Understand Krajina Serbs reluctant to settle in Kosovo.

-- Have not forgotten Kosovo. We will not normalize relations with Serbia, nor support non-humanitarian financial assistance, until autonomy is restored to Albanian population.

Democracy and the Rule of Law

-- Democracy is cornerstone of U.S.-Albanian relations. Appreciate Albania's progress toward democracy. Will continue supporting democratic reforms.

-- One area of concern is Albanian judiciary. Judges, prosecutors, police lack training. Prepared to offer $1 million to help provide professional training for these key members of judicial system.

-- Also concerned your executive branch has substantial control over administration of judicial system, including appointment, assignment, removal and payment of judges.

-- Truly independent judiciary is indispensable to rule of law. Urge you to consider reorganization that provides real independence to judicial branch.

Greece

-- Good Greek-Albanian relations key to Albanian integration with West. Pleased by improvement over past six months; important to maintain momentum.

Declassified in Part
Per E.O. 13526
VZ 12/05/2019 (1.04)
2013-1060-M

-- Albania should be model for Balkans by addressing issues of concern to ethnic Greek minority: education, religion, fighting discrimination.

-- Recognize extremists exist within Greek and Albanian communities. Best way to marginalize them is to advance positive agenda. We say same thing to Athens.

Economic Assistance

-- Applaud your courage in implementing deep market reforms. While not popular, have led to Albania's current strong growth -- key to future prosperity. We are prepared to say so publicly.

-- U.S. support so far: $142 million in assistance through 1994. Hope to provide another $45 million through 1996.

-- Welcome establishment last spring of Albanian-American Enterprise Fund with endowment of $30 million. Support Fund's interest in establishing new, private bank.

-- Pleased to announce new, $8 million reforestation project.

-- Moving ahead with South Balkan Development Initiative to upgrade transportation infrastructure in region, linking Albania with FYROM and Bulgaria.

-- Understand Albania's interest in promoting foreign investment. U.S. could help set up high-profile foreign investment center that potential investors can plug into.

Military Cooperation

-- Albania's responsible policies toward former Yugoslavia and efforts to establish democratic military lay basis for strong military cooperation.

-- (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6)

-- U.S. prepared to deepen military cooperation: to help equip and outfit your peacekeeping company, sell you defensive equipment.

-- Intend to double our funding for military training.

-- Welcome regular exercises through PFP.

6515

9516610

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

September 8, 1995

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DECL: 9/12/05

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Warren Christopher WC

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha

Albanian President Berisha's September 12 White House visit offers a key opportunity to press forward our major policy goals for Albania. We want to use Berisha's visit to urge a continued responsible regional policy; offer our help in building democratic institutions to protect human rights for all Albanians; and signal our support for the ongoing development of a free market economy in Albania.

Long a friend of the U.S., Berisha shares these goals in principle. However, he expects more practical economic assistance than we can offer, and our priorities on some democracy issues do not always coincide. As our development aid is limited, we need to use it to expand our assistance on law and democracy, which Berisha says he welcomes, and to promote other activities that support the building of democratic institutions that can help ensure human rights for all Albanians, regardless of ethnic origin.

Bosnian developments and the resettlement of Serbian refugees in Kosovo will significantly affect the dynamics of Berisha's visit. While voicing strong support for U.S. peace efforts, Berisha urges that a peace settlement address the Kosovo issue, specifically the plight of its ethnic Albanian majority. You should underscore that we support autonomy for the region, and that we continue to urge the Serbs to respect the human and civil rights of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. You also should make clear that, although UNSC sanctions against Serbia may be lifted in the

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

context of an eventual settlement, we believe Kosovo must be dealt with as part of any lasting solution. Last, you might underscore that the multilateral reconstruction package that is part of our broader Balkan peace plan is designed to promote regional economic integration and development.

Berisha's agenda in the U.S. will otherwise focus on stimulating American aid and investment in Albania. He also wants to secure U.S. backing for Albanian membership in international institutions (NATO, EBRD, the World Bank, the IMF, and the EU) and closer military and security cooperation, including material assistance to the Albanian military. He may express concern at erosion of the previously close Albanian-American relationship, owing particularly to his perception that the U.S. sided with Greece in pressing to release the Omonia case defendents earlier this year. Berisha will want a clear demonstration of American support for Albanian interests, in part due to his need for this trip to give him a political boost at home: parliamentary elections next spring may deal his Democratic Party a setback unless he can speed up economic and infrastructure improvements.

As there is no guarantee that Berisha's party will remain in power after the 1996 elections, the focus of our assistance and public statements should be on building institutions and the U.S.-Albanian relationship, not the party or Berisha as an individual. We should recognize the tremendous progress which Albania, once the most repressive of all communist dictatorships, has made under Berisha's leadership. Our commitment to the future should be to help Albania continue down this road. Moreover, to disabuse Berisha of the notion that we are interested only in security goals, you should underscore that Berisha's support for U.S. military and intelligence activities in Albania is a useful complement to his efforts to build a democratic society.

Draft 3
As of 9/6/95

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TIMES ARE TENTATIVE

SCENARIO FOR WORKING VISIT OF
PRESIDENT BERISHA OF ALBANIA
SEPTEMBER 12, 1995

11:40 a.m. President Berisha and party arrive at the West Lobby, are greeted by Ambassador Molly Raiser, Chief of Protocol, who escorts the President and party into the Roosevelt Room to sign the Guest Book.

11:45 a.m. The Chief of Protocol escorts President Berisha into the Oval Office, via the hallway entrance, and makes introductions. Official photographers/ TV enter for brief photos, then depart.

11:47 a.m. Meeting begins.

Participants

The President	President Berisha
Vice President	Alfred Serregi, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Sec Christopher	Dylber Vrioni, Deputy Prime Minister of Finance
Leon Panetta	Lublin Dilja, Ambassador
Anthony Lake	Fatos Beja, Diplomatic Advisor
Richard Holbrooke	
Joseph Lake, U.S. Ambassador	
Dan Fried, NSC Notetaker	

12:12 p.m. Meeting adjourns. The President and President Berisha hold briefly while other members of the Albanian delegation are escorted to their positions outside the West Lobby.

12:13 p.m. The President escorts President Berisha from the Oval, down the hallway and outside the West Lobby, bidding farewell at the awaiting vehicle.

12:15 p.m. The President returns to the Oval Office. (President Berisha then has an opportunity to speak to the Press.)

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001d. report	US Govt Report (2 pages)	08/30/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

6515

September 7, 1995

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: DANIEL FRIED JRS for

FROM: JOHN R. SCHMIDT JRS

SUBJECT: Briefing Package for President's Meeting with Albanian President Berisha

Attached at Tab I is your memorandum to the President forwarding the briefing package for his meeting on September 12 with President Sali Berisha of Albania.

Concurrence by: Sue Bremner JRS for

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments
Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Points to be Made
Tab B Memorandum from Secretary Christopher
Tab C Sequence of Events
Tab D Bios

~~SECRET~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/28/2019
2013-1060-F1

S/S 9516178 6515

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 28, 1995

UNCLASSIFIED (with ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ attachments)

MEMORANDUM FOR ANDREW D. SENS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Subject: Background Papers for the President's Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha, September 12, 1995

Attached are background papers for the President's use in preparing for his meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha in the Oval Office, at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12.

for
Kenneth C. Brill
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Background Papers

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: RDS Date: 10/28/2019
2013-1060-M

UNCLASSIFIED (with ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ attachments)

U.S. - ALBANIAN MILITARY COOPERATION

I. BACKGROUND

In line with its pro-Western policies, Albania seeks greater military cooperation with the West, particularly the United States. In 1991 Albania was admitted to the OSCE and agreed to implement its principles and standards. Albania has institutionalized civilian control of the military. (The Minister of Defense, his deputy, and other key officials are civilians.) Forces have been slashed to some 40,000 as part of a wholesale military reorganization.

