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THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR A FREE ALBANIA

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1. The National Committee for a Free Albania welcomes you to our observance of Albania's National Independence Day and wishes to take this opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the cause of liberty and to acquaint the people of the free world with the activities of the NCFA.

Seven years ago, Albania lost her hard-won independence and fell under the Communist yoke of the puppet leader, Enver Hoxha. This move of the Communists produced another scar on the land that has fought for 2,000 years for her independence. It also marked the end of the liberty won on the day we commemorate as our National Independence Day, November 28, 1912. On that day in the midst of the Balkan war, a group of notables gathered in Valona and issued the declaration of independence.

By this act, these men took another step toward perpetuating the heritage of our great national hero, Skenderbeg, who fought so nobly for Albanian independence in the fifteenth century. His successful stand against the invading Turkish horde was Albania's greatest victory. From this great victory came the flag of Skenderbeg which is now our national emblem - the two-headed eagle.

## 2. The NCFA

In an effort to join together all the exiles and refugees from the mother country and thereby provide a united front against the Communist reign of terror, The National Committee for a Free Albania was formed and an international headquarters was opened on July 17, 1950 in New York.

The NCFA was created to cut across the lines of political differences and represent all those Albanians who wish to ensure the maintenance of the basic human liberties for all men in their homeland. The committee's activities are directed from the headquarters in New York. We also maintain an office in Rome which attempts to stay in close touch with our suffering countrymen within Albania.

The major activity of the NCFA is to attempt to coordinate the resistance efforts of Albanians in exile who are fighting against Communism.

3. The committee is composed of two bodies - an executive committee and a general advisory group. The executive committee is composed of:

(a) Hasan Dosti - president. Mr. Dosti is a prominent member of the Balli Kombetar party and before the war was regarded as the most capable jurist in Albania. A man of humble birth, Dosti was able to study law in France and return to Albania and become one of its leading citizens.

(b) Abas Kupa - presently helping to direct NCFA activities in Rome, Abas Kupa is regarded as one of the heroes of the last war for his effective leadership of the guerrilla warfare which was waged against the Italian invaders. In 1943, Kupa formed the Legalitet party which aimed at protecting the legality of the monarchy of King Zog. Despite the lack of formal schooling, Kupa has made a name for himself as one of the staunchest defenders of Albania's liberty.

(c) Ed Kryeziu - Assigned to the NO office in Rome, Said Kryeziu is also president of the Albanian Agrarian party. Educated in Paris, Kryeziu has long worked to bring all the exiles of Albania under one banner so as to effectively combat the invader. To accomplish this end, Kryeziu fought against the Germans and Italians during the war and then became one of the charter members of the Paris Committee which was the forerunner of the NCFA.

(d) Zef Pali - A member of the NCFA Rome Committee presently in New York for consultation, Pali is a very active and popular leader of the Balli Kombetar party. Educated at the Teacher's College in Elbasan, Pali is highly respected as a man of letters. Because of his democratic ideals, Pali was forced to flee the country during the war and became one of the charter members of the Paris committee, forerunner of the NCFA.

(e) Nucci Kotta, an officer of the NCFA headquarters in New York, is a member of the Legalitet Party and has a long record of service to exiled King Zog. Having studied law in France, Kotta returned to Albania to serve as Zog's prime minister for many years. Kotta also was a member of the original committee formed in Paris during August of 1949. He is responsible for the publication of the committee paper Shqiperia.

The NCFA has pledged itself to the following aims:

(a) To guide and encourage our brave people in their resistance to the cruel Communist tyranny and to organize Albanians abroad to aid such resistance effectively. Our people in Albania must be made aware of world-wide opposition to Communist oppression and to the rapidly growing might of free parliamentary nations.

(b) All activities of the Committee are directed toward the complete restoration of the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Albanian nation.

(c) The NCFA, aware of the great responsibility it has taken upon itself on behalf of the Albanian people, asks the help of all free peoples and free democratic states.

4. The NCFA also publishes an Albanian language newspaper, Shqiperia, which has a circulation of approximately 4,000. Published on a semi-monthly schedule in New York, copies of Shqiperia are sent to Albanians in the United States, England, Australia, Greece, Italy and Turkey.

A sample copy is attached for your information and perusal.