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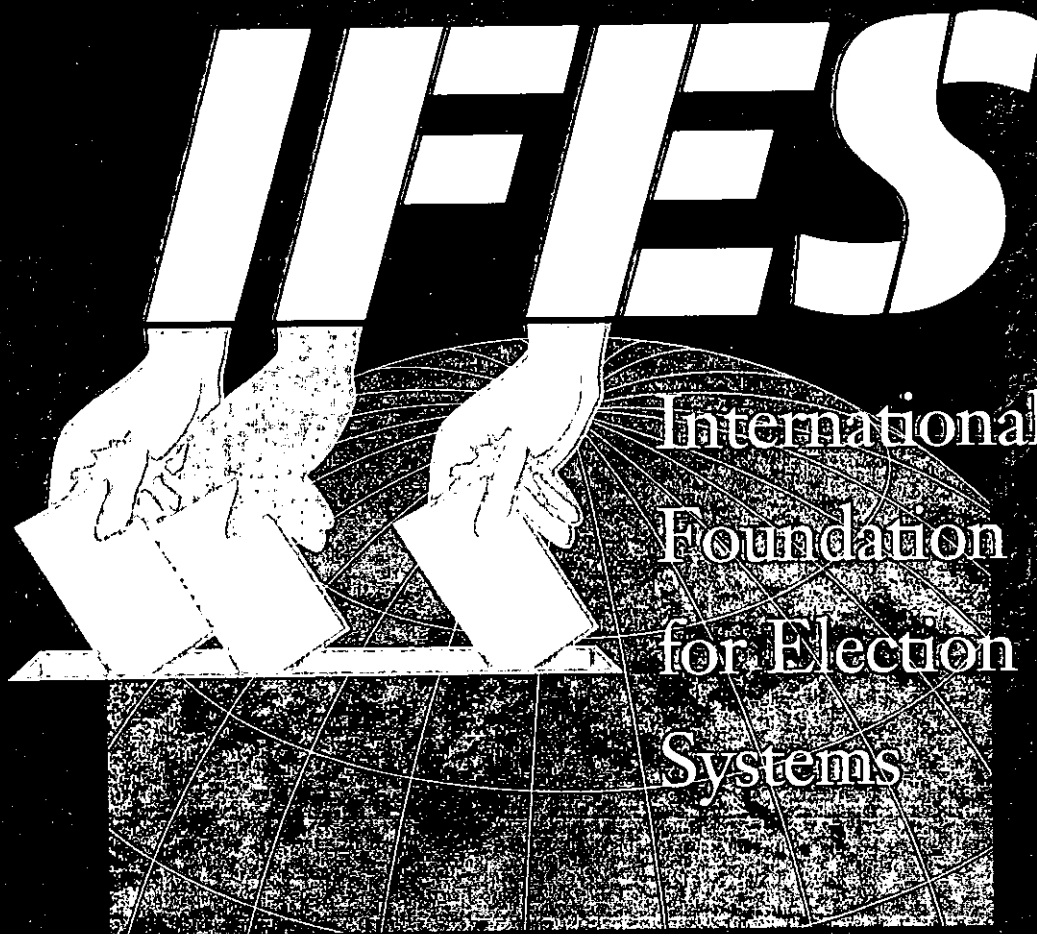
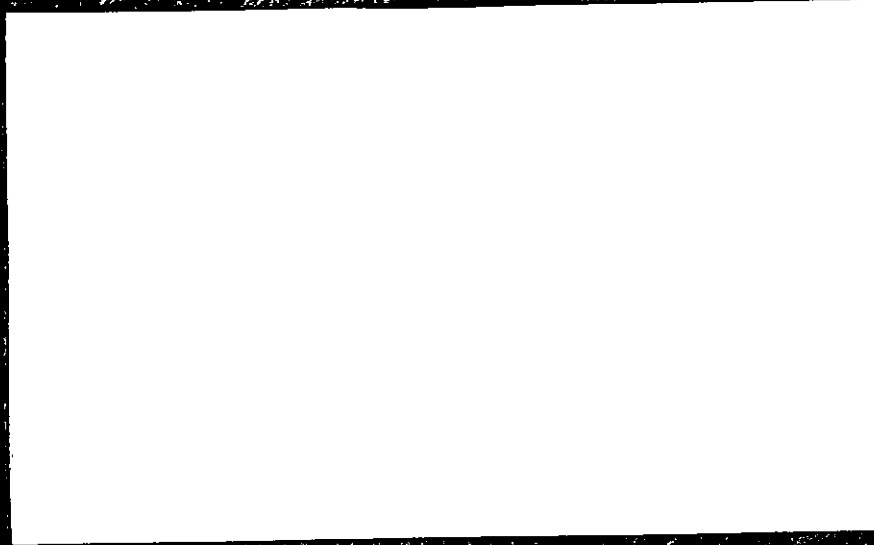
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International
Foundation
for Election
Systems



**IFES Observer Coordination
to the
OSCE Albanian Election
Observation Mission
June - July 1997**

Prepared by

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Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
SELECTION OF IFES AS CONTRACTOR	3
RECRUITMENT PROCESS	3
SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES	4
BRIEFING MATERIALS	5
PRE-ARRIVAL PREPARATIONS	5
ARRIVAL IN ALBANIA	5
OSCE REGISTRATION	6
TIRANA ACCOMMODATIONS	6
LOGISTICS AND COORDINATION	6
BRIEFINGS	7
DEPLOYMENT	8
MILITARY/SECURITY PROTECTION	9
ARRIVAL IN DEPLOYMENT AREA	10
ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE DEPLOYMENT AREA	10
ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES	11
POST-ELECTION DEBRIEFINGS	12
RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES	14
CONCLUSION	15

APPENDICES

- A. IFES-DEVELOPED OBSERVER TRAINING MANUAL
- B. DEPLOYMENT LISTS
- C. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES-AGENDAS
- D. OSCE WELCOME PACKET
- E. OSCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEPLOYMENTS
- F. OSCE MANAGEMENT FLOW CHART
- G. OBSERVATION REPORT FORM
- H. MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE INFORMATION
- I. OSCE-ODIHR ELECTION DOCUMENTS
- J. OSCE-ODIHR FINAL OBSERVATION REPORT
- K. RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND OTHER FORMS
- L. PHOTOGRAPHS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On June 6, 1997, the U.S. Department of State selected the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) to recruit, instruct, transport and coordinate one hundred qualified Americans who would join four hundred additional delegates from thirty-two other countries to serve as election observers, sponsored by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), for the parliamentary election held in Albania on June 29 and July 6, 1997. This task was completed very successfully and in a remarkably short period of time.

From 1945 until the collapse of communism in 1991, Albania had one of the most repressive governments on the face of the earth. The nearly total isolation of the country, especially toward the end of the communist regime, helped make Albania the poorest nation on the European continent.

During the post-Communist period in Albania, several elections were held to allow citizens the opportunity to determine their leaders in a free and fair manner. The first was conducted in 1991. Since that time, there have been several national and local elections, all of which have had relative degrees of technical success.

Various international organizations, especially the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, have played a role in assisting and monitoring the election process in Albania during this period. The parliamentary elections conducted in May 1996 were widely viewed as being seriously flawed and were not deemed as particularly free and fair by the OSCE and other groups.

In early 1997, the collapse of several pyramid investment schemes led to mass riots and demonstrations. Over 1500 Albanians lost their lives in the subsequent violence and anarchy which reigned in early March. Nearly every household in Albania became armed during the crisis. Only through intervention by the international community was some semblance of order restored. Under pressure from the world community, the Albanian government formed a coalition governing body and, on March 27, reached an agreement with the OSCE to hold new parliamentary elections on June 29. The OSCE, along with the Council of Europe and other international organizations, agreed to provide advice and assistance to Albania in the areas of democratization, the media, human rights, election preparation, and monitoring.

Since 1991, the International Foundation for Election Systems has played a significant role in assessing and improving the electoral process in Albania. IFES has assisted the procurement and delivery of election commodities; has conducted pre-election assessments; and has provided numerous technical recommendations for electoral law and procedural improvements in Albania. In 1997, IFES supplied the OSCE with international election experts to assist in the conduct of the Albanian parliamentary election.

Because of its international election expertise and previous experience in Albania, IFES was able to complete this mission with tremendous success under some of the most trying of circumstances.

The U.S. observer delegation was by far the most prepared, the most organized, and the most diverse. The U.S. team contributed significantly to the overall OSCE observer mission and to the final OSCE report which deemed the elections to be "acceptable given the prevailing circumstances" and that the process should "constitute the foundation for a strong, democratic system that Albanians want and deserve."