The U.S.-Albanian security relationship has evolved rapidly. In 1993, the U.S. and Albania signed a MOU on Defense Cooperation laying out numerous areas of current and projected cooperation in security matters. Albania became the first Central or Eastern European state to request membership in NATO, and in 1994 was the first to sign up for NATO'S Partnership for Peace. As a symbol of its support for UN/NATO actions in the former Yugoslavia, Albania has offered its military facilities to NATO. We are currently basing unmanned aerial vehicles for use over Bosnia at Albania's Gjader Airfield. The South Carolina National Guard is conducting major repairs of the Central Military Trauma Hospital. Numerous joint training exercises are being conducted this year.

Albania is an active participant in U.S. bilateral assistance programs. We provided Humanitarian Assistance and Security Assistance and held Bilateral Working Group meetings on Defense Matters. Under the Security Assistance Program, we have proposed doubling funding levels for IMET to $400,000 in FY96. The Albanian military has received over 150 courses of instruction in fundamental concepts and practices of combat, combat support and combat service support. Albania is eligible to purchase defense articles commercially and through Foreign Military Sales, and to receive non-lethal EDA. Through Congressional initiative, packing, crating, and shipping costs for these articles will be paid by DoD.

A Military Liaison Team (MLT) has operated in Albania since 1992. The MLT oversees visits and exchanges between U.S. and Albanian militaries. Priorities include training in organization and structure, defense planning and policy development, personnel management, operations, naval and air force organization, and legal issues.

Apart from consultations and training, Albania has little to show for its across-the-board cooperation on overflights, basing, activities in territorial waters, and other security issues. Berisha wants U.S. assistance for: improved defense capabilities including anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons; opening of a Security Assistance Office; expanded cooperation with the U.S. Navy and help in controlling its coastal waters; and equipping an Albanian unit for peacekeeping activities.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

II. TALKING POINTS

- The discussions of the Bilateral Working Group and our regional security and arms control dialogue have advanced our understanding of your security concerns.

- We are grateful for your cooperation in the military field, including your offers of facilities and your participation in joint exercises.

- The "Warsaw Initiative" which I announced earlier this year will be the centerpiece of our security assistance program for 1996. We believe that a priority for Albania under this program should be outfitting the peacekeeping unit which you have proposed. Our funding request is still before Congress.

- Albania is eligible to purchase defense articles commercially and through Foreign Military Sales, and to receive Excess Defense Articles. This includes, in principle, lethal weapons.

- We are prepared to consider your request for anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons. We do not yet know whether Congress will provide Foreign Military Sales assistance for such purchases.

- NATO representatives will conduct a briefing on the subject of NATO expansion plans for your government this fall in Tirana.

- We need to finalize a bilateral Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). The lack of this agreement has complicated U.S. activities in Albania and the training of Albanian units in the U.S.

ECONOMIC SITUATION

I. BACKGROUND

The collapse of communism came later in Albania and was more chaotic than in other Central European countries. Attempts at reform began in early 1992. Before recovery began, real GDP had fallen by over 50% from its peak in 1989. Albania's economic infrastructure is the least developed in Europe, and President Berisha is on the mark when he describes it as "a third world country."

Berisha's democratically-elected government quickly launched a courageous and ambitious economic reform program to halt the economic deterioration and put the country on the path toward a market economy. The reform program was supported by an IMF stand-by in 1992 and an IMF Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF) in 1993. The GOA is currently meeting its targets under the ESAF, and the third annual arrangement should be implemented this fall. Key reforms included: exchange rate liberalization, tax reform, creation of a central bank, reduction of subsidies to parastatals, and enactment of a liberal foreign investment law. Prices were liberalized and are now at or near international levels. Privatization of agriculture, state housing and retail shops is virtually complete, while substantial progress has been made in the privatization of transport, services and small and medium enterprises. The government has embarked on an ambitious plan to sell the remaining medium and large enterprises.

Albania became a GATT observer in 1992. It converted its GATT accession application to a request for membership in the WTO. The GOA concluded debt negotiations with the Paris Club, and a London Club debt reduction agreement is near completion.

Results of Albania's efforts have been encouraging. Led by the agricultural sector, real GDP grew by an estimated 11% in 1993, 8% in 1994, and is expected to sustain growth of about 6% for the next few years. Annual inflation dropped from 250% in 1991 to single digits. The lek remained stable and actually appreciated against the dollar in 1994. Albania is no longer dependent on massive amounts of food aid. The speed and vigor of private entrepreneurial response to Albania's opening and liberalizing was better than expected. Farmers' small plots are being intensively cultivated, there are large numbers of new shops in the cities, and rural-to-urban migration is underway.

Despite the progress, Albania is still dependent on foreign aid. Large scale investment from outside is still hampered by poor infrastructure, lack of a banking system, untested or incompletely developed investment and tax laws, and an enduring mentality that discourages bureaucratic initiative. Unemployment remains high, particularly in the cities and the northern districts, where the enforcement of sanctions against

Serbia-Montenegro has depressed economic activity (except smuggling). The extent of poverty remains a serious concern. Under the previous regime, the low level of income across the board was to some extent compensated for by good overall access to basic health and education. Access to, and to some extent the quality of, these services has deteriorated and pockets of extreme poverty have emerged, especially in remote rural areas.

II. TALKING POINTS

- Albania is a star performer in economic stabilization and structural reform. The shock therapy that your government applied in 1992 produced the highest growth rate in Europe.

- The new Land Law and other legislation passed in recent months will help attract foreign investment.

- Albania benefits from the Generalized System of Preferences. In 1994, most of Albania's exports to the U.S. entered duty-free under the GSP program.

- Our bilateral assistance efforts are designed to complement the work of IFIs.

- We supported the IMF's extension of an ESAF and the EU's agreement to provide additional balance of payments assistance.

- Albania's application to join the World Trade Organization is pending. The application will move ahead after your government responds to questions submitted by the U.S. and other members.

U.S. SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC REFORMS

I. BACKGROUND

Through FY 1994 the U.S. committed approximately $142 million to Albania's economic and political transformation and to address humanitarian needs. We have assisted economic restructuring by supporting price and exchange system liberalization, fiscal consolidation, structural reform through privatization, financial sector reform and the creation of a legal framework for a market economy.

Priorities for 1995 include promotion of agricultural development and a market economy, advancement of democratic institutions, and improvements in quality of life. U.S. programs no longer include humanitarian assistance.

The $30 million Albanian-American Enterprise Fund has been launched and is quickly gearing up for business. It will harness private sector efforts to assist in the economic transformation. Set up as a non-profit corporation with a high level private sector board, the Fund will provide loans to small and medium sized businesses, invest in joint ventures, and issue technical assistance grants.

Support for Agricultural Restructuring in Albania (SARA) is a cornerstone of USG support. The project has installed a computer center at the university and has identified potential investors in the dairy industry and other measures that promote free market conditions. A major U.S. dairy company is working with women dairy producers to improve dairy production techniques. This year, assistance includes $5 million to buy sunflower seed oil under the PL 480 program.

Peace Corps volunteers are working in the small business field, and we support a small and medium enterprise development project. The American Bar Association's Central and Eastern European Law Initiative (CEELI) provides resident liaisons who work with the growing number of private lawyers and assist in developing commercial law. Commercial Law Development Program legal advisors have assisted Ministry of Trade staff in implementing the international economic and trade agreements to which Albania is now a signatory.

