

1904

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

ACC

10000/109/1089

1905

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

10000/109/1089

SASENO
AUG. - DEC. 1945

1906

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

3267

45.
Letter at 46 up submitted as requested
in 44p. 31/12.

1907

785017

36.

C.S.O. The F.O. has agreed to the proposed effort to effect "the" the provision of administrative services by the provision of training. This is considered satisfactory.

24/xi/77
H. Alfred
130. R. H. (6x)

38.

ALC:

Letter at 37 to signature. 31 & 36 refer.

18. 26/11

39

Ex Comm.

Polade did not agree letter signed by C.E. (Flagged): see memo 31 & subsequent. They do agree, however, present letter which is herewith submitted for C.E.'s approval.

21/11 27/11

133.

(40)
Chief Commissioner.

3260

The letter originally signed by you has been amended at request of Polade A. & a new letter is resubmitted.

17/11 (30/11)

NOV 30 1977
0915

C.S.O. - Upon attention is invited to folio 42 concerning the Island of Sessano (43)

24/x/r

How:

38.

37 letter at 37 for signature. 31 & 36 refer.

Ms. 26/11.

39

Ex Comm.

Plads did not agree letter signed by
C.E. (flagged): see mem 31 & subsequent.
They do agree, however, present letter
which is herewith submitted for C.E.'s
approval.

MS 27/11

(40)
Chin Commissioner.

3200

The letter originally signed by you
has been amended at request of P.D. & A. & a new

letter is resubmitted.

MS (30/11)

NOV 30 1965
0915

C.S.O. - Your attention is invited to Folio 42 concerning the Island of Siam.
This is a reply to Folio 37 as decided by min 31, 36 after Plads agreed.
SPH 27/12/45

CSO

November 14, 1945

We have had no further instructions from the State Department since my memorandum of September 20 (folio 23). However the State Department's view is clearly set forth therein and consequently I am unable to approve the Chief Commissioner's draft reply to De Gasperi's letter of November 2 (folio 26), in which draft it is stated that it is the view of the Allied Governments that the Island of Saseno is Italian territory unless and until other disposition shall be made. The United States Government does not accept the Italian claim to sovereignty of Saseno and is of the opinion that the final disposition of the Island must await a peace settlement. In fact, the State Department view as expressed to the Foreign Office in September was that the provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by the provisional Albanian Government was satisfactory.

I should be inclined to reply to the Italian Foreign Office along the lines of the last sentence of my memorandum of September 20 (folio 23) if this is satisfactory to Polad (E) and the Chief Commissioner. Otherwise, we should be glad to ask for more recent instructions from the Department of State.

J. Wesley Jones (per AK)
J. Wesley Jones
Political Adviser (A)

32.
Please see minute 31 above. Draft 31a submitted on basis suggested by Polad (A)
65 1574.

33

Polad (B)

Ref min 34 - do you agree the draft at 32a?

Final

1674 3203

34.

CSO.

The F.O. have not given us their views on this, though I presume they coincide with those of the State Dept. C? the aft. reply be held up for a few days while I confer with London? I have already telegraphed

785017

draft 2301. On Casper's letter of November 2 (folio 23), in which draft it is stated that it is the view of the Allied Governments that the Island of Saseno is Italian territory unless and until other disposition shall be made. The United States Government does not accept the Italian claim to sovereignty of Saseno and is of the opinion that the final disposition of the Island must await a peace settlement. In fact, the State Department view as expressed to the Foreign Office in September was that the provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by the provisional Albanian Government was satisfactory.

I should be inclined to reply to the Italian Foreign Office along the lines of the last sentence of my memorandum of September 20 (folio 23) if this is satisfactory to Polad (P) and the Chief Commissioner. Otherwise, we should be glad to ask for more recent instructions from the Department of State.

J. Wesley Jones (per AK)
J. Wesley Jones
Political Adviser (A)

32.
Please see minute 31 above. Draft 31a submitted
on twice suggested by Polad (P)
AS 11/11.

33

Polad (P)

Ref min 31 - do you agree the draft at 32a?