SELECTION OF IFES AS CONTRACTOR

On June 6, 1997, the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) was contracted by the United States Department of State to recruit, brief, transport, and coordinate one hundred Americans who would be sent to Albania to serve as Short Term Observers (STOs) for the parliamentary elections which were held on June 29 and the runoff election conducted on July 6. The one hundred Americans were to join with four hundred additional observers sent by members of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). IFES was selected based on its extensive experience in elections and election monitoring and its particular expertise in Albania.

IFES appointed a coordinator for the project who has extensive international election monitoring experience and service in Albania. The coordinator was the contact person for those who were interested in serving as observers; he managed the day-to-day operation of the mission in Albania. IFES also employed a training and election law specialist who developed briefing materials and instructions for the observer delegation and who also provided assistance in Albania (Appendix A). Logistical support was supplied by a senior IFES consultant prior to departure and on the ground in Albania. In addition, IFES provided direct staff support during all phases of the mission. Several experienced IFES staff members served as STOs and played leadership roles for the U.S. observer delegation, particularly in the deployment areas.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Using its strong database of election specialists and others involved in the electoral process, along with names supplied by the U.S. State Department, IFES immediately contacted hundreds of professionals throughout the United States to determine their availability for the mission. The pool of names included those with experience in international and domestic election observation, election administration, civic and political organizing, and political science and/or regional studies. In its recruitment letter and in responding to hundreds of inquiries, IFES informed the potential observers that the mission had an element of danger to it, that delegates would be deployed to areas where living conditions would be below western standards, and that they would have to sign liability waivers and participate in this mission at their own risk.

Those interested in serving as observers were required to return a comprehensive information data sheet to IFES by June 12. Then, senior IFES staff rated each applicant based on background and

expertise. Those individuals with extensive election experience, particularly overseas election monitoring experience, received the highest rating.

SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

After all names of those interested in serving as STOs were prioritized based on the rating they received, one hundred applications were selected. Subsequently, the State Department determined that, for security reasons, the U.S. observer group would be divided into two waves; one for the June 29 election and one for the July 6 runoff. Sixty-two people were randomly selected from the one hundred for the first wave and the other thirty-eight became the second wave. An alternate list was developed to fill in spots as applicants declined due to unforeseen circumstances.

Those selected were notified by letter, fax, and telephone. IFES immediately began to make the necessary travel arrangements including overnight stays in Europe, where needed. Because many flights were booked due to the normally high summer international travel season, the first wave delegation arrived over a three-day period in Tirana.

BRIEFING MATERIALS

With the assistance of international and Albanian election experts, IFES developed an extensive briefing book and instructive material which was distributed to all observers prior to their departure from the United States (Appendix A). Briefing materials included travel information, historical, cultural and current data on Albania, the election law, the constitutional law, a guide for observers including a detailed explanation of the election law, voting procedures, the rights and responsibilities of observers, and recent articles regarding the election.

In addition to more traditional methods of sharing information and briefing potential observers on their important role, IFES used the World Wide Web as a tool to explain the international community's activities in Albania and how IFES was involved in supporting this important capacity. IFES installed a direct link from its homepage (www.ifes.org) which allowed Internet users access to the following text:

AMERICAN OBSERVATION DELEGATION

On 5 June, IFES was contacted by the Department of State requesting that IFES select and deploy 100 American election observers to Albania prior to the parliamentary elections and the referendum on form of government, both scheduled on 29 June. On 6 July, a second round may take place in select localities that require additional runoff elections. This mission consists of two phases (or waves) including 62 short-term observers (STOs) for the first

round (29 June) and 38 STOs for runoff elections scheduled on 6 July. In Albania, the Americans will join other international observers as they participate in briefings led by the OSCE. The American observers have become part of the larger OSCE Observation Mission once arriving to assure that a single OSCE observation report after election day is released.

The Importance of Observation

IFES believes that an international observer presence during the elections, the first following controversial elections in 1996, will prove key in showing American resolve that these elections be as free and fair as possible under very difficult circumstances. The American Observation Delegation (organized by IFES) is adding to the understanding of the election process by preparing a set of election guidelines which have been delivered to all IFES-selected observers which will assist these individuals so they are better able to judge the freedom and fairness of these elections, and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the electoral process. Preparation of pre-departure instructive material for the IFES delegation outlines the following: the Election Law (linked above), an IFES-prepared "rights and responsibilities of observers" (linked above), the Memorandum of Understanding (linked above) between the OSCE and the Government of Albania as it applies to this observation, specific observation targets based on potential inadequacies in the Election Law, and appropriate country-specific background.

Who Was Selected?

IFES recruited the 100-person American delegation assuring that each member exhibited skills and experience in election observation, election administration, civic and political organizing, and/or regional and language exposure. The American Delegation to the OSCE Observation Mission includes people from as many as 25 States including:

Arkansas	Connecticut	Oregon
Rhode Island	Ohio	Virginia
Maryland	Iowa	Minnesota
Texas	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania
Montana	New York	Kansas
South Dakota	Oregon	Wisconsin
Colorado	Florida	Missouri
South Carolina	California	Illinois
Oklahoma	District of Columbia	

PREVIOUS IFES ACTIVITY IN ALBANIA

General Technical and Commodity Assistance - 1991-1992

IFES worked in Albania from late 1991 until the election period in early 1992 when Albania held its first post-Communist elections. This IFES mission included technical and commodity assistance aimed at enhancing the technical capability of the Albanian Election Commission.

Pre-Election Technical Assessment - Spring 1996

In early March 1996, IFES sent a two-person team to Albania tasked with preparing a comprehensive Pre-Election Technical Assessment as Albania prepared for May 1996 parliamentary elections. IFES was not afforded the opportunity to send technical assistance in support of these elections based on a number of key findings outlined in the assessment report. Insufficient skills, training, ballot security, and other inadequacies were cited as problems with the Parliamentary Elections of 1996 and these inadequacies set the stage for a negative international assessment.

On-Site Technical Advisors - Fall 1996

Less than one month prior to the October 20, 1996 Municipal Elections, IFES was asked by USAID and the U.S. Embassy in Tirana to send a two-person advisory team to Albania to assess the Albanian Election Commission's capabilities as it administered the October 20 elections and subsequent October 27 run-offs. The short-term, two-person team focused on assisting the Central Election Commission's administrative capabilities, its coordination and responsiveness on Election Day, and its ability to properly administer run-off elections held one week later. The two IFES election specialists provided a clear assessment of election procedures and, within the very limited timeframe available, provided relevant experience to address the many questions of Commissioners. As a result of their observations of the election process, the team issued a series of recommendations that can serve as the basis for the further enhancement of the process in Albania.

In addition to the aforementioned text, the IFES Website (<http://www.ifes.org/albania/index.htm>) included direct links to the following documents, reports, and official material:

OSCE-ODIHR Memorandum of Understanding, May 9, 1997 Agreement with the Government of Albania, Political Parties Information (IFES-CNN International Website), Albanian CEC Membership, IFES Guidelines for International Observers (Albania), IFES March 1996 Assessment Report, and IFES October 1996 Assistance Report.

PRE-ARRIVAL PREPARATIONS

Prior to the arrival of the observers in Albania, IFES staff was in communication with the OSCE, Department of State, and the U.S. Embassy in Albania to help facilitate transportation, accommodation, and security measures for the U.S. contingent. The mission coordinator arrived in Tirana a few days prior to the observers to finalize arrangements and make necessary contact with OSCE and U.S. Embassy personnel. Upon arrival, the coordinator attended a rather contentious briefing session which was held for Long Term Observers (LTOs) and Regional Technical Advisors (RTAs). The session focused on security issues and the field schedule for observers. The IFES coordinator developed and distributed to OSCE/embassy personnel a daily arrival schedule for the U.S. delegation. This arrangement proved very helpful to facilitate in-country transportation, accommodations, and security.

ARRIVAL IN ALBANIA

The first wave of the U.S. delegation arrived in Tirana on June 23-25 with most (45) arriving on the 24th. All members of the second wave arrived on July 3. The STOs were greeted at deplaning by the IFES mission coordinator and then immediately directed to the OSCE desk at the airport where they were checked off the arrival list. Observers were given preliminary information by OSCE personnel and assisted in going through customs. The mission coordinator escorted delegates through luggage control and handled lost luggage issues. During the forty-five minute ride to the OSCE registration area, observers were briefed on logistics, their schedule, and security issues, including the necessity to observe the strict 22:00 - 5:00 curfew in Albania.

OSCE REGISTRATION

The OSCE established an observer processing point in downtown Tirana. There, STOs completed registration forms, had their photo identification completed and were given briefing materials. Those documents included the election day observer check-off lists, a OSCE handbook regarding observer rights and responsibilities, and background information regarding Albania. Delegates were also given OSCE identification paraphernalia such as T-shirts and caps. Observers were greeted by a U.S. Embassy representative and were asked to complete embassy registration forms.