U.S. private sector investment in Albania stands at a modest $30 million, a fraction of the level of Italian, Greek, and German investments. Despite a 1992 bilateral trade agreement, U.S.-Albania trade has remained light, and even declined in 1994. The U.S. and Albania signed a Bilateral Investment Treaty in January. The Council of Ministers approved the treaty in July, and it will soon go to the People's Assembly for ratification. The U.S. Senate is expected to ratify the BIT this year. The GOA is also interested in negotiating a bilateral income tax treaty, but this would probably not be beneficial to Albania.

II. TALKING POINTS

- We fully support your effort to interest American investors in Albania.

- U.S.-Albania trade and investment ties have benefited from Albania's active participation in the Cleveland White House Conference on Trade and Investment in Central and Eastern Europe. CEEBIC, through its counseling, Internet, and flash fax facilities, has been instrumental in strengthening those ties.

- During your visit, the Albanian-American Trade Association (AATA) Conference and the Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU) luncheon will highlight trade and investment opportunities in Albania for U.S. firms. We hope this increased awareness will bear fruit.

- The United States already has several programs underway to encourage business and investment in Albania:

  -- The Albanian-American Enterprise Fund is getting up to speed. The Board of Directors recently named an office manager and located office space in Tirana.

  -- The Support for Agricultural Restructuring in Albania (SARA) project has opened an Agribusiness Center.

  -- East European Business Information Center programs will facilitate the opening of a planned commercial library in Tirana.

  -- USAID and Peace Corps support small and medium enterprise development activities.

  -- USIS in Tirana has given Democracy Grants totalling nearly $150,000 to several Albanian NGO's, including the Society for Democratic Culture, the Independent Association of Albanian Mayors, the Albanian Helsinki Committee, the Albanian Atlantic Association, and the Independent Association of Albanian Judges.

- You might consider upgrading your foreign investment center and providing direct access to senior levels of your government to help stimulate investor interest and avoid some of the frustrations investors have experienced.

- The experts at the Overseas Private Investment Center have advised us that an OPIC mission to Albania would be more productive at a later date when the potential for U.S. investment has increased.

- We have no objection to negotiating a tax treaty. However, we have determined that such a treaty would probably not economically benefit Albania.

DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION

I. BACKGROUND

Once the most repressive and isolated of Eastern Europe's Marxist-Leninist states, Albania has over the last four years enacted significant economic restructuring and political reform. Since assuming power in April 1992, President Sali Berisha's government has completed a radical military reorganization, revamped the communist era judicial system, privatized housing and agricultural land, and passed new criminal, labor, and investment laws. Recently, Albania was admitted to the Council of Europe.

Albania is gearing up for parliamentary elections scheduled for next spring. Berisha hopes that his meeting with you will bolster his party's standing. He himself does not face election until 1997.

Berisha's Democratic Party (PD) has a solid working majority in the unicameral legislature, but has suffered a series of reverses in the three years since coming to power. Several prominent members were expelled and formed small but influential opposition parties. The government was stunned by the defeat of its draft constitution in a referendum last November. That blow brought disagreements within the party into the open, and led Berisha to reshuffle the cabinet and consolidate control of the party. He removed his former friend Eduard Selami as head of the party. In August the PD appointed 30 new District Chairmen to revitalize its grass roots organization.

The Socialist Party (PS) -- political heirs of the communist regime -- enjoys significant support and formidable organization at the local level. The second largest party in parliament, the PS controls roughly half of the local governments. Party Chairman Fatos Nano remains in prison after being jailed in 1993 on charges of corruption during his three-month tenure as Prime Minister under the last Socialist government in 1991. If released, he is expected to contest the presidency in 1997. Amnesty International considers Nano a political prisoner.

The country's political forces have not agreed on steps toward drawing up and ratifying a new constitution. The Interim Law on Major Constitutional Provisions remains the foundation for democratic government based on the rule of law. A network of laws including statutes on property questions, civil and legal rights, the government's rights and responsibilities, and commercial rules and regulations are being enacted and implemented. A new Penal Code, Penal Procedural Codes, Civil Procedures Code, and other important legislation have been adopted in recent months. In general, these laws are consistent with Western concepts.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

II. TALKING POINTS

- We have been impressed with the rapid progress of political reform during the three years you have held office.

- Your government and legislature are creating new economic and political structures from the ground up. The huge volume of laws which have been passed by the People's Assembly attests to the scale of this effort.

- We appreciate the difficulties involved in the transition to democracy, and we want to help to further strengthen democratic institutions in Albania.

- Your commitment to democracy was clearly demonstrated by your gracious acceptance of the defeat of the constitutional referendum in November. That result and your efforts to stem corruption and rebuild your party's ties to the people are marks of a mature democracy.

- We count on your continued moderation regarding the neighboring countries where there are sizeable ethnic Albanian populations. Your avoidance of inflammatory statements, even though they might be popular domestically, attests to your statesmanship.

- As a matter of policy, the United States does not target assistance to particular political parties. I do, however, wish you success in the coming electoral campaign.

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

I. BACKGROUND

Albania's weak judicial and law enforcement structures detract from a steadily improving record on human rights. All political prisoners were freed by the summer of 1991. There are no longer any restrictions on freedom of movement within the country, and regulations on foreign travel and emigration are now in accord with international norms. Workers now have the right to associate freely, and have formed trade unions of their own choosing. Freedom of religion has been established in law and practice.

Institutionalization of democratic gains has taken hold. A Law on Basic Constitutional Provisions was passed in 1991, and the government adopted OSCE human rights principles into law in 1993. It has adhered to the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. However, political parties have been unable to agree on a process for drafting and ratifying a new constitution.

The judicial and law enforcement systems are moving toward reform, though the process is slow. Serious gaps in understanding and implementing judicial procedure remain throughout the legal system. A sustained effort will be needed to complete the transformation to a fully functioning democratic, free-market country. Special attention must be paid to perfecting the rule of law, an independent judiciary, the free press, a workable body of commercial and property law, and maintaining good relations with and fair treatment of minorities.

Police continue to beat detainees, sometimes causing deaths. Corruption is also emerging as a significant problem. Freedom of speech, press and assembly are generally respected, although the publishing and distribution system remain under state control. The electronic media (except for one radio station) are state monopolies. There is no mechanism to ensure that editorial and programming decisions are independent of the government.

The ethnic Greek community complains of discrimination in education, public employment and religious matters. Access to instruction in the Greek language could be expanded, but problems in other areas have been overstated.

II. TALKING POINTS

- We are pleased that you have put a high priority on addressing human rights in Albania. As you know, Americans also attach great importance to the rights of individuals wherever they may live.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

- We support your efforts to reform the judiciary, to establish rule of law, to foster political pluralism, to encourage wide-open debate in the press, and to allow ethnic minorities to pursue their own cultural identity.

- We realize that it may take years to achieve the goals which you have set. To the extent that these problems result from inadequate resources, we want to help.

- There are particular areas where your personal attention might have a decisive impact. We would encourage you to make sure that progress continues in these areas:

  -- As you know, there are many concerns expressed by Greek-Americans about the status of ethnic Greeks in your country. These concerns focus on education, religious property, and representation of ethnic Greeks in government service.

  -- We recognize that your government is trying to address these issues seriously. I hope you will continue to make progress here, recognizing that these issues can affect your relations with the United States as well.

  -- The independence of the judiciary is another area. Some observers claim that personal differences have intruded into the workings of the courts. Judges must not have to consider that they could lose their positions as a result of carrying out their duties.

- Your efforts to loosen government control of radio and television also seem to be bogged down. We consider abolition of state control of electronic media as a key step in the process of building democracy.

- You have put a high priority on a new constitution. Although interim legal structures seem to be functioning well, we share your interest in achieving a permanent constitution. I hope that you will extend a hand to other political forces to reach agreement on a constitution embraced by all Albanians.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DECL:OADR

ALBANIAN-GREEK RELATIONS

I. BACKGROUND

Albania's relations with Greece have rebounded from serious difficulties encountered last year.