Final
16/11 3201

34.

C.S.O.

The F.O. have not given us their views on this, though I presume they coincide with those of the State Dept. C? the A.C. reply be held up for a few days while I confer with London? I have several telegrams

18/11/45

35
BU 22/11
Noted
Final 19/11

Approved
15/11/45 J.W.J. (per AK)

22.

Ex. Com. Off.

The British Envoy. has reported to the
A.O. the fact of the occupation of Sasebo by American
forces, but the F.O. has not reacted yet.

5/18/70

W. H. H. (60).

24.

Ex. Com.

I think you should see 23
in view of the interest
in the Sasebo affair
which p. 1. In which
1/2 let sleeping dogs be
in view of X at 23
and let write to Prince
again. 5/14/70.

290

Page 17 (24)

22/9

3264

28.

C. S. Polad (A).

Please see 27-12. The position changed since your
memo at 23. 12. 1969

5/12/70

NY
Ass. M. A. (60)

24.

Examine.

I think you should see 23

in view of CS interest

in the Sarno affair

with p. 1. In included

to let Stepping days be

in view of X at 23

and h.D. write to Prince

again. 5/14/2072.

323

I agree M (24)

3264

5/22/9

28.

C-Staff Polad (A)

Please

news at 23.

substance

has

see 27- The position changed since you

is

not

propose sending the

your letter to the T.F.A.

5/9/11.

Polad (A)

29.

Please

see 27, a answer by C.C. &

approved by you before goes. 5/13/11

We want this

to be ~~the~~

5/13/11

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

15
K. Lamm
For siges per min sk.
C. Lamm
27/8

16.
Then want be for all Synthesis. Long.
Σ 30/8.

17.1

Ex. 100. — Letter to Pumas for September
4 cc in reply to it.
Ex. 3098

19

Chief Commissioner.

13

Attached is submitted for your ~~signature~~ ~~information~~ ~~approval~~

Lugones

21.

$P_0(a)$

1914

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

Plan must be for CCI Synthesis. Long.

Σ 30/8.

17.

Excluse.

Letter to Pruman for Synthesis

4 CCI in reply to 12.

Σ 30/8

10A

Chief Commissioner.

13

Attached is submitted for your signature information

MAILED 3 NOV 1963

MS 20/8

signed per 12.

21.

Pol (A)
(B)

Please see Col. Fisk's comment at folio 12. I should be grateful if you could let us know whether there have been any further developments in this matter.

B. K. 45-

Hewell sen.

785017

Ex. Comm.

8-5-0

for info please.

7 Aug 45

2

A. R. By spe

8/8

3

CGO

Ash G 2 A-G-H-Q to let us know the result of

their enquiries.

NR (8/8)

Belmont

27

For info - for 8/8 - the view of letter re for 8/8
C.C. may be interested in letter re for 8/8

8/8/45

AUG 21 RECD

28

3262

To: Chief Commissioner

6

Please see folio 8 for information. The matter was discussed in the Executive Commissioner's meeting today and it was decided that no action was indicated by ALCOUM at this time, since the question is presently under consideration by the U.S. G. and "M. G.

21/8/45

01 EvC

14

7

NEF

785017

for info please.

7 Aug 45

A. R. By SLE

8/8.

C80

3

Ask G2 ACHQ to let us know the result of

their enquiries.

DR/CR

Ex Comm

27.

For info - for 8/8. - In view of letter re for 8/8
b.b. may be interested in letter re for 8/8.

CR 8/8/45

AUG 21 RECD

28 8.

3262

To: Chief Commissioner

Please see folio 6. For information. The matter was discussed in the Executive Commissioner's meeting today and it was decided that no action was indicated by ACHQ at this time, since the question is presently under consideration by the U.S. G. and "M. G.

21/8/45

7 REF

A/Ex Com.

14.