TIRANA ACCOMMODATIONS

Lodging for the observers during their stay in Tirana was determined by the U.S. Embassy/Albania. The Chateau Linza, a relatively new and secure motel development about 15 miles north of downtown Tirana, served as home for the delegation while in Tirana. Troops from the Austrian multinational (FMP) military command also stayed at the Linza which provided additional security protection.

LOGISTICS AND COORDINATION

Transporting, feeding, and briefing the large number of delegates while keeping security measures in the forefront was a formidable task for IFES staff. Working with a U.S. Embassy liaison and hotel management, IFES staff helped facilitate the stay of the observers which included making room assignments to keep motel costs to a minimum (and for security reasons). IFES coordinated logistics such as wake up calls and eating schedules, and obtained locations for observer briefings. In addition, the IFES mission coordinator maintained contact with top OSCE staff to facilitate transportation, deployment, and security arrangements for the U.S. delegation. Other problems IFES staff had to manage included such issues as lost luggage; missing OSCE identification badges; arranging alternative transportation when OSCE buses failed to show; and providing supplemental election briefing materials so that observers would be up-to-date on latest developments/changes in election procedures. The presence of a strong coordination team proved to be extremely helpful to the delegation, the OSCE, and the goals of the mission. These measures resulted in the U.S. delegation being the best prepared, the most informed, and the most secured of all 500 OSCE delegates present for the election.

BRIEFINGS

To insure the maximum efficiency and security, many major and minor briefings were held by IFES staff for the observers during the course of their stay in Albania. The first briefing for delegates was held during their trip from the airport to Tirana and the last on their way back. In addition, administrative briefings were held each night during the group dinner. Observers were given a written schedule of events and other documents so that they were fully aware of what was expected from them, and when. Official briefings from IFES and OSCE were conducted prior to the deployment of the STOs to the field.

IFES briefing: After all U.S. delegates had arrived, IFES conducted a detailed ninety-minute briefing regarding security and election issues. Speakers included top security experts from the U.S. Embassy, an IFES election specialist, OSCE personnel, and IFES technical staff who assisted in logistics and mission coordination. Delegates were kept current and given written documents which included updates regarding the election process, U.S. embassy emergency telephone numbers, and an updated schedule of events. A question and answer session followed.

OSCE briefing: All five hundred OSCE observers—including the U.S. contingent-- attended a lengthy five-hour briefing in downtown Tirana the day before their scheduled deployment. OSCE personnel described policies, logistics, security, deployment, and election day issues. IFES staff participated in a demonstration of polling station activities. Representatives from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) presented information regarding the political parties involved in the election. Upon completion of the briefing program, delegates were given their deployment assignments by written postings found in a hallway outside of the main briefing

location. In addition, under confusing circumstances, some STOs had the opportunity to meet their partner, driver, and translator.

Prior to the elections, about one-half of the U.S. delegation had the opportunity to visit the national headquarters of the Society for Democratic Culture (SDC) in downtown Tirana. The SDC, which was a non-governmental organization sponsored by NDI, briefed the delegates regarding the hundreds of domestic election observers which they had trained and planned to have at the polling stations. In addition, the delegation was given a sample of the election poster and other promotional material which the SDC prepared for the election.

DEPLOYMENT

The U.S. observer delegation was deployed to all areas of Albania, with over 90% sent to areas outside of the capital city of Tirana. The OSCE assigned a team code which identified the area of deployment and a team number. For example, the observer assigned to KO10 was deployed to the area in and around the southeastern Albanian city of Korce. Once in Korce, the team was to visit the polling station in area "10" which had been predetermined by the on-site Long Term Observer.

In the first wave, U.S. observers were paired at random with a person from another country. Each team was assigned a translator and driver. In most situations outside of Tirana, observers had a military driver and/or escort, and a radio for emergency communication with their military escorts or OSCE headquarters. It should be noted that contrary to what was promised at the OSCE briefings, Tirana observers did not have military escorts or radio communication devices for the June 29th election. In the second round of voting on July 6, most U.S. observers were teamed with other Americans. In addition, all thirty-eight observers had military escorts or radio communication devices, including those deployed to the Tirana area.

The deployment of the observers for the first wave took place from 6:00 -12:00 on Friday, June 27 on a main street in downtown Tirana. At times, there was much confusion and miscommunications at the deployment site. Some of the problems were due to the reluctance of some military forces to travel to problem areas of Albania, mainly in the south. In addition, logistical snafus such as drivers and translators not reporting on time (or not at all) delayed the deployment of some of the teams. In addition, due to the delay, the lack of adequate lavatory facilities (especially for women) complicated the situation. However, once the final group departed Tirana for their destination, the trip to the deployed area was uneventful.

Deployment for the second round of voting took place on July 4 and 5 and had few problems. The American delegation was sent out on the 5th. By 7:15 all had been deployed.

MILITARY/SECURITY PROTECTION

The security and protection of all STOs was of utmost importance during the mission. Observers were generally transported in groups and all events held outside the hotel were conducted during the day to minimize risks. Most STOs who traveled outside of Tirana received general security protection and support from the Multinational Protection Force who were present throughout Albania (known as the FMP). Observers reported that the FMP troops provided great protection and assistance during the observation phase of the mission (Appendix H). Delegates were treated with great respect and were generally well fed and accommodated by the troops and their leaders. In addition to the multinational forces, the Albanian police and military forces were present at some polling stations on election day. They also were present in the streets and appeared to be very supportive of the mission and its objectives.

ARRIVAL IN DEPLOYMENT AREA

Observers were met in their deployment city by one or more OSCE Long Term Observers or Regional Technical Advisors. The LTOs gave the STOs a briefing, maps, and polling place locations (although we were told that this was not consistent in each deployment area). In addition, at some of the deployment sites, observers were given a briefing by FMP commanders on security and transportation issues.

Most of the observers had the opportunity to visit polling stations and Zonal Election Commissions (ZEC) prior to election day. Some met with candidates, political party representatives and local officials. Some delegates stayed in cities while others traveled a substantial distance to rural villages to view voting activities. A significant number of STOs reported that there was some confusion and miscommunication given by some of the LTOs. Those problems included the fact that more STOs showed up in a given area than what the LTOs were told. This caused logistical problems such as a lack of hotel rooms and the need to revamp the polling place assignments.

ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE DEPLOYMENT AREA

During the time they were deployed outside of Tirana, STOs slept in tents, buildings turned into barracks, a docked Italian military ship, and poor to modest hotels. Nearly every overnight accommodation had some form of FMP military protection. In a few locations, the LTOs and hotels were not prepared for the number of observers who arrived. This resulted in problems securing rooms. In some locations, observers had to share already crowded rooms. Another problem which occurred was a misunderstanding between the OSCE and the U.S. Embassy regarding room payment. While in the field, most STOs were fed military rations by the FMP forces while a few had the luxury of eating at a restaurant.

ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES

During the first election on June 29 and the runoff on July 6, STOs visited an average of 5-10 polling stations during the day. It is estimated that the U.S. delegation alone visited over 800 different polling stations during the course of their mission. Observers reported that while every attempt was made to visit every polling station assigned to their team, due to road and security conditions visits to some polling stations were simply impossible.

STOs positioned themselves at a polling station beginning at 6:00 so that they could watch the Polling Station Commissioners (PSC) set up for the election. Delegates watched the signing of the ballots, the sealing of the ballot box, and other preparations. As polling started at 7:00, observers watched voters arrive, get checked by a black light device to prevent duplicate voting, sign on the voter list, receive their ballot, cast their ballot, place it in the ballot box, and have their left thumb sprayed for voting identification.

Observers completed an extensive OSCE survey for each polling place they visited. During the day, most observers submitted completed OSCE surveys to LTOs so that their observations could be recorded and analyzed by OSCE officials in a timely manner (Appendix G). After the polls closed at 18:00, most observers watched the tabulating procedures, usually at the same polling station they visited during the opening of the polls. Most STOs who observed the tabulation were given a copy of the protocol from the PSC. After counting was completed, many STOs followed the PSC to the ZECs that evening or the next day to witness the delivering/receiving of the ballots and materials.

POST-ELECTION DEBRIEFINGS

STOs were given the opportunity to comment to OSCE and IFES representatives regarding their opinion of the polling activities. For the most part, comments from delegates paralleled the official statement issued by the OSCE after the elections (Appendix J). In addition to discussing election day activities, many in the U.S. delegation, especially the election officials, made suggestions regarding improvements which could be made to the process.