A series of incidents in early 1994 culminated in a raid on the Albanian border post at Peshkepi and Albania's arrest and conviction of members of the ethnic Greek "Omonia" organization. The GOA claimed the GOG supported extremist groups trying to destabilize Albania, while Greece alleged that the GOA repressed the ethnic Greek minority in Albania. Greece blocked Albania's access to EU assistance and forcibly repatriated some 70,000 Albanians working illegally in Greece.

After a vigorous mediation effort by the USG, Albania released the ethnic Greek "Omonia" defendants in February, and FM Papoulias visited Tirana in March. Since that time Greek-Albanian relations have improved steadily. Working groups were established to deal with a range of bilateral issues. Greek Minister of Justice Peponis was received by his Albanian counterpart Minister Frasheri on August 15. The two sides signed an extradition treaty and other judicial agreements. Albania opened a consulate in Ioannina. Albanian FM Serreqi has been invited to Athens, and Greek President Stephanopoulos is expected to visit Tirana to maintain the momentum of their rapprochement.

Some irritants remain in the relationship. The GOA believes the GOG has badly handled the case against seven Greeks initially charged in the Peshkepi incident. Conspiracy and murder charges against the eight were dropped, and one was released from detention. Although serial numbers of weapons possessed by the defendants matched those stolen from Peshkepi, the Albanians were unable to furnish the Greeks with the sophisticated forensic evidence necessary to successfully prosecute the murder charge. All still face weapons charges, and it appears the GOG will pursue this avenue of prosecution. However, this development could be misread by Tirana as GOG backsliding on an important issue affecting bilateral relations.

Greece remains concerned about conditions of ethnic Greeks in Albania. It urges expanded access to education in the Greek language, the return of religious property taken by the previous communist government, and measures to increase representation of Greeks in the police and civil service. A new Secondary Education law will go some way toward answering the demand for Greek-language instruction. The Albanian Autocephalous Orthodox Church is experiencing problems with reclaiming its property, as are all other religious bodies and other former landowners.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

Improved Greek-Albanian relations have benefited Greek-U.S. relations. As the governments in Athens and Tirana acknowledge, the success in improving Greek-Albanian relations was due in no small part to U.S. efforts to find solutions.

II. TALKING POINTS

- We are very pleased at the progress that your government has made in establishing better relations with Athens.

- I would particularly like to congratulate you on the success of recent ministerial meetings, the work of the bilateral commission, and the ongoing meetings of the subcommissions.

- Full implementation of the Council of Europe's Minorities Convention and your government's Secondary Education Law is important to regional stability and our continued support.

- We have told the Greeks that we hope to see continued progress toward legalizing the status of Albanian workers in Greece and on demarcating the border.

ALBANIAN RELATIONS WITH SERBIA AND THE F.Y.R.O.M.

I. BACKGROUND

Serbia:

Albania and Serbia are represented in each other's capital by a Chargé d'Affaires. The issue of Kosovo dominates Albania's relations with the FRY. Albania is the only country to recognize the "Republic of Kosova" declared by representatives of the ethnic Albanian majority in this formerly autonomous Serbian province. The GOA maintains some ambiguity about its recognition, however. Berisha has stated that Albania recognizes Kosova as an autonomous entity within Serbia. Others, including PM Meksi, have called for its independence.

In August, following the resettlement of some Krajina Serbs in Kosovo, FM Serreqi wrote to the Secretary of State to stress that the GOA "will not be indifferent and will not adopt a passive stand" toward a possible spillover of conflict into Kosovo. Although Albania could do little to assist Kosovo militarily against the Serbs, it could provide arms and encouragement in the event of conflict. It is entirely unprepared for the potential influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees.

Albania has opened its military facilities for use by the United States and NATO, and fears possible reprisals from Pale or Belgrade for this cooperation.

The FYROM:

Albania and the FYROM have full diplomatic ties. Relations between the two countries tend to blow hot or cold, depending on events affecting ethnic Albanians in Macedonia.

Relations were severely strained in 1993 when ethnic Albanians caught trafficking arms across the FYROM/Albania border were served harsh sentences for treason. The GOFYROM alleged that the Albanian government had been directly involved. A meeting between Berisha and FYROM President Gligorov in the spring of 1994 smoothed troubled waters and, as a result, Berisha encouraged ethnic Albanians in the FYROM to participate in the 1994 census. Later in 1994, however, the GOFYROM accused the Albanian government of interfering in internal Macedonian affairs twice: once when the largest ethnic Albanian party split and the GOA openly supported the more radical faction, and again when the Albanian MFA issued a statement in support of an illegally-formed Albanian university in the FYROM. A confrontation between police and faculty and supporters of Tetovo University resulted in the death of an ethnic Albanian and several wounded policemen in February. Since that time tension has subsided considerably.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

II. TALKING POINTS

- Your continued moderation toward neighboring states which include large ethnic Albanian populations is essential to avoid further instability in the Balkans. The danger of sparking conflict in Kosovo or Macedonia far overshadows the gains of championing a "Greater Albania."

- A solution for Kosovo must be found before Serbia-Montenegro can be fully reintegrated into the international community. We support restoration of autonomy for the province, and we continue to urge the Serbs to respect the human and civil rights of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

- We support the aspirations of ethnic Albanians in Macedonia for access to education in their native tongue. The means to achieving this goal, however, should be cooperative, not confrontational.

SOUTH BALKAN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

I. BACKGROUND

The South Balkan Development Initiative (SBDI) is designed to support regional transportation infrastructure development. This would promote regional integration and thereby encourage peace, security and cooperation in the region. Albania would be a key beneficiary of the project. The economic viability of this initiative is still under review.

The SBDI envisions an east-west transportation corridor from the Adriatic to the Black Sea. Such a corridor would lessen traditional dependence on north-south routes running through Greece and Serbia. Compliance with international sanctions against the Former Republic of Yugoslavia has hurt the Albanian economy, like that of other front-line states. Along with the loss of its export market to Yugoslavia, Albania also must contend with region-wide disruptions in trade flows from the Greek embargo on the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). Secure access to Central European markets and a new avenue of commerce to the east would boost Albania's economy overall, and facilitate privatization and small business development in particular.

Since total costs associated with this initiative are estimated to exceed one billion dollars, U.S. funds are expected to leverage significant additional commitments from IFIs and other sponsors. As part of an initial outlay, the U.S. recently funded a Trade Development Agency (TDA) mission to the region. The TDA study identified a number of transportation projects in Albania, the FYROM, and Bulgaria that each of the governments considers high priorities. The study concentrates on a key element of each project that could be funded by the USG in order to convince potential sponsors to support a larger link in the east-west corridor, eventually leading to a road and rail link across the region. Promising areas for U.S. participation include a number of high-impact, low-budget projects which could significantly speed traffic on existing railways and roads. In deciding on projects, we are looking for those that have economic merit in addition to simply alleviating sanctions-related difficulties. The IBRD, EBRD and EIB have all made commitments to build sections of an east-west road across Albania.

Albania, the FYROM, and Bulgaria will be the primary beneficiaries of this initiative, although most of the countries of South Central Europe could benefit from enhanced trade routes. The FYROM has already begun construction on its portion of a rail link to the Bulgarian border. Nevertheless, the commercial viability of an east-west rail link is difficult to determine. IFI support has been muted in the absence of clearly articulated and forcefully propounded expressions of interest by all three states.

II. TALKING POINTS

- As you know, we are exploring the possibility of contributing funds toward an east-west transportation corridor in the Southern Balkans.

- This plan would develop regional infrastructure and promote economic integration, security, and cooperation in the region.