Letter acknowledging receipt of 12 for signature at 13 please. Folio 6 in min & refer.

25 Aug 45

A. R. By SLE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 6532/20

31 December 1945

SUBJECT: The island of Saipan.

TO : G-5 AFHQ.

1. I am directed to forward the attached copy of memorandum no. 6/5229/3265 of 27 December 1945 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the above subject.

2. Copy of this HQ's letter no. 6532/37/20 of 30 November 1945 is attached.

F. H. McCLEARY

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

3261

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 6532/83

31 December 1945

SUBJECT: The island of Sasebo.

TO : The British Embassy, Rome.
The American Embassy, Rome.

1. I am directed to forward the attached copy of memorandum no. 6/5227/3265 of 27 December 1945 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the above subject.

2. Copy of this HQ's letter no. 6532/37/83 of 30 November 1945 is attached.

R. H. McCLEARY

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

3260

PA
311
R

1919

785017

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

42

6/5229/3251

DEC 27 1945

51

6532 RB

ROUGH TRANSLATION

NOTE FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Island of Saseno.

1. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to acknowledge, receipt of the Allied Commission's note n. 6532/37/EC, dated 30 November 1945, in which the Chief Commissioner states that "it is the view of the Allied governments that provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by the present Albanian Government is satisfactory".

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs formulate all reserve as to such Allied decision which is in opposition to the letter and the spirit of the armistice and they are anxious to point out, in particular, that the occupation by Albania of an Island which has been under Italian administration for over one fourth of a century is - in their judgement - absolutely arbitrary and finds no justification.

3. Whilst due note is taken that the island's occupation and administration by Albania is defined as being provisional, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs ask the Allied Commission to kindly bring to the Allied Government's notice their above mentioned formal reserves.

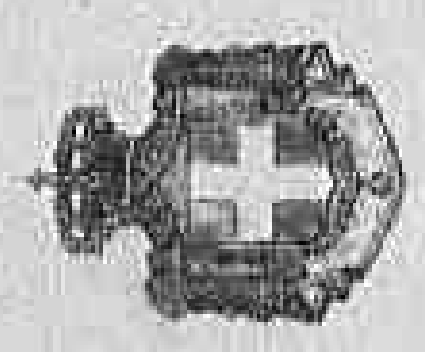
(Initialled) R.P. (Renato PRUNAS)

Rome, December 20th, 1945.

Enver Hoxha Dist. 3259

L. C. Polad B. Polad B.

M43-46 118



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

ROUGH TRANSLATION

6/3229/3254

NOTE FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

DEC 27 1945

SUBJECT: Island of Saseno.

31

1. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to acknowledge receipt of the Allied Commission's note n. 6332/37/EC, dated 30 November 1945, in which the Chief Commissioner states that "it is the view of the Allied Governments that provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by the present Albanian Government is satisfactory".

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs formulate all reserve as to such Allied decision which is in opposition to the letter and the spirit of the armistice and they are anxious to point out, in particular, that the occupation by Albania of an Island which has been under Italian administration for over one fourth of a century is - in their judgement - absolutely arbitrary and finds no justification.

3. Whilst due note is taken that the island's occupation and administration by Albania is defined as being provisional, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs ask the Allied Commission to kindly bring to the Allied Government's notice their above mentioned formal reserves.

(Initialled) R.P. (Renato PRUNAS)

Rome, December 20th, 1945.

Foro Comm. Dist. 3254

L. C.

Polad B.

Polad B.

*see M+3-46
C.F. 47-48*

22/1/46

(new #)

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

NOTA PER LA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

Il Ministero degli Affari Esteri accusa ricevuta della Nota n° 6532/37/3c del 30 Novembre con la quale il Chief Commissioner della Commissione Alleata informa che "it is the view of the Allied Governments that the provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by the present Albanian Government is satisfactory".