OSCE debriefings. Most delegates were debriefed in the field by their LTOs the morning after the election. Completed polling place surveys were given to LTOs and subsequently shared with OSCE headquarters in Tirana. LTOs also provided verbal briefings to OSCE officials. In addition to their debriefing in the field, observers for the July 6 runoff election attended but did not speak at a general debriefing of all OSCE observers.

IFES debriefings. After their return to Tirana, U.S. observers participated in a debriefing organized by IFES. Observers reported on the election process, the political situation in the area they visited, and on security issues. In addition, IFES informally polled delegates to quantify

general information such as the number of polling stations they visited, whether they witnessed inappropriate procedures, election fraud, and other problems.

RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Observers left for the United States the day after their debriefing sessions. The first wave departed on July 2 and 3 while the second wave left Albania on July 8. IFES staff assisted them at the airport and facilitated their departure by making arrangements to have the airport departure tax waived. IFES sent appropriate letters of appreciation to the OSCE, embassy, motel, and others involved in the mission. IFES also collected photographs (Appendix L) and other documents which will be kept on file at the F. Clifton White Resource Center.

CONCLUSION

It can be clearly stated that without the assistance of the OSCE and the presence of the 500 observers for this election, the people of Albania would not have had the opportunity to choose their leaders through the ballot box. Indeed, if the technical assistance and monitoring had not been in place for this election, then the election would have been a disaster and the country would have been thrown into more chaos and violence.

The success of this election sent a powerful and positive message to Albania and to the region. It is important that the momentum gained in this election be continued. While deemed adequate by the OSCE, the election process was far from perfect. Indeed, there is much assistance which is needed in the area of voter and civic education, election law reform, election preparation and procedures, to name a few.

The Albanian people would welcome election assistance. Each one of our American observers reported that they were greeted enthusiastically by poll workers, officials and average citizens throughout the country. If Albania is ever to become a stable democracy and have the opportunity to improve the lives of its people, it must first receive the appropriate assistance it needs to improve the democratization process.

This mission did have its flaws. There were numerous logistical and organizational problems which will need to be addressed by the OSCE prior to future missions of this nature. Additional time would have allowed IFES to recruit more internationally-experienced election experts. However, considering the short timeframe given to organize the mission and the dangerous conditions which existed in the country, the U.S. delegation received wide praise for its work; the election itself was deemed adequate and, most importantly, not one of the 500 observers was injured. For this the OSCE, IFES, and the observer delegations should be applauded.

APPENDIX A

IFES-DEVELOPED BRIEFING BOOK



IFES *International Foundation for Election Systems*

1101 15th STREET, N.W. • THIRD FLOOR • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 • (202) 828-8507 • FAX (202) 452-0804

United States Observer Mission to Albania

Parliamentary Election

June 29, 1997

BRIEFING BOOK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Welcome
Part 1	Fact Sheet
Part 2	Albania Information
Part 4	Observer Guide
Part 5	Articles





International Foundation for Election Systems

1101 15th STREET, N.W. • THIRD FLOOR • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 • (202) 828-8507 • FAX (202) 452-0804

June 19, 1997

Dear Albania Election Observer:

On behalf of the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), I would like to thank you for agreeing to serve as a member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Albanian Election Observation Team. IFES is honored to have been assigned the task by the U.S. Department of State to assemble the U.S. contingent of the OSCE Albania Observation Mission.

Your participation is greatly appreciated. As you are aware, Albania has been a country that has suffered under the boot of one of the most repressive communist regimes in this century. Since the collapse of the dictatorship, the country has experienced a very tenuous transition to democracy. In March of this year, the entire country erupted into several weeks of nationwide rioting that was triggered by the collapse of a pyramid scheme in which countless Albanians lost their life savings.

We are hopeful that these pending elections will lead to a re-establishment of democracy and the stabilization needed to allow Albania to develop economically. Your participation in this important and difficult mission is most appreciated and will help to send a vital message to the Albanian people that the democratic countries that comprise the OSCE fully support them in their desire to establish a strong and functioning democratic system.

This will be a arduous mission. You are advised to read carefully your briefing materials and prepare in advance for the difficult conditions that you will encounter. Accommodations will be minimal and so you should be prepared for this in advance. Also, it is very important that you carefully review the paper on the role of election observers. **You must at all times be conscious that you are an observer. It is not our role to intervene or interfere with the process.** We have received assurance that all possible precautions regarding security and safety for the mission will be taken. Nevertheless, each of you should exercise extreme caution at all times and if you see a dangerous situation developing, please leave the area immediately.

On behalf of IFES and the OSCE, I want to thank you for your contribution to helping support the democratic process in Albania.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Soudriette
President

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U.S. Election Observation Mission To Albania

Executive Summary

The United States of America is sending a sixty-two member mission to observe the June 29, 1997 parliamentary election in Albania at the request of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Once in Albania, the U.S. observer team will join hundreds of delegates from throughout the world and, working under the guidance and direction of the OSCE, will assess the close of the campaign, election day and the vote count.

The June 29 election was called by Albanian President Sali Berisha and the parliament—under intense pressure by the world community—after political turmoil and violence erupted this spring when many Albanians lost significant funds in a failed pyramid investment scheme. The last parliamentary election, which was just held in May, 1996, was marred by charges of fraud and mismanagement.

The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) was asked by the United States Department of State to assemble and facilitate the transport of the U.S. Observation Team for this election. Utilizing its extensive background and network in elections, IFES recruited a team which includes individuals with solid professional credentials and expertise. The delegation has a strong contingent of experienced election administrators. IFES has provided the U.S. Observation Team with extensive technical information regarding the Albanian election situation and with trip and travel information.

U.S. observers will convene in Tirana, Albania, on June 25 to participate in briefing sessions sponsored by IFES and the OSCE. Shortly thereafter, all delegates will be deployed by the OSCE to the various regions of the country to observe pre-election activities. On election day, observers will visit several polling stations and observe the balloting and counting first-hand in a fair and objective manner. Post election, delegates will participate in debriefing sessions and then return to the United States.

Since its founding in 1987, the International Foundation for Election Systems has provided consultative assistance and technical support to electoral and democratic institutions in emerging, evolving and established democracies representing over 90

) countries of the world. Since the overthrow of the communist regime in 1991, IFES has been involved in Albania several times providing technical assessments and support for elections conducted in this impoverished and troubled nation.

In May of 1997, IFES was asked by the OSCE Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODHIR) to provide on-site technical assistance for the OSCE Mission to Albania in preparation for the Parliamentary Elections scheduled for June 29, 1997. This team has worked hard—under very difficult conditions—to help give the people of Albania the opportunity to choose their leaders in a free and fair manner.

This observer delegation is one of the largest ever sent by the United States government to a foreign nation to observe an election. The need for such an effort is clear. Since the controversial parliamentary election in May of 1996, Albania has gone through a very difficult period marked by political instability, violence, anarchy and poverty. A multinational peace-keeping force has helped stabilize the country and has provided a reasonably safe environment for this election. This observation mission is designed to help move Albania forward towards that next step of peaceful self-determination.

A recent communique issued by the international diplomatic corps stated the true importance of this effort to the people of Albania:

) *"These parliamentary elections on June 29 are a crucial element to build up confidence among the population, reinforce the institutions of the state, confirm the adherence of the country to democratic principles and create the conditions for a gradual return to normality."*



Albania Election Observer FACT SHEET

Before Your Departure:

Please check your ticket carefully for departure times. Prior to your departure, you MUST call Globe Travel at 1-800/366-2100 because there is a slight chance that the observer mission will be postponed at the last minute. Globe will have the latest information for you. If you are going to make any changes in your departure time from the US, and if it affects your arrival in Tirana, please make sure you also contact ALEXANDER KNAPP at IFES 1-202/828-8507, OPTION "5" and give him your new flight information. This is critical because you will be met at the Tirana airport and taken to the prearranged lodging.

Arrival in Tirana:

You will be met at the airport by one of the IFES coordinators or OSCE representative. They will be holding a sign which will indicate they are waiting for the US mission members. At this point, you will proceed through a checkpoint where you will be given your credentials/badge. Please have your two passport photos readily available for this process. Transportation will be provided to the assigned accommodations in Tirana (our delegation will be staying at Chateau Linsell), where you will spend at least one night. Please do not leave the airport on your own. If you do, we cannot be responsible for your safety.

Security During the Observation Mission:

The U. S. Contingent of observers will be under three levels of security:

Direct: OSCE and the Multi-national Protection Force (MPF) have established arrangements for OSCE observer teams to be provided military escort while in the field. MPF soldiers have radio communication which will be supplemented by OSCE radio units as needed. In the event of a medical or other emergency, MPF and OSCE have a range of contingency plans ranging from reinforcement of observer teams to individual medical evacuation.