- The U.S. recently funded a Trade Development Agency mission to the region. TDA's report identified several promising areas for U.S. participation, including a number of projects which could significantly speed traffic on existing railways and roads.

- The three primary recipient countries, Bulgaria, the FYROM, and Albania, have not taken many concrete steps to put this plan into action. This has dampened the enthusiasm of the donor community.

S/S-9516669 6515(2)

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 6, 1995

UNCLASSIFIED
(with ~~SECRET~~ attachments)

MEMORANDUM FOR ANDREW D. SENS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC MATERIALS FOR THE VISIT OF ALBANIAN PRESIDENT BERISHA

Attached are biographic materials for the President's use in preparation for the visit of Albanian President Berisha to the White House on September 12.

Kenneth C. Brill
Executive Secretary

Attachments:
As stated.

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: RDS Date: 10/28/2019
2013-1060-M

UNCLASSIFIED
(with ~~SECRET~~ attachments)

S/S-9516669

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 6, 1995

UNCLASSIFIED
(with ~~SECRET~~ attachments)

MEMORANDUM FOR ANDREW D. SENS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC MATERIALS FOR THE VISIT OF ALBANIAN PRESIDENT BERISHA

Attached are biographic materials for the President's use in preparation for the visit of Albanian President Berisha to the White House on September 12.

Kenneth C. Brill
Executive Secretary

Attachments:
As stated.

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: RDS Date: 10/28/2019
2013-1066-M

UNCLASSIFIED
(with ~~SECRET~~ attachments)

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001j. report	US Govt Report (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001k. report	US Govt Report (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
0011. report	US Govt Report (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001m. report	[Duplicate of 001j] (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001n. report	[Duplicate of 001k] (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001o. report	[Duplicate of 0011] (1 page)	08/29/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001p. memo	From Anthony Lake re: Meeting with President Sali Berisha of Albania [partial] (2 pages)	09/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT SALI BERISHA OF ALBANIA
DATE: September 12, 1995
LOCATION: Oval Office
TIME: 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE

I. PURPOSE

To encourage Berisha's constructive policies ~~--especially his responsible approach to former Yugoslavia and commitment to market economic reform--~~ while cautioning him against his authoritarian streak in domestic affairs.

Key Points

-- **Albania should continue playing a responsible role with the restive Albanian Diaspora in Kosovo and FYROM.**

-- **Democracy, rule of law in Albania are crucial to bilateral relations; Berisha should respect judicial independence.**

-- **Albania needs to address the interests of ethnic Greek minority in Albania, especially in education.**

-- **U.S. will continue to support Albanian economic reforms.**

-- (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6)

II. BACKGROUND

Europe's poorest country, Albania is still waking up from its long Stalinist nightmare. President Sali Berisha, ~~a cardiologist by profession,~~ defeated the communists at the polls in April 1992 and launched democratic and dramatic market economic reforms. But

~~Although once unchallenged in popularity as the "father of Albanian democracy,"~~ Berisha has lost much of his luster and support during the past year. ~~While public impatience with economic austerity is the primary reason,~~ Berisha's authoritarian style and some of his actions have weakened his

Declassified in Part
Per E.O. 13526
VZ 12/05/2019 (1.18)
2013-1060-M

standing in the country. ~~His heavy-handed attempt to ram through a constitution~~ (which failed), his vendettas against ~~political opponents, his iron grip on the judiciary and his paternalistic approach to the electronic and some print media have eroded his image~~ and damaged the electoral prospects of his Democratic Party (DP). ~~The DP~~ could lose to the Socialists ~~(only partly reconstructed former communists)~~ in parliamentary elections next spring.

Still, Berisha has been helpful in preventing a dangerous explosion among Diaspora Albanians in Kosovo and his economic reforms should help entrench democracy over time. Our growing military cooperation is also strongly in our ~~interest.~~ The challenge of this meeting is to express satisfaction at Berisha's achievements while expressing clear concern over creeping authoritarianism. Berisha should understand our support is conditional on his adherence to democracy. ~~Articulate and charismatic~~, Berisha can react badly to direct criticism but can rethink his positions if we approach him ~~firmly~~, but as a ~~concerned~~ friend.

III. ISSUES

Former Yugoslavia. Berisha has pursued a responsible policy toward former Yugoslavia, counseling moderation among ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). This has helped prevent an explosion in Kosovo ~~could trigger our Christmas warning to Milosevic requiring a U.S. military response~~.

Berisha is concerned over Serbia's announced plan to resettle up to 20,000 Krajina Serbs in Kosovo ~~(In fact, only about 5,000 have been sent there compared to an Albanian population of 1.5 million)~~. ~~He also fears we will drop our insistence that Milosevic restore autonomy to Kosovo in return for the latter's cooperation on Bosnia.~~ **You should express support for Berisha's responsible policy on Kosovo and FYROM, assure him that we are watching the Krajina Serb resettlement situation closely and reassure him we intend to keep the pressure on for restoration of autonomy in Kosovo.**

Democracy and the Rule of Law. The continuing imprisonment of former Prime Minister Fatos Nano ~~(who is also current leader of the former-communist Socialist Party)~~ on questionable charges has attracted international attention. Berisha has also attempted to remove ~~Chief Justice Zef Brozi from~~ the Albanian Supreme Court ~~Court of Cassation~~ and ~~otherwise~~ maintain firm executive branch control over the judiciary. The U.S. has funded ~~a number of~~ projects to strengthen democracy ~~in Albania,~~ and we are prepared to offer an

's Chief Justice

Serious

additional $1 million to provide training for judges, prosecutors and community policing. ~~While acknowledging Albania's strides toward democracy,~~ you should stress Albania needs to watch out for creeping authoritarianism, in particular to take steps to insure an independent judiciary and assure the rule of law. ~~You should send a strong message that democracy, not its trappings, is the basis of U.S.-Albanian relations.~~

Greece. ~~Albanian relations with Greece improved markedly after the release last February of five members of the ethnic-Greek Omonia organization.~~ Partly in response to pressure, ~~from us,~~ Berisha has moved away from his confrontational stance toward Greece, although problems have recently developed over educational opportunities for Albania's Greek minority. ~~This has generated concerns, some exaggerated, among the Greek-American community.~~ **You should express satisfaction at the improvement of Greek-Albanian relations, while encouraging Berisha to follow through on needed reforms, particularly in the area of minority education.**

Economic Assistance. Thanks to deep market reforms and cooperation with the IMF and World Bank, Albania's economy is growing at six percent. Unfortunately, Albanian domestic expectations have grown even faster and Berisha is in political difficulty after three years of ~~continuing~~ austerity. Through FY 94, the U.S. provided Albania with $142 million in economic assistance. Depending on final Congressional action, we expect to contribute another $45 million in FY 95-96. **You will be able to review some economic initiatives we have prepared.**

Military Cooperation. U.S.-Albanian military ties have grown rapidly under the Berisha government. (b)(1) (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6) (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6) The day after your meeting, Secretary Perry will inform Berisha that we intend to equip and outfit an Albanian PFP peacekeeping company and are prepared to ~~pursue~~ selling Albania antitank and antiaircraft weapons, ~~We also plan~~ and to double the size of our IMET training program. **You can preview these announcements in your meeting and express our desire to continue to develop our military cooperation.**

Attachments
Tab A Points to be Made
Tab B Memorandum from Secretary Christopher
Tab C Scenario
Tab D Biographies

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001q. talking points	re: Points to be Made in Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha [partial] (1 page)	09/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

POINTS TO BE MADE IN MEETING WITH ALBANIAN PRESIDENT SALI BERISHA

Greeting

-- ~~Welcome.~~ Albanian security and ~~its~~ democratic, free-market transformation important to U.S.