2. Il Ministero degli Affari Esteri fa tutte le sue riserve nei confronti di tale decisione Alleata che contrasta con la lettera e lo spirito dell'armistizio e tiene a rilevare in modo particolare che l'occupazione da parte albanese di un'isola che è da oltre un quarto di secolo sotto amministrazione italiana è, a suo giudizio, assolutamente arbitraria e non può essere giustificata.

3. Nel prendere atto che l'occupazione e amministrazione dell'isola da parte albanese, è qualificata come provvisoria, il Ministero degli Affari Esteri prega la Commissione Alleata di voler portare a conoscenza dei Governi Alleati le sue formali riserve.

Roma, 11 17 dicembre 1945.



325

1922

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

(37)

Ref: 6532/37/40

30 November 1945

SUBJECT: Island of Saseno

TO : The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

(27)

1. With reference to letter No. 71/1638/1309 of 2 Nov. from Dr. De Gasperi, it is the view of the Allied Governments that the provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by the present Albanian Government is satisfactory. The final disposition of the Island must of course await the peace settlement.

2. It has not been thought necessary to occupy the Island by Allied troops.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

see M 38-40.

PA
30/11
[Signature]

3257

fly.

1923

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

Ref: 6532/70/EC

November 1945

My dear Dr. De Gasperi:

In reply to your letter n. 71/1638/1309 of 2 November 1945, it is the view of the Allied Governments that the Island of Saseno is Italian territory and remains so unless and until other disposition shall be made by treaty. It has not, however, been thought necessary to occupy the Island by Allied forces.

Very sincerely yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
ELLERY W. STONE
ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

A Sua Eccellenza
Aldo De Gasperi
Ministro della Guerra
Roma

*Cancelled - all
Fold 37*

3256

71/1638/1309

6532

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

ROUGH TRANSLATION

Rome, November 2nd, 1945

My dear Admiral,

I thank you for your letter of 31 August 1945, n. 3532/13/EC, concerning the Saseno Island and I would much appreciate knowing whether a decision has been reached on the subject, following due examination of the case.

As it is known, Saseno was not occupied by Italy as a consequence of the 1939 Italo-Albanian Union, but during the first World War, in the year 1914. Under the art. 2. of the Italo-Albanian Union dated 2 August 1920 (the text of which I enclose herewith) the Albanian Government acknowledged such situation. We therefore believe that the island should be occupied by the Allies.

Signed: DE GASPERI

Admiral ELLERY W. STONE
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

= R O M E =

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

1924

Rome, November 2nd, 1945

My dear Admiral,

I thank you for your letter of 31 August 1945, n. 3532/13/EC, concerning the Saseno Island and I would much appreciate knowing whether a decision has been reached on the subject, following due examination of the case.

As it is known, Saseno was not occupied by Italy as a consequence of the 1939 Italo-Albanian Union, but during the first World War, in the year 1914. Under the art. 2. of the Italo-Albanian Union dated 3 August 1920 (the text of which I enclose herewith) the Albanian Government acknowledged such situation. We therefore believe that the island should be occupied by the Allies.

Signed: DE GASPERI

Admiral ELLERY W. STONE
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

= R O M E =

Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

Roma, 2 novembre 1945.-

Caro Ammiraglio,

nel ringraziarla della cortese lettera del 31 agosto u.s. n° 6532/13/EG, relativa all'Isola di Saseno, mi sarebbe molto gradito conoscere se a seguito dell'esame della questione siano state adottate delle decisioni nei riguardi dell'isola stessa.

Come noto Saseno non venne occupata dall'Italia in conseguenza dell'unione italo-albanese del 1939, bensì nel corso della prima guerra mondiale e precisamente nel 1914. In base all'art. 2 dell'Accordo italo-albanese del 2 agosto 1920 (di cui è allegato il testo) il Governo Albanese riconobbe tale situazione. Riterremmo pertanto che l'Isola dovrebbe ora venire occupata dagli Alleati.

La prego di voler gradire, caro Ammiraglio, gli atti della mia più distinta considerazione

./.