Indirect: The U.S. Embassy in Tirana has been forwarded a list of all U.S. participants and will provide emergency services to observers as well, including emergency medical treatment or, if necessary, full country-wide evacuation. The Embassy will be tracking all observers through their time in Albania.

IFES Provided: All IFES-recruited observers are covered with an additional level of Medical Evacuation Insurance (MEDEX) which provides a variety of services ranging from management emergency medical evacuation, treatment and repatriation, to emergency message transfer service (details provided with the MEDEX card in your packet).

Emergency Number:

In case your family needs to contact you while you are in Albania, please have them call the IFES main number: 1-202/828-8507. IFES will have a 24-hour duty officer to take all calls and relay them to us in Albania. When you reach the IFES main number, there will be a special recording for Albania observers, with instructions to press "Option 5"; then you will reach the emergency contact person (Alexander Knapp).

Travel Grants:

Upon arrival in Tirana, each observer will receive a travel grant in US\$ for expenses. The travel grants are calculated based on a rate of \$48/day for meals and incidentals in Albania, \$80 for meals and incidentals in transit, and \$75 for transportation costs. No paperwork needs to be submitted to IFES justifying expenses.

In the Field:

Making or receiving phone calls in Albania is difficult and in many areas impossible. Many observers will be taken outside Tirana to observe the election, and will be gone for four or five days. Therefore, IFES will have special phones in Tirana to receive emergency calls and to call to the US in case of field emergencies. For contact with observers in outlying areas, the multi-national forces all have radios and communication devices which makes it possible to communicate in case of emergencies. Since all communication lines are reserved for family emergencies, please do not have business or personal calls made to IFES during your stay in Albania.

What will observers do?

The tentative schedule is as follows:

June 24/25	Arrival of U.S. Observers
June 26	Morning Briefing by OSCE in Tirana; assignments given. You will not have a choice of observation locations, as there are a total of 500 international representatives being assigned by OSCE and the government of Albania. Afternoon IFES Briefing - Chateau Linsell
June 27	Deployment to regional offices
June 28	Local Meetings
June 29	Election Day
June 30	Debriefing at the Regional Offices
July 1	Return to Tirana
July 2	Departure

What to Bring:

The following items are suggested because many observers will be deployed in areas where they will be staying in camps or tents and will not have access to running water and western-style facilities.

You will be riding in military jeeps/overland vehicles over rough terrain and exposed to the elements, so please dress accordingly. There will be no air conditioning in buildings.

- *Lightweight, cotton clothing
- *Sturdy walking shoes
- *Hat
- *First Aid Supplies (which should include antibacterial cream, alcohol swabs)
- *Bug Repellent, Flea Spray
- *Toilet paper; kleenex tissues
- *Wet wipes (for bathing); towel, wash cloth
- *Salt tablets
- *Water Chlorification tablets
- *Flash Light
- *Snack foods
- *Bottled water (This can be purchased in Tirana)
- *Xerox copy of your passport

It should be noted that this was a Muslim country, so be aware that shorts are not banned, but are certainly not for every day.

What NOT to Bring:

DO NOT bring more clothes than you absolutely need as you will have to take everything with you. No jewelry, no credit cards, no travelers checks.

Will I need Shots?

It is a good idea to have a Gamma Globulin and polio shot before your arrival; you may also want to have the DPT and typhoid shots if you have not had them in a while.

Are there risks involved?

Yes. This election is being held under tense political conditions. As you may know, Albania has gone through much turmoil during the past year. There are some elements who may not want this election to succeed. You will take this trip at your own risk, and you should check on war risk insurance with your personal insurance agent.

Will travel in country be difficult?

You will not be allowed to travel around the country on your own. You will be traveling with OSCE/military personnel in overland vehicles over rough terrain. You will be doing a lot of walking and standing on election day in very hot weather. If you think you will have a problem with excessive heat and difficult living and travel conditions, you may want to reconsider your trip.

What will the weather be like?

The weather should be pleasant to hot this time of year. Generally, highs will be in the 80s to 90s and low about 60. It will be cooler in the northern mountainous region and warmer in the south.

**International Foundation for Election Systems**

1101 15th STREET, N.W. • THIRD FLOOR • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 • (202) 828-8507 • FAX (202) 452-0804

1997 U.S. Election Observer Mission to Albania

TRIP AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

You have been selected to serve as an official observer for the June 29 parliamentary election in Albania. This information sheet is designed to answer many of the questions you may have regarding the upcoming trip. Should you have additional questions, please contact Gwenn Hofmann or Alexander Knapp as shown below. Thank you.

MISSION BACKGROUND:

The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) has been designated by the U.S. State Department as the official coordinator for the United States delegation which will be sent to Albania to observe the parliamentary election scheduled for Sunday, June 29. IFES will coordinate flight and other arrangements necessary for travel to Albania. IFES will brief election observers and develop materials for their use. In addition, IFES will be working closely with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Office of Democratic Initiatives and Human Rights (ODHIR) to facilitate local transportation, lodging and deployment for U.S. observers in Albania.

Who are the IFES Contacts for information regarding this trip?

Gwenn Hofmann and Alexander Knapp, who have worked on numerous international election projects around the globe for IFES and other organizations, will serve as the contact person for U.S. observers.

Any questions regarding this mission should be directed to Ms. Hofmann or Mr. Knapp who can be reached at the following numbers:

(202) 828-8507 office

(202) 452-0804 fax

E-mail: gwenn@ifes.org, atknapp@ifes.org

Is there anything I need to send back to IFES prior to departure?

Yes, we need for you to complete the enclosed forms which include:

1. Signed Release of Liability
2. Emergency Contact Information
3. Signed code of ethics

Please fax these items to the attention of Gwenn Hoffman at 202-452-0804 and send the originals by U.S. Mail using the enclosed envelope.

Those who do not return the form by June 16 will forfeit their opportunity to participate in

this mission. Also, for those who did not send us a copy of the first page of their passport, we will also need that by the 16th. Please fax it to Gwenn at the same fax number.

What will I need to bring for identification?

1. *Passport*
2. *Clean copy of the passport (front pages only)*
3. *Two (2) color passport photos for use on identification badges*

What will be my role as an observer?

Joining hundreds of observers from other countries, U.S. observers will be deployed to polling stations throughout the country. Generally, after a briefing in the capital city of Tirana, observers will be sent out in pairs of two along with a translator and a driver. Prior to election day, observers may meet with Albanian election officials, candidates and others involved in the election. On election day, observers are likely to visit and monitor 10-15 polling stations and complete a written checklist and report regarding the election process at each site. The basic aim of observing the election is to verify whether voting and counting is implemented in an orderly manner and in accordance with electoral procedures. Prior to departure to the United States, observers will be debriefed.

What happens if I get sick, change my mind or an emergency comes up and I cannot go?
Please notify Gwenn Hofmann or Alexander Knapp IMMEDIATELY should you become unable to participate in this mission for any reason.

Will I need shots before I go?

Here is the summary of recommendations from the Center for Disease Control regarding travel to Eastern Europe. You may want to consult your doctor before you travel:

"Travelers should (1) follow precautions to prevent insect bites, (2) pay attention to the quality of their drinking water and food, (3) have a dose of Immune Globulin (IG) or the Hepatitis A vaccine, and (4) consider booster doses of tetanus (Td) and polio (eIPV) vaccines. (5) Depending on the locations to be visited, planned activities, and health of the traveler, the following vaccines should be considered: Hepatitis B, Rabies (pre-exposure), and Typhoid. Details for these recommendations are found in this document. (6) Finally, the normal "childhood" vaccines should be up-to-date: Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR Vaccine); Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP Vaccine)."

You should be in good health for this trip. Obviously, if you should become ill prior to departure you should cancel and not participate.

What expenses will IFES pay for?

All air and ground transportation will be covered by IFES to and from and in Albania. All hotel accommodations will be also be paid for in Albania and in transit to and from Albania. You will be provided with a food allowance of \$48 per day. You will be reimbursed for any

authorized hotel and transit cost that you have incurred once you submit your expense voucher to IFES.

When will we be leaving for Albania?

Due to the difficulty to find available flights this time of year to Europe and because of the number of observers traveling to Albania, some delegates may have to leave the U.S. as early as June 22 while others may depart as late as June 23.

Will I be flying directly to Albania?

Not necessarily. Some observers may have an overnight stay in Rome, Vienna, or Frankfurt then proceed on to Tirana, Albania.

What about returning to the United States?

We anticipate that most—if not all—delegates will depart Albania on July 21 or 3. Some will arrive back in the States the same day; others may have to spend an additional transit night in Europe.

Who is making travel arrangements for this trip?