Post-Yugoslav Issues

-- Appreciate Albania's responsible role with respect to Albanian populations in Kosovo and FYROM. Action key to preventing dangerous escalation in south Balkans.

-- Know your concerns about resettlement of Krajina Serbs in Kosovo. Raised issue with Milosevic and will continue to follow.

-- ~~Our impression now is most are being settled in Vojvodina and elsewhere.~~ Understand Krajina Serbs reluctant to settle in Kosovo.

~~-- Hope combining NATO pressure with serious negotiations produces settlement in Bosnia.~~

-- Have not forgotten Kosovo. We will not normalize relations with Serbia, nor support non-humanitarian financial assistance, until autonomy is restored to Albanian population.

Democracy and the Rule of Law

-- Democracy is ~~necessary~~ cornerstone of U.S.-Albanian relations. Appreciate Albania's progress toward democracy. Will continue supporting democratic reforms, ~~and speaking out when problems exist.~~

-- One area of concern is Albanian judiciary.

-- Judges, prosecutors, police lack training. Prepared to offer $1 million to help provide professional training for these key members of judicial system.

-- Also concerned your executive branch has substantial control over administration of judicial system, including appointment, assignment, removal and payment of judges.

-- Truly independent judiciary is indispensable to rule of law. Urge you to consider reorganization that provides real independence to judicial branch. ~~Should avoid damaging confrontations.~~

~~SECRET~~
~~Declassify~~ on: OADR

Declassified in Part
Per E.O. 13526
VZ 12/05/2019 (1.20)
2013-1060-M

Greece

-- Good Greek-Albanian relations key to Albanian integration with West. Pleased by improvement over past six months; important to maintain momentum.

-- Albania should ~~try to~~ be model for Balkans~~; do its utmost to address~~ issues of concern to ethnic Greek minority: education, religion, fighting discrimination.

-- Recognize extremists exist within Greek and Albanian communities. Best way to marginalize them is to advance positive agenda. We say same thing to Athens.

Economic Assistance

-- Applaud your courage in implementing deep market reforms. While not popular, ~~those~~ have led to Albania's current strong growth -- key to future prosperity. We are prepared to say so publicly.

-- ~~Proud of~~ U.S. support so far: ~~provided~~ $142 million in assistance through 1994. Hope to provide another $45 million through 1996.

-- Welcome establishment last spring of Albanian-American Enterprise Fund with endowment of $30 million. ~~The Fund, under strong leadership, is now active.~~ Support Fund's interest in establishing new, private bank.

-- Pleased to announce new, $8 million reforestation project.

-- Moving ahead with South Balkan Development Initiative to upgrade transportation infrastructure in region, linking Albania with FYROM and Bulgaria.

-- Understand Albania's interest in promoting foreign investment. U.S. could help set up high-profile foreign investment center that potential investors can plug into.

Military Cooperation

-- Albania's responsible policies toward former Yugoslavia and efforts to establish democratic military lay basis for strong military cooperation.

-- (b)(1) (b)(1) EO 13526 3.3(b)(5) 3.3(b)(6)

-- U.S. prepared to deepen military cooperation: ~~Prepared~~ to help equip and outfit your peacekeeping company, ~~address your requests for sales of~~ sell you defensive equipment.

-- Intend to double our funding for military training.

-- Welcome regular exercises through PFP.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001r. talking points	re: Points to be Made in Meeting with Albanian President Sali Berisha [partial] (1 page)	09/12/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 602

FOLDER TITLE:
9506515

2013-1060-M
rs882

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

~~SECRET~~ THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN 9/12/95 Card 1 of 8

POINTS TO BE MADE IN MEETING WITH
ALBANIAN PRESIDENT SALI BERISHA

GREETING

-- ALBANIAN SECURITY AND DEMOCRATIC, FREE-MARKET TRANSFORMATION IMPORTANT TO U.S.

POST-YUGOSLAV ISSUES

-- APPRECIATE ALBANIA'S RESPONSIBLE ROLE WITH RESPECT TO ALBANIAN POPULATIONS IN KOSOVO AND FYROM. ACTION KEY TO PREVENTING DANGEROUS ESCALATION IN SOUTH BALKANS.

— Ty to Sanctions help —

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ Card 2 of 8

-- KNOW YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT RESETTLEMENT OF KRAJINA SERBS IN KOSOVO. RAISED ISSUE WITH MILOSEVIC AND WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW. UNDERSTAND KRAJINA SERBS RELUCTANT TO SETTLE IN KOSOVO.

-- HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN KOSOVO. WE WILL NOT NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH SERBIA, NOR SUPPORT NON-HUMANITARIAN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, UNTIL AUTONOMY IS RESTORED TO ALBANIAN POPULATION.

DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW

-- DEMOCRACY IS CORNERSTONE OF U.S.-ALBANIAN RELATIONS. APPRECIATE ALBANIA'S PROGRESS TOWARD DEMOCRACY. WILL CONTINUE SUPPORTING DEMOCRATIC REFORMS.

~~SECRET~~

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING
Declassified in Part
Per E.O. 13526
VZ 12/05/2019 (1.23)
2013-1060-M

~~SECRET~~ Card 3 of 8

-- ONE AREA OF CONCERN IS ALBANIAN JUDICIARY. JUDGES, PROSECUTORS, POLICE LACK TRAINING. PREPARED TO OFFER $1 MILLION TO HELP PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR THESE KEY MEMBERS OF JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

-- ALSO CONCERNED YOUR EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAS SUBSTANTIAL CONTROL OVER ADMINISTRATION OF JUDICIAL SYSTEM, INCLUDING APPOINTMENT, ASSIGNMENT, REMOVAL AND PAYMENT OF JUDGES.

-- TRULY INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY IS INDISPENSABLE TO RULE OF LAW. URGE YOU TO CONSIDER REORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES REAL INDEPENDENCE TO JUDICIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ Card 4 of 8

GREECE

-- ~~GOOD GREEK-ALBANIAN RELATIONS~~ KEY TO ALBANIAN INTEGRATION WITH WEST. PLEASED BY IMPROVEMENT OVER PAST SIX MONTHS; IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM.

-- ALBANIA SHOULD BE MODEL FOR BALKANS BY ADDRESSING ISSUES OF CONCERN TO ETHNIC GREEK MINORITY: EDUCATION, RELIGION, FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION.

-- RECOGNIZE EXTREMISTS EXIST WITHIN GREEK AND ALBANIAN COMMUNITIES. BEST WAY TO MARGINALIZE THEM IS TO ADVANCE POSITIVE AGENDA. WE SAY SAME THING TO ATHENS.

~~SECRET~~

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

~~SECRET~~ Card 5 of 8

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

-- APPLAUD YOUR COURAGE IN IMPLEMENTING DEEP MARKET REFORMS. WHILE NOT POPULAR, HAVE LED TO ALBANIA'S CURRENT STRONG GROWTH -- KEY TO FUTURE PROSPERITY. WE ARE PREPARED TO SAY SO PUBLICLY.

-- U.S. SUPPORT SO FAR: $142 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE THROUGH 1994. HOPE TO PROVIDE ANOTHER $45 MILLION THROUGH 1996.

-- WELCOME ESTABLISHMENT LAST SPRING OF ALBANIAN-~~AMERICAN ENTERPRISE FUND WITH ENDOWMENT OF $30~~ MILLION. SUPPORT FUND'S INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING NEW, PRIVATE BANK.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ Card 6 of 8

-- PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE NEW, $8 MILLION REFORESTATION PROJECT.

-- MOVING AHEAD WITH SOUTH BALKAN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TO UPGRADE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN REGION, LINKING ALBANIA WITH FYROM AND BULGARIA.