Dejani

Ammiraglio
Ellery W. STONE U.S.N.R.
Capo della Commissione Alleata

R o m a

3251

Caro Ammiraglio,

nel ringraziarla della cortese lettera del 31 agosto u.s. n°6532/13/20, relativa all'Isola di Saseno, mi sarebbe molto gradito conoscere se a seguito dell'esame della questione siano state adottate delle decisioni nei riguardi dell'isola stessa.

Come noto Saseno non venne occupata dall'Italia in conseguenza dell'unione italo-albanese del 1939, bensì nel corso della prima guerra mondiale e precisamente nel 1914. In base all'art.2 dell'Accordo italo-albanese del 2 agosto 1920 (di cui è allego il testo) il Governo Albanese riconoscerebbe tale situazione. Riterremmo pertanto che l'isola dovrebbe ora venire occupata dagli Alleati.

La prego di voler gradire, caro Ammiraglio, gli atti della mia più distinta considerazione

./.

Dejani

3251

Ammiraglio
Ellery W. STONE U.S.N.R.
Capo della Commissione Alleata

R o m a

785017



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

PROTOCOLLO ITALO-ALBANESE DI TIRANA
2 Agosto 1920

Art. II - Il Governo Italiano per dare prova dei suoi sentimenti di rispetto della sovranità albanese su Valona e dell'integrità territoriale dell'Albania farà rimpatriare le truppe italiane attualmente dislocate in Valona e suo litorale e nel resto della Albania, eccezione fatta per l'isola di Saseno.

3253

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Political Adviser (A)

20 SEP 1945

To : Office of Executive Commissioner
Subject: Status of Island of Saseno

With reference to the attached file concerning the alleged occupation of the Island of Saseno by Albanian forces, the Department of State has instructed the Office of the United States Political Adviser at Caserta to inform SAC that no action should be taken regarding Albanian occupation of Saseno pending consultation between Department and Foreign Office.

Department's views as conveyed to Foreign Office by United States Embassy, London, are as follows:

1. Albanian frontiers of 1913 confirmed in 1921 and 1926 included Saseno.

2. Italy occupied the island on October 31, 1914, but no evidence is available indicating that Italian sovereignty was established by any valid process of transfer, including negotiation with Albania. Italian claim to sovereignty appears to have rested on her own interpretation of secret preliminary protocol of Tirana of August 2, 1920, which Albania never accepted.

3. Albanians are reported to have been in occupation of the island, which is barren and without civilian population, since October 1944. Albanian action appears to fall into same category as unilateral occupation of Venezia Giulia by Yugoslavia. Therefore, Department believes that Hoxha should be informed that while provisional occupation and administration of Saseno by present Albanian Government is satisfactory, final disposition of island must await final peace settlement.

J. Wesley Jones
J. Wesley Jones

Rome, September 17, 1945

93

(1. in 21 ref)

X

M 24
See 252
PFA 24/5 24/9

1930

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

65321 Ex Commissioner (2)
HFP/dmj

24 August 1945

SUBJECT: Activities of Albanian Forces.

TO : HQ Allied Commission, APO 394.

SEP - 3 1945

1. Further to this Headquarters letter of 15 Aug., the Albanian authorities have now replied to the query by BMM Albania regarding the occupation of the island of Saseno.

2. A letter to the Mission, dated 21 Aug, states "This is to inform you that there have been Albanian Forces on the Island of Saseno since it was liberated."

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

H. F. Perkins Maj
H.F. PERKINS 3251
Major
Balkans Section



3/9.
(Miss Lorraine)

785017

65329

18

CC 225-8

27 August 1945.

AUG 28 1945

SUBJECT: Albanian Occupation of SASNO.