Gwenn Hoffman, an IFES Senior Advisor, has worked in election related missions throughout the world. She will be handling travel and logistical arrangements for all participants on this observation mission. Gwenn will be making all flight arrangements through Globe Travel, which is the official travel agency for IFES. Gwenn or her designee will contact you once your ticket is purchased.

When and how will I receive my airline ticket?

Most delegates will receive their airline ticket by overnight mail prior to departure. In some situations, tickets may have to be picked up at the airport on the day of departure.

What happens if I miss a flight connection and get delayed on route to Albania?

You will be receiving a briefing book prior to your departure. Information about who to contact, what to do, and who to call will be included in that book. You will also be receiving a call from an IFES staffer prior to your departure so you can discuss any concerns or questions at that time.

Is there an itinerary for this trip?

A tentative schedule for all international observers has been developed by the OSCE:

June 22-25	Arrival in Tirana, Albania
June 26	OSCE and IFES briefing for observers
June 27	Deployment to the Regional Offices
June 28	Deployment / Local meetings
June 29	Election Day / Election Observation

June 30 Debriefing in the Regional Offices
July 1 Return to Tirana / Departure from Albania
July 2 Departure from Albania

Will there be someone to meet me at the airport in Tirana?

Yes, all observers will be met by representatives of IFES and/or the OSCE. Look for people holding signs saying "IFES" or "OSCE observer" after you pass through customs.

Where will we be staying?

Hotel and sleeping accommodations will NOT be like your typical Holiday Inn. However, every attempt will be made to place observers in reasonable accommodations. Schools, hospitals, and similar buildings may be used to house the 400 or so observers who will be in Albania. All transportation will be provided, however, roads in some areas of Albania can be quite bumpy. You should feel good mentally and physically before taking this trip. This will be an experience you will never forget but one that you have to be ready for. Patience and flexibility is a must for anyone participating in this mission.

Will I receive some kind of training and briefing materials?

Yes, IFES will provide you will a briefing book prior to your departure. In addition, while in Albania, you will receive observer training and materials, including a polling place check-off lists.

Are there risks involved with this trip?

Yes. This election is being held under tense political conditions. As you may know, Albania has gone through much turmoil during the past year. There are some elements who may not want this election to succeed. You will take this trip at your own risk. We recommend that all travelers check their personal insurance policies in that IFES can take no responsibility on this matter. Consequently, you will need to complete risk and liability waivers and return them to IFES before your airline ticket can be issued.

Will there be some kind of international military force in Albania for this election?

Yes, an international police force of about 6000 troops, led by the Italians, will be present to keep the peace and to provide assistance to international observers, if necessary.

Will I be given an Medivac card for this trip?

Yes, IFES will provide each observer with a MedEx card which will provide emergency evacuation to a medical facility in case of serious illness or injury.

Will there be a contact number in case of emergency?

Yes. The IFES main number 202/828-8507 will be staffed 24 hours a day during our mission.

Will I be able to call home from Albania?

No. Due to the uncertain nature of where you might be staying, it will be impossible to

guarantee that you will have the opportunity to call home. It might happen but don't plan on it. If you are able to make a personal telephone call to the United States, you will have to pay for it.

What kind of luggage should I bring?

One medium-sized suitcase and maybe a small carry-on. Nothing large and nothing heavy. Only what you can carry yourself. Don't expect to see bell captains.

How much money should I bring?

The currency in Albania is called the Dram. Carry your money, passport, and airline ticket on you. Do not leave money or anything of real value in your suitcase.

What kind of clothes should I bring?

Nice but somewhat casual. Remember, you are representing the United States of America. No suits are necessary. You may wear a tie if you so chose. Because you are likely to be transported in army-like vehicles, you may want to wear dark clothes. Bring "wrinkle-free" type clothes if you can. You may bring jeans for travel and for some parts of the mission. Shorts may be brought but not worn when you are on "official" duty. You may want to bring a light jacket. Don't be afraid to wear something more than once. No one will notice or care. The weather will be summer-like. Highs in the 80s and lows in the 60s.

What about toiletries?

Bring what you would normally take on a week-long trip (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.). You should bring a small bar of soap, a washcloth or two, wipes and shampoo. There is no guarantee that you will have an electrical outlet so you may want to bring an alternative to electric razors and hair dryers. If you do bring these items, you will need a European electrical adaptor. We suggest that you "stuff" a few rolls of toilet paper in your suitcase just in case it is needed. We also suggest you bring alcohol cleansing wipes to protect against infection.

It is recommended that you bring any medications that you normally take. Also, it would be a very good idea to bring diarrhea medicine such as Imodium AD; stomach remedies, aspirin; allergy medication (if it bothers you) and perhaps a few cold/flu capsules.

What about food?

You will want to bring snack foods to supplement your local diet. Depending where you are deployed, it could be some time between meals. Also, packets of instant coffee or tea might be good if you are so inclined. Drink only bottled water or water that has been sufficiently boiled.

Can I bring a still or video camera?

We encourage you to bring your camera (don't forget batteries and film--you probably won't find it there). However, you may want to bring the inexpensive disposable kind of

still camera. If you bring a video or expensive camera remember it is at your own risk. We cannot be held liable if you lose it or if it is stolen.

What about a laptop computer?

Not necessary and not recommended. Remember you will have to carry and be responsible for your own belongings.

Is there anything I should not bring?

You should not bring anything that would be illegal to carry in the United States. This would include illegal drugs, weapons or the like. Do not bring propaganda or materials not related to this mission. Do not bring expensive jewelry, large amounts of cash or travelers cheques. If you are unsure of what or what not to bring please contact Gwenn Hofmann or Alex Knapp prior to departure.

Is there access to the Internet in Albania so that I can write home?

No.

What about souvenirs?

Not likely to find much, if anything. Remember, Albania has been through tough times during the past year.

Election Information

Note: All observers will be provided with a complete briefing book regarding the election and this mission prior to departure.

What is this election all about?

On Sunday, June 29, Albanians will go to the polls to elect a new parliament. Voting is conducted using paper ballots which are hand-counted.

This election was called by President Sali Berisha—under intense pressure by the international community—after turmoil and violence erupted this spring when most Albanians lost significant funds in a failed pyramid investment scheme. The last parliamentary election—conducted just last summer—was marred by charges of fraud and corruption.

According to a statement issued by international diplomats "These parliamentary elections on June 29 are a crucial element to build up confidence among the population, reinforce the institutions of the state, confirm the adherence of the country to democratic principles and create the conditions for a gradual return to normality."

What is IFES?

The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) was founded in 1987 as a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization to provide consultative assistance and technical support to electoral and democratic institutions in emerging, evolving, and established democracies. IFES has worked in over 90 countries in Africa, the Americas, Europe, the Near East, and the former Soviet Union. By basing its assistance on the unique social, cultural and political characteristics of each individual country, IFES avoids the imposition of predetermined concepts in shaping the assistance it provides. Consequently, IFES has found that its assistance has proven to be successful and enduring.

Who is sponsoring this mission?

The OSCE/ODHIR is the coordinating the international observer delegations who will be monitoring the Albanian election.

Who is administering the election?

The election is being conducted by Albanian election officials with the assistance of a team of international election experts.

What is Albania like?

Albania has been described as the poorest country in Europe. While living conditions have generally improved for most people since the communist overthrow in 1991, Albania

still has a long way to go to meet western standards. The country is actually quite beautiful with snow-capped mountains in the north and beautiful beaches along the Adriatic Sea.

Albanians are a good people who have gone through difficult times. They are friendly, caring, and concerned about their future. They want democracy to succeed so that they can get on with their lives

Where can I obtain more information on Albania?

The World Wide Web contains a significant amount of current and background information on Albania. We would recommend that you search for information using a search engine (such as Alta Vista: <http://www.altavista.digital.com>) and then find information which may interest you. You can also search for new on Albania using news search engines such as Yahoo (<http://www.yahoo.com>). IFES also has a Homepage with an Albanian link that has additional information at: www.ifes.org/albania/index.htm. Of course you can check with your local library or university for information which they may have on Albania. Those selected to participate in this mission will receive briefing materials prior to their departure from the United States.



INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTION SYSTEMS

**GENERAL GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL
OBSERVERS**

**Prepared for
The Election of Deputies of the People's Assembly
29 June 1997
Republic of Albania**

1

INTRODUCTION

This guide has been prepared to provide you with general information about the election process in the Republic of Albania. It presents a brief description of some of the procedures to be followed by officials on election day, 29 June 1997. It also offers suggestions about the types of questions or points of examination you may wish to pursue in the course of your observation. It has been prepared for the US observer delegation organized by the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES). It is being offered only as a supplement to the guidance and training which you will be given by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE-ODIHR).