-- UNDERSTAND ALBANIA'S INTEREST IN PROMOTING FOREIGN INVESTMENT. U.S. COULD HELP SET UP HIGH-PROFILE FOREIGN INVESTMENT CENTER THAT POTENTIAL INVESTORS CAN PLUG INTO.

~~SECRET~~

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

~~SECRET~~ Card 7 of 8

MILITARY COOPERATION

-- ALBANIA'S RESPONSIBLE POLICIES TOWARD FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH DEMOCRATIC MILITARY LAY BASIS FOR STRONG MILITARY COOPERATION.

-- (b)(1), EO 13526 3.3(b)(5), 3.3(b)(6)

-- U.S. PREPARED TO DEEPEN MILITARY COOPERATION: TO HELP EQUIP AND OUTFIT YOUR PEACEKEEPING COMPANY, SELL YOU DEFENSIVE EQUIPMENT.

-- INTEND TO DOUBLE OUR FUNDING FOR MILITARY TRAINING.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ Card 8 of 8

-- WELCOME REGULAR EXERCISES THROUGH PFP.

~~SECRET~~

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

Case Number: 2013-1060-M

MR MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Original OA/ID Number: 603				
Document ID: 9506735				
Row: 44	Section: 6	Shelf: 1	Position: 1	Stack: V

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
~~001. memcon~~	~~re: Meeting with Sali Berisha, President of Albania (6 pages)~~	~~09/12/1995~~	~~P1/b(1)~~ KBH 7/1/2015

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Records Management
([Berisha])
OA/Box Number: 603

FOLDER TITLE:
9506735

2013-1060-M
rs883

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9506735
RECEIVED: 12 SEP 95 07

TO: BRILL, K

FROM: SENS

DOC DATE: 14 SEP 95
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ALBANIA MEMCON

PERSONS: BERISHA, SALI

SUBJECT: MEMCON BTW PRES & PRES SALI BERISHA OF ALBANIA

ACTION: DOHSE SGD MEMO DUE DATE: 15 SEP 95 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: FRIED LOGREF:

FILES: PA NSCP: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION	FOR CONCURRENCE	FOR INFO
		EXECSEC
		FICKLIN
		FRIED
		NSC CHRON

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY SP DATE 9/14 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSVJD CLOSED BY: NSGP DOC 2 OF 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/28/2019
2013-1060-M

ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC	ACTION OFFICER	CAO	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED
001	LAKE	Z	95091320	FOR DECISION
001		X	95091414	DOHSE APPROVED RECOM
002		X	95091414	DOHSE SGD MEMO

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC	DATE	DISPATCH FOR ACTION	DISPATCH FOR INFO
002	950914	BRILL, K	

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 6735

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM ~~PRS~~ NSC INT

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG _____ A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Harmon			
Dohse	1	AJ	
Sens			
Soderberg			
Berger			
Lake			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	2	JOL 9/14	D - with D diskette
Records Mgt.			

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc:

COMMENTS:

Exec Sec Office has diskette WP

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 6735

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM ~~PRS~~ NSC INT

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG _____ A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Harmon			
Dohse	1	JD	
Sens			
Soderberg			
Berger			
Lake			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	2	JDL 9/14	D w/D diskette
Records Mgt.			

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc:

COMMENTS:

Exec Sec Office has diskette WP

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6735

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

September 14, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KENNETH C. BRILL
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Conversation of the President's Meeting with President Sali Berisha of Albania

The attached Memorandum of Conversation from the meeting between the President and the President of Albania is provided for the information of the Secretary of State. It must be distributed via NODIS channels and not below the Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) level. It may also be sent to the Embassy in Tirana for the Ambassador and/or Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) only. ~~(C)~~

Andrew D. Sens
Executive Secretary

Attachment
Tab A Memcon with President Berisha

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/25/2019
2013-1060-M

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with Sali Berisha, President of Albania (U)

PARTICIPANTS:

U.S.
The President
The Vice President
Warren Christopher, Secretary of State
Anthony Lake, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Joseph Lake, U.S. Ambassador to Albania
George Stephanopoulos, Senior Advisor to the President for Policy and Strategy
Christopher Hill, Director for South Central Europe, Department of State
Daniel Fried, Senior Director for Central and Eastern Europe, NSC Staff (notetaker)

Albania
President Sali Berisha
Dylber Vrioni, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
Alfred Serreqi, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Lublin Dilja, Ambassador
Fatos Beja, Diplomatic Advisor to the President

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: September 12, 1995, 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Oval Office

The President: Welcome and I'm very glad to see you here. (U)

President Berisha: Thank you, Mr. President, for this meeting. I and all Albanians are grateful to you, to the United States and to the American taxpayer for your important assistance to Albania at this most crucial time in all of our long history. Since the very beginning of our struggle for democracy, the United States has provided assistance to Albania, the most forgotten country in Europe. You are helping us through one of the worst crises in Europe and are helping us to build the rule of law and a market economy in Albania. The level of friendly feeling by Albanians toward the U.S. is very high, and I am especially proud of this.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2013-1060-M
7/1/15 KBH

When (former Secretary of State James) Baker came to Albania there was an explosion of friendly feeling toward the United States, and Albanians are just as well disposed toward the United States now as then. (C)

The President: I greatly appreciate the progress you have made, especially your work to develop democracy in Albania and to transform your economy. I also appreciate your role in Albania's policy toward Kosovo and your support for the enforcement of sanctions on the former Yugoslavia. The United States is trying to create the basis for peace in former Yugoslavia but we will not forget Kosovo. We will not have fully normalized relations with Serbia without fully restored autonomy for the people of Kosovo. (C)

President Berisha: I have always been convinced of the crucial and useful role of the United States in Europe and the Balkans. The United States is not playing the role of world gendarme. But it is responsible for international law and order. Please accept my congratulations at the latest developments in Bosnia. Now, thanks to you, there is a real hope for peace. Your agenda should be supported and this includes airstrikes which I consider important and completely justified. In a way, the airstrikes have compensated for the arms embargo, which was not justified. Albania is ready to work closely with you and in particular to increase support for your pilots and planes. (C)

Other Central and Eastern European countries did not start their process of democratization as badly off as Albania. But thanks to the impulse of freedom and your help, Albania in the past three years has fixed two goals and made progress. First, we have created a democratic space for Albanians: the rule of law and a market economy. Second, we have achieved fast economic growth. This is an impressive achievement because we lost fifty years. Now we are moving ahead. (C)

In all of our efforts we had your support. We are a nation divided into three states. We shall oppose changes of borders through force, and we will seek to support democracy and free markets for Albanians living in these other states. Such achievements would bring 90 percent happiness to these Albanians. (C)

The President: Ninety percent is as good as it gets. (U)

President Berisha: We are striving to make progress. We have changed our laws and passed laws on a European model. We have changed 40 percent of government personnel and 60-90 percent in some categories. I tried to use my political mandate to speed economic reforms, and we liberalized prices and began to privatize. The result has been lowered inflation and a tripling

of per capita income from $200 to $700. We have achieved macroeconomic stability, and I think we can call ourselves today a poor but healthy economy. Now we are engaged in large scale privatization and are making progress. (C)

Our main goal is integration with Euroatlantic structures. The Partnership for Peace (PFP) was a great idea, a great invention that opened doors to countries in our region with a strange past. We were the first country to ask to join NATO. We have begun good military cooperation with NATO countries which will help us, one day, to join the alliance. (C)

We also have made great progress in human and national rights and in the establishment of democratic institutions. Before, Albania was a country that banned religion, that banned rights. Now we are establishing tolerance and freedom. Freedom of information is important, and we have different television programs and stations throughout Albania. We have passed good laws, although the referendum to establish a new constitution failed. (C)