TO : G-5, Allied Force Headquarters. 17

With reference to recent rumors concerning the alleged occupation of SASNO by Albanian Partisans, I forward herewith copy of a letter dated 18 August, received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Incl.-1

Copy to: US POLAD AFHQ
British Reconn, AFHQ

DISTRIBUTION:

Exec Commr.
US POLAD AC
Rt POLAD AC
Chief Commr

(Cite A100207)

See 1a 3450
AD 1/9

6532/13/80

31 August 1945

My dear Dr. Prunas:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter 71/1204/995 dated 18 August 1945 with reference to the occupation of the island of Sasene by Albanian partisans.

This matter is now under consideration by the appropriate authorities.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLEERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Renate Prunas
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Italian Government
Rome

Copy to: Polad (a)
Polad (b)

See file 27

3249

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Translation

State Department

71/1204/995

Rome, 18 August 1945

AUG 23 1945

Dear Admiral,

in relation with rumours about the occupation of the small island of Saseno by Albanian partisans, I want to tell you that, according to what Consul General Turcato, officious Italian representative in Tirana, has lately reported, the small island has in fact been occupied by units of an Albanian brigade.

The said Consul General Turcato reported that the British Military Mission in Tirana is supposed to have sent a protest to the Albanian Government, pointing out that Saseno is 'Italian territory', and that the Albanian Government indirectly answered with an article, a copy of which I include, which was published in the paper 'Bashkimi', on the 7th of the current month.

Believe me, my dear Admiral,

Yours truly,

S. R. Prunas

Admiral Ellery W. Stone, U.S.N.R.
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
R o m e

trans. e/c

See 13
EC DIST - 22 Aug

ACTION: EXEC COMM.

INFO: CHIEF COMM.

: POLAD A

: POLAD B

3/9
Noted
FBI
See FBI

Translation

ALSO SASENO

Valona now also owns Saseno, Albania. This island which is the sentry of the Valona harbour and the key to the Adriatic, was unjustly stolen by the Italian imperialists in 1916. Up to that time cattle grazed there in winter. After that, Italy fortified it very well and turned it into a base to be able to take Valona and the whole of Albania.

There, Italy interned in 1920 over 1,200 inhabitants of Valona. Italy made this island her own, and squandered millions to turn it into an important blockhouse in the Adriatic. Last October, the XIIth Brigade entered Saseno, and hoisted the flag of new Albania. This is where our partisans now are, and the history of Saseno and Valona is now beginning a new period.

Valona without Saseno is like a man without lungs. Our heart swells with joy when we see little crafts coming from Saseno to the harbour of Valona, unloading the partisans who mount guard. With Saseno, Valona becomes complete, as nature requires, as our forefathers demand.

'BASHKIMI' : 7 August 1945

Article by Pietro Marko

trans. e/c

SEE FILE 12

3247



MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

Roma, 11 18 AGO 1945

Caro Ammiraglio,

in relazione alle voci circa l'occupazione dell'isolotto di Saseno da parte di partigiani albanesi, mi pregio informarla che, secondo quanto ha testè riferito il Console Generale Turcato, rappresentante ufficioso italiano in Tirana, l'isolotto è stato effettivamente occupato da reparti di una brigata albanese.-

Lo stesso Console Generale Turcato ha informato che la Missione Militare Britannica in Tirana avrebbe protestato presso il Governo albanese facendo rilevare che Saseno è "territorio italiano", e che a tale protesta il Governo albanese avrebbe risposto indirettamente con l'articolo, di cui accludo copia, apparso sul giornale "Bashkimi" del 7 c.m.-

La prego di voler gradire, caro Ammiraglio, gli atti della mia più distinta considerazione.-

Ammiraglio
Hellery W. Stone U.S.N.R.
Capo della Commissione Alleata

R O M A

R. Turcato

3240

1936

785017

ANCHE SASENO

Valona ora possiede anche Saseno, Saseno d'Albania. Questa isola, che è la sentinella del porto di Valona e la chiave dell'Adriatico, venne rapita, ingiustamente, dagli imperialisti italiani nel 1916. Fino a quell'epoca veniva utilizzata per il pascolo invernale del bestiame. Dopo l'Italia la fortificò molto bene e fece una base allo scopo di rapire anche Valona e l'Albania intera.-