Please keep in mind that these parliamentary elections have been called as a result of political turmoil in the Republic of Albania. Given continued instability and the short campaign period, important elements of the campaign and election process are still undecided. This writing is based on amendments to the election law which took effect in May 1997. Some of the changes to the law result in inconsistencies within the text of the law. As of this writing important changes were still being made based on rulings of the Constitutional Court and other regulatory bodies. In addition, regulations concerning election procedures have yet to be issued by the CEC. The OSCE and IFES teams on site in Albania will appraise you of the latest developments and appreciate your patience and flexibility in this fluid electoral environment.

The presence of international observers in Albania serves several purposes:

- ♦ To provide openness and transparency for the public, candidates, and nominating entities;
- ♦ to raise public confidence in the process;
- ♦ to deter those who would engage in improper practices or fraudulent activities;
- ♦ to reduce opportunities for frivolous or misguided allegations of impropriety; and,
- ♦ to provide information which lawmakers, election officials, and activists can use to assess the process and plan for future improvements.

As an observer, your role is sensitive because Albanian citizens, officials, and participants in the election campaign look to your views as key to the evaluation of

the freeness and fairness of the elections. In fact, the very presence of international observers can be interpreted as "legitimizing the process." Therefore, it is essential that your efforts be unbiased, thoughtful, and thorough to safeguard the constructive approach of the mission and to ensure that it is not compromised and to safeguard the constructive approach of the mission.

SCOPE OF OBSERVATION

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE-ODIHR)) has been invited by the Government of Albania and authorized by the OSCE Permanent Council to assist with election preparation and monitoring for elections to the People's Assembly slated for 29 June 1997. Based upon a request from the US Department of State and a memorandum of understanding with the OSCE-ODIHR, IFES has been asked to organize the American contingent of the OSCE delegation. You will be accredited as an OSCE observer by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania.

The following conditions for effective election observation were established by the OSCE -ODIHR and communicated to Albanian authorities:

- ♦ To assess the number of observers necessary without negotiation with the host government;
- ♦ To receive accreditation through a simple and non-discriminatory procedure;
- ♦ To obtain information regarding the election process from election authorities at all levels;
- ♦ Meet with representatives of all parties and with randomly selected individuals;
- ♦ To obtain permission to travel in all regions of the country during the election campaign and election preparations and on election day;
- ♦ To have unimpeded access to polling sites and counting centers through the country;
- ♦ To have authority to issue public statements

The expectations of observers are listed in "General Standards of Conduct . . ." below.

As a member of the IFES organized, US observer contingent, you have been selected based on any number of the following criteria: background in election law and practice, international observer experience, regional knowledge, language skills, and neutrality toward the political outcome of the elections in Albania. In assuming your role as an observer, it is important to remember that elections do not begin and end with the conduct of the poll. To adequately evaluate the election, you should familiarize yourself with the political context in which elections are taking place, the legal framework underpinning the elections, and the attitude and confidence level of the electorate concerning the campaign and election process.

Toward this end, IFES has prepared this guide and supplementary briefing materials. Upon your arrival in Tirana, IFES will provide an orientation and up to the

minute information on political and electoral developments. On 26 June, OSCE coordinators and trainers will conduct an in-depth briefing which will review codes of conduct, an assessment of the pre-election period based on long-term observation, an overview of the political and security situation prior to the election, an assessment of the media campaign, and review the election law and its practical implementation. Additional meetings may be set up in the localities on 28 June.

IFES is confident that you will approach this mission from a constructive perspective, upholding its mandate to support and strengthen the democratic election process worldwide. Starting from this point, you will need to:

- ♦ Identify circumstances, issues, or practices which may jeopardize or hinder the free and fair conduct of elections and to determine if irregularities appear to be the result of deliberate, pervasive, or part of an organized scheme
- ♦ Offer technically sound and attainable recommendations which can assist policy makers and election officials improve future campaigns and elections in Albania.

In the interests of tracking comparative electoral developments in established and transitional democracies, IFES would also request that you collect any election related documents including, but not limited to sample ballots, copies of CEC regulations and instructions, campaign posters and related materials, election related news clippings, copies of the official protocols of results and turn these over to IFES Training Coordinator Catherine Barnes. These materials will be logged into and made available to the international community through the IFES Election Resource Center.

GENERAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS

As an observer, it is crucial that you adhere to a few general standards which will ensure that your sensitive role is not compromised and to maximize utility of the observer mission. Observers are expected to:

- ♦ Maintain absolute neutrality and impartiality throughout the observation mission;
- ♦ Participate in all briefings, training sessions, meetings, de-briefings scheduled by OSCE-ODIHR and IFES, to observe balloting and voting counting and aggregation on election day and complete election day checklists provided by OSCE-ODIHR, and provide a post-mission report to IFES;
- ♦ Carry on their person at all times the required accreditation issued by the Central Election Commission and provided by the OSCE and to provide this credential upon request;
- ♦ Never disrupt or interfere with the voting, counting, or any other phases of the election process;
- ♦ Ask questions and express concerns, but do not instruct, give orders, or otherwise attempt to countermand decisions of election officials. Commentary should be addressed to the chairman of the election commission.
- ♦ Be vigilant and take detailed notes regarding positive aspects of the process as well as those describing questionable or irregular voting or counting practices. Include information as to the place and time and well as identifying witnesses, if circumstances warrant them. Your conclusions should be based on verifiable, factual evidence;
- ♦ Recognize that some mistakes may be made by election officials because of inexperience or unfamiliarity with the amended election law or with CEC regulations, rather than because of any deliberate intention to compromise the integrity of the process. Do not treat every mistake or variation in established practice as deliberate cheating;
- ♦ If serious problems are encountered at a particular polling site, you may choose to bring them to the attention of a superior election commissions, ie. The Zonal Election Commission. If communication mechanisms are available, you may also want to contact your delegation's headquarters for instructions or advice. Also consider returning to the polling site later in the day, if serious concerns about irregularities or potential fraud justify another look or increased observer presence.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTING WITH THE MEDIA

In circumstances where elections are taking place in a politically unstable and tense environment and where international attention has been focused, considerable attention will be paid to observers by international and domestic media. While in Albania, journalists will certainly try to get your impressions of the election process before, during, and after polling.

During the campaign period and on election day, it would be advisable to refrain from contacts with the media. Under no circumstances are statements to be made on behalf of IFES. Inquiries regarding the preparation of the elections or the organization of the observation mission should be directed to the OSCE Tirana Spokesperson Mark Smith or to the OSCE Secretariat Spokesperson Melissa Fleming. In cases where interaction with a journalist is unavoidable, following these general guidelines can help safeguard against making any premature, inaccurate, or otherwise inappropriate remarks to the press:

- ♦ During the *Pre-Election Period*, do not be surprised by inquiries for your assessment of the election campaign and election preparations beginning upon the day of your arrival in country or at your deployment location. Keep in mind that the seemingly innocent question, "How is the election going?" requires a judgment on your part. Please refrain from judgments. Instead, describe your activities as an OSCE observer: Who you are, your professional and election background, where you are from, your mission as an OSCE observer, where you will be deployed.
- ♦ On *Election Day*, observers are strongly urged to refrain from individual comments during polling because even a carefully worded comment can be taken out of context and used to convey the wrong impression. Refrain from providing opinions to the news media as to the general fairness of the election based on your individual experiences. Only a cumulative assessment can lead to a credible evaluation of the election process. Inform journalists that you cannot make any statements pending closure of the polls and de-briefing of the entire delegation.
- ♦ *After the Election*, observers will be afforded the opportunity to report their findings to OSCE-ODIRH and IFES officials and, if they wish, to participate in the formation of the final mission statement. Follow the guidance of OSCE-ODIHR concerning the reporting of the delegation's cumulative findings. Observers are also reminded that pending the completion of the tabulation process and announcement of final results, utmost care must be taken in making both official and individual statements.

With respect to the domestic media, please keep in mind that many media outlets remain in the hands of the state and that others are affiliated with political interests. As such, they may not be independent or objective. At the same time, some journalists may have little experience with codes of conduct practiced by the

the journalistic community in long-standing democracies. This extends to objectivity, accuracy, fairness, and ethics. In addition, while selective editing can result in a misrepresentation of your position, dubbing for the Albanian television audience provides yet another level of opportunity to adjust or enhance your statements. For this reason, it might be a good idea to sit down with your assigned translator to review OSCE-ODIHR guidelines for dealing with the media and to reinforce the notion that any statements should be "translated" and not "interpreted."

For further information concerning dealing with media inquiries, please refer to the OSCE-ODIHR provided briefing materials or request further instruction from an OSCE-ODIHR representative.