Still, the situation in the region is very worrying. Kosovo is under total occupation. I spoke about this with the Secretary of State and asked whether the United States could take the role of intermediary in negotiations to restore autonomy there. Of course, I'll be asked by Albanians about whether we should ask for more. But I say no because asking too much would mean war. The warnings of the Bush Administration (the Christmas warnings with respect to Kosovo) and the presence of U.S. troops in Macedonia was crucial to preventing a spillover of the Bosnian conflict to the south. (C)

Our relations with Greece went through a very difficult stage but now are becoming better. What is the real story? In 1990 and 1991, during a period of real turmoil in Albania, many thousands of Albanians fled south. Greece received them well, and I am grateful. But some Greeks thought that Albania was dying and they began thinking about annexation, about "Northern Epirus." I am grateful to your statements encouraging Greece to negotiate and to remove a blockade in our relations with the EU. The Holbrooke mission was successful. He understood the situation. We want to work with Greece to improve relations. The current issues can be solved and will be solved. This is important for us. If the Government of Greece is willing, we will be able to work toward this result. (C)

The President: What you have said is very important. The Greeks are working with the Government of FYROM, and if we make the progress we hope for, it may become easier to make progress between Greece and Albania. We were right to put troops in FYROM. President Bush issued his warning to the Serbs about Kosovo and because it took occurred in December, after the

elections, the Serbs came to me. I said this was a proper decision. We are doing what we can to end the war and we will keep up our efforts. I appreciated what you said to me about Greece. They are showing a new willingness to work with their neighbors and this is very important. Still, the Government of Greece has concerns regarding the Greek minority in Albania in the areas of education, religious discrimination and employment discrimination, including in areas of administration and law enforcement. We're hopeful that you can make progress on these questions. (C)

You mentioned progress in establishing democratic institutions. I hope you will do more regarding an independent judiciary. We have found some funds in our assistance budget can help with a program for the training of prosecutors and the police, and I'm encouraged that we are able to help. (C)

Our assistance to Albania has come to about $140 million so far, and we hope to be able to provide about $45 million in fiscal year 1996. We hope that this will be helpful to your efforts. We are impressed by your economic growth and by your efforts to resolve issues concerned with human and minority rights. Some believe that ethnic conflicts will destroy the world in the next twenty years, but you can prove them wrong. If you can, we won't have more Bosnias, Rwandas and Burundis -- a world in which people just kill one another because of these issues. So, Albania is not simply a little country all alone and forgotten. (C)

President Berisha: The role of the United States is primary, and we appreciate it. I assure that you we will move ahead. The most difficult question is the consolidation of democratic and other institutions. Albania must do better than in the past. Freedom gives a great potential and freedom can be assured by consolidating institutions. I asked Secretary Christopher and Secretary Rubin for help to do this. I am grateful for your offer of judicial assistance and believe that, working with Ambassador Lake, we can use it well. Please encourage your government to keep providing such assistance. (C)

We also need support for our institutions that are doing the most to stimulate economic growth. We need foreign investment and OPIC could play an important role. Perhaps OPIC could treat Albania as a special case. (C)

President Clinton: How is the Albanian-American Enterprise Fund doing? (U)

Mr. Fried: It is very active. (U)

President Berisha: It is very good and has strong leadership under Mr. Domenick Scaglione. He wants to launch a commercial bank and we consider this a very good idea. Your decision to appoint him was excellent. (C)

President Clinton: Perhaps we could do more with OPIC as well. Let me thank you for your support in basing the Predator unmanned aircraft. Thank you also for your active participation in the Partnership for Peace. I want to continue our defense cooperation and look to increase it. (C)

My notes for this meeting mentioned a $7 million reforestation project. This is very important. We are working hard to support democracy in Haiti near to our own country, and we have found that erosion and environmental problems have a bad effect on the economy and on peoples lives. In Haiti, the top soil has just been washed away because of the absence of forests. So we don't underestimate the importance of such projects. (C)

President Berisha: It is a very important project, and we need to proceed with it. Military cooperation is very important as well. I would particularly appreciate your support for military infrastructure projects. We need basic things, not any sort of high technology. Before, our military was dispersed through the country in a crazy way. We need to deploy it in a way that makes sense. We also need help to control our territorial waters and airspace. We are facing pressure from the east; problems could come from this area, and we lack the capability to carry out our responsibility to control our own water and air territory. We would be grateful if you could help us in this area. (C)

The Vice President: It is great to see you here. I have many friends in the Albanian-American community, including Bill Kovac. I know how excited they are about Albania's transformation. This generates great enthusiasm. Listening to you, it seems to me that you are close to the threshold of a surge of your economy and a surge of investment. (C)

Countries that have enjoyed democratic successes are often held to higher standards. Problems in this area can cause more concern on the part of your friends. So it would help us to help you if you were able to fight any authoritarian trends or anything else that could hurt investments. But it is clear that there is great excitement about Albania in the United States. (C)

The President: We may be able to do more in our military cooperation. For example, we may be able to support the equipping of an Albanian peacekeeping company. I understand your point about control of your airspace and territorial waters and we will follow up. (C)

President Berisha: Thank you. This would help us control our own territory. I understand the Vice President's point. I assure you that we will do your best to consolidate our democracy. We had to make some strong decisions, like cutting back on the state administration, and proceeded. The results justify these steps. Of course, we have committed mistakes and lots of them. We are engaged in a tremendous transition and the forces involved are very powerful. (C)

The Vice President: We here are still trying to perfect our own democracy. (U)

The President: I can't tell you how pleased I am that you have come so far in so short a time. (U)

Secretary Christopher: I should add that Albania has just dedicated a new military hospital to the memory of Joe Kruzel. (U)

The President: Thank you so much. (U)

President Berisha: I was shaken by the news of his death. I had had two meetings with him and knew that Mr. Kruzel was a real friend of Albania and a real supporter of PFP. I also had met with Bob Frasure and had had a long conversation with him; I was very impressed by him. I think that the most recent developments in Bosnia are the best memorial to their sacrifice. America's commitment to remain engaged in the Balkans brings us hope. NATO's airstrikes are a great step for NATO and for friendly countries. (C)

I think that Yeltsin's recent reaction to this shows that he is really a member of the Politburo. He reacted in a Brezhnev style. (C)

The President: We are determined to resolve the Bosnian situation. We cannot let it remain a cancer in the world, unresolved and festering. (C)

President Berisha: How do you plan to help reorganize the Bosnian Army? This is an important question. (C)

The Vice President: Do you have any suggestions for resettling General Mladic?

The President: Thank you.

-- End of Conversation --

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

September 13, 1995

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: DANIEL FRIED DF

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Conversation Between the President and President Sali Berisha of Albania

Attached at Tab A is the Memorandum of Conversation between the President and President Sali Berisha of Albanian which took place in the Oval Office on September 12, 1995.

RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize Andrew Sens to sign the memo at Tab I transmitting the Memorandum of Conversation to the Department of State.

That the attached Memorandum of Conversation be filed for the record.

Approve DJ Disapprove _____

Attachment
Tab I Memorandum to State
Tab A Memorandum of Conversation

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By RDS NARA, Date 10/25/2019
2013-1060-M

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
DISTRIBUTION RECEIPT

LOG 9506735
DATE 14 SEP 95

SUBJECT: MEMCON BTW PRES & PRES SALI BERISHA OF ALBANIA
DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:	DATE	TIME	SIGNATURE
MR. KENNETH C. BRILL DEPARTMENT OF STATE ROOM 7224, MAIN STATE 2201 C STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520	_____	_____	_____

PRINT LAST NAME: _____

COPY: ORIGINAL

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: RDS Date: 10/25/2019
2013-1060-M

DATE, TIME, SIGN THE RECEIPT AND RETURN TO: NSC SECRETARIAT, ROOM 379 OEOB