Colà l'Italia internò nel 1920 più di 1.200 valonesi. Quest'isola, l'Italia la fece propria, e spreco dei milioni per renderla un importante fortino per l'Adriatico. Nello scorso ottobre entrò a Saseno la XII Brigata, ed issò la bandiera della nuova Albania. Là ora si trovano i nostri partigiani, e così la storia di Saseno e di Valona, inizia un'altra epoca.-

Valona senza Saseno è come l'uomo senza polmoni. Il cuore si gonfia di grande gioia quando si vedono arrivare da Saseno di Valona, nel porto, i piccoli bastimenti, scaricando i partigiani che cambiano la guardia. Con Saseno, Valona diviene completa, così come vuole la natura, così come la tramandarono i nostri antenati.-

"BASHKIMI" : 7 Agosto 1945.-

Articolo di Pietro Marko.-

3240

6532
TO *Evlon.*
6

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

HFP/RS

15 August 45.

AUG 18 1945

16 AUG 1945

SUBJECT : Activities of Albanian Forces.

TO : HQ Allied Commission, APO 394. *4*

Reference your 6502/86/EG of 9 August 45.

1. Delay in replying is regretted, but a report from ~~FROM~~ Albania giving information regarding the occupation of SASENO appears to have been mislaid in transit and has not yet been received at this HQ. Enquiries are in hand.

2. Meanwhile an article which appeared in the official Albanian newspaper BASHKIMI on 7 August (written by the editor) may be of interest. This article states :-

"Valona has now got its Saseno, the Saseno of Albania. Saseno, this island which is the guardian of Valona harbour and the key of the Adriatic, was unjustly grabbed by the Italian imperialists in 1916.

"Italy strongly fortified it and turned it into a base so as to grab Valona and Albania too. Italy made her own this island of ours and spent millions to make this an important fortification for the Adriatic.

" In October last the 12th Brigade entered Saseno and there raised the flag of Free Albania. Our Partisans are there now and thus the history of Saseno, which is the history of Valona, begins the chapter.

"Valona without Saseno was like a man without lungs. It makes one happy to see the small boats coming from the Saseno of Valona unloading Partisans who relieve the guard. Valona becomes complete with Saseno just like nature made it, just as the ancients left it."

3. A report dated 8 August 45 has been received from American intelligence sources stating that 400 men of the 17th Albanian Brigade recently landed on the island as reinforcements. This may be the explanation of the statement by the

(CART ARNOLD)

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Italian officer at Valona that the island had been occupied on 22 July 45.

4. Any further information on this subject will be forwarded to you when received at this Hq.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

H. F. Perkins Maj

H. F. PERKINS,
Major,
Balkans Section.

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Ref: 6502/86/20.

9 August 1945.

SUBJECT: Activities of Albanian Forces.

TO : AMB
Attn G-2 Section.

1. Reference AMB dispatch PA-30713 of 1 August 45 which states that Albanian forces, estimated as a complete brigade by Italian officer Baloni, have occupied the Italian island of Sardinia on 22 July 45.
2. The Chief Commissioner understands that you have cabled the British Military Mission in ALBANIA to ask them to confirm or deny this report, and would be grateful if you would kindly let him know the result of the enquiry.

For the Chief Commissioner:

E. TALBOT

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: AMB
Attn G-5 Section.

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7 August 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR FILES:

7 AUG 1945

AFHQ dispatch FX-30713 of 1 August 1945 states that Albanian forces, estimated as a complete brigade by Italian officer BALONA, have occupied the Italian island of SASENO on 22 July 1945.

G-2 has cabled the British Military Mission in Albania to approach the Albanian General Staff to ask them to confirm or deny this report.

ELERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Executive Commissioner - We should follow this up because it may be another case of postwar aggression. *E.W.S.*

US Political Advisor
BR Political Advisor

SECRET