RIGHTS OF OBSERVERS AS PER THE "LAW ON ELECTIONS FOR THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

The public nature of election commission meetings is established under Article 44 of the "Law on Elections for the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania." Observers are permitted to attend election commission meetings, to make remarks, and, at their request, these remarks can be included in the official minutes of the meeting.

According to Article 66, the following "electoral subjects"¹ are entitled to serve as domestic observers at polling sites on election day:

- ♦ Political parties;
- ♦ Coalitions (blocs) of political parties;
- ♦ Independent candidates.

These observers must be authorized by the Zonal Election Commission (Article 66) and accredited by the Central Election Commission (Article 90).

Article 89 stipulates that the following persons and entities are entitled to serve as international observers:

- ♦ Representatives of OSCE member states, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European Parliament, and other organizations dedicated to human rights;
- ♦ Representatives of foreign political parties and blocs and individuals invited by Albanian political parties and blocs;
- ♦ Specialists in the field of elections and authorized by local and international organizations.

International observers are accredited through the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania.

According to Article 90 of the election law, accredited observers:

- ♦ Have the right to move freely through the territory of the Republic of Albania;
- ♦ Observe the course of activities carried out during the campaign period and on election day;

¹ The term electoral subjects is used interchangeably throughout the election law and in this guide with the terms political party, bloc, and independent candidates.

- ♦ To ask questions, gather information, and publicly convey their opinions.

Article 90 also stipulates that observers are obligated to "remain impartial" at all times. Wearing any distinguishing sign or symbol of a political party or bloc or participation in election propaganda activities while serving as an observer is strictly prohibited (Article 48).

In addition to providing credentials to observers, the Central Election Commission also issue the necessary accreditation to representatives of the mass media. Rules governing participation of domestic and international observers are determined by the Central Election Commission.

2

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF ELECTION SYSTEM

Among the rights granted by the "Constitutional Laws" of the Republic of Albania, which are in effect as the Constitution of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania was abrogated in 1993 and a new Constitution has yet to be adopted, and impacting citizens as voters are:

- ♦ Recognition that the observation and protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens are the obligation of the state;
- ♦ Guarantees of fundamental human rights and liberties for all individuals;
- ♦ Adoption of political pluralism and multi-partyism as the basis of the political system;
- ♦ Establishment of the rights of citizens to participate in managing state affairs both directly and through their representatives;
- ♦ The right to elect and to be elected;
- ♦ Guaranteed freedoms of thought and speech;
- ♦ The right of association;
- ♦ The right of peaceful assembly, without weapons;
- ♦ Freedom of the mass media and prohibition of censorship;
- ♦ Freedom of movement.

The "Constitutional Laws" provide for universal suffrage through voluntary, equal, and direct participation in elections by secret ballot. The temporary restriction of rights is envisioned in Article 41 of the "Constitutional Laws" as necessitated by national emergency or war. Freedoms of conscience and expression are among those fundamental rights which cannot be waived under any circumstances.

The "Law on Elections for the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania" provides the ground rules for parliamentary elections and protects the constitutional rights of citizens to elect and be elected. According to Article 2, all Albanian citizens have the right to elect and be elected if they:

- ♦ have reached the age of 18 as of the date of elections;

- ♦ have Albanian citizenship; and,
- ♦ have permanent residence in the Republic of Albania for no less than 6 months.
- ♦ Deprived of their electoral rights are those:
 - ♦ under arrest;
 - ♦ serving a jail sentence;
 - ♦ declared incapable by a court of law.

• The right to be elected is further restricted by the "Law On Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity . . ." and the "Law On the Control of Officials . . ." According to these laws a Verification Commission was established to review the communist era police files, for the purposes of establishing complicity in genocide and other human rights abuses and/or affiliation or collaboration with the Political Bureau or State Security and/or denouncement of accused persons, for all persons nominated as candidates. Persons implicated by these laws are barred from holding elected office – as well as senior government, judicial, and media posts – until the year 2001. Persons found to have collaborated with the State Security, but have acted against Communist rule or denounced their role in a public manner, or have not exercised their profession within the last 20 years, are found to be exempt from these restrictions.

ELECTION ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Elections are administered by a three tiered hierarchy of election commissions including the Central Election Commission (CEC), Zone Election Commissions (ZEC), and Polling Site Commissions (PSC). This structure is supported by government ministries and municipal authorities. As a result of amendments to the "Law on Elections for the People's Assembly . . .", which took effect 16 May 1997, the CEC has been established as a permanent commission.

Each of Albania's 115 constituencies, is served by a Zone Election Commission (ZEC). The boundaries of the constituencies must be decided upon by the President of the Republic, based on proposals of the Council of Ministers, not later than 45 days prior to the election with ZEC membership being established not later than 28 prior to the election.

At the lowest level are Polling Site Commissions (PSC), which must be established 30 days before elections. In villages, PSCs are set up for every 100 to 1000 voters. In the cities, PSCs are set up for every 800 to 1200 voters in cities, or if there are fewer than 800 people residing in the city, a distinct PSC is still established for that city. In instances where there are surpluses of less than 400 voters in municipalities or communes, they are served by the nearest PSC, whereas surpluses of more than 400 people, are served by separate PSCs. If a residential area consisting of more than 50 people is located farther than 3 km from the nearest polling station, a separate PSC must be established.

According to the law, election commissions are independent bodies, performing state functions in an impartial manner. Representatives of the military and other institutions responsible for maintaining public order, the National Information Services, and candidates for the People's Assembly are barred from holding seats on election commissions at all levels. Commissions are formed on a multi-party basis which Albania is pivotal to the management of elections in a free and transparent manner.

WORKING ORGANIZATION WITHIN ELECTION COMMISSIONS

Election commission meetings are open to the public. Observers participating in meetings are permitted to make remarks and, at their request, these remarks can be incorporated into the official minutes of the meeting. A quorum is achieved if more than half of the members are present. Decisions at meetings are based on a 2/3s majority of those present and must be signed by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman. In the exercise of their duties, election commission members are not permitted to display party symbols or to engage in campaign activities.

Election commission members are legally responsible for implementation of the law and persons obstructing the work of election commission members in the exercise of their duties are subject to imprisonment. Decisions of election commissions can be appealed.

Members of commissions can be relieved of their duties by the body which approved the composition of the commission based upon a request of the member or with the proposal of the political party or bloc they represent. Political parties or blocs do not, however, have the right to unilaterally remove their member.

CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION

The CEC is the chief election authority and has considerable power over the review, appointment, and activity of lower level election commissions in the Republic of Albania. As a result of revisions to the election law establishing the CEC as a permanent legal entity, the CEC will consist of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, and 14 members. CEC members will serve for a term of 7 years and enjoy the right of reappointment. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman are appointed by the main party of power and opposition party. The Secretary of the CEC concurrently serves as the Director of the Directorate of Elections and Referenda at the State Secretariat of Local Government. Remaining seats on the commission are distributed equally among political parties in the government and opposition coalitions and their share of seats is based on performance in recent local government elections. Political parties which have registered candidates for the parliamentary elections, but which do not qualify for seats on the commission are entitled to send an observer to all CEC sessions.

Specific duties of the CEC include:

- ♦ Enforcement of strict and uniform application of the law on the entire territory of the Republic of Albania;
- ♦ Development of rules governing ZECs and monitoring their activities;
- ♦ Review of complaints alleging irregular or illegal acts brought against ZECs;
- ♦ Registration and announcement of political parties, political blocs, and independent groups, and their symbols and logos;
- ♦ Control of the registration process for candidates running in single-mandate constituencies;
- ♦ Development of rules governing the participation of domestic and foreign observers in elections and issuance of credentials;
- ♦ As required in the post-election period, examination of the voter registry and issues a report to the responsible government body on any irregularities;
- ♦ Announcement of the results of the elections and registration deputies of the People's Assembly;
- ♦ Issuance of the certificate of election to deputies elected according to the party list.

CEC decisions can be appealed to the Constitutional Court within 3 days of their announcement. The Court must render its final decision within 3 days and announced to the public immediately.

ZONE ELECTION COMMISSION

Once boundaries have been determined, the establishment of Zone Election Commissions (ZEC) can proceed. According to the law, constituency boundaries must be finalized at least 45 day out from the election. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the ZECs are appointed by the President. Each political party or bloc which has nominated a candidate in a constituency is entitled to appoint a member to the respective ZEC. According to the law, the proposed composition of the ZECs must be submitted to the CEC 30 days in advance of the election and approved by them not later than 28 days before the election. Secretaries of the ZECs are selected among the ZEC members and must have a legal background.

The ZEC is responsible for:

- ♦ Ensuring the strict and uniform application of the election law within the constituency;
- ♦ Supervising the activity of Polling Site Commissions;
- ♦ Requesting that responsible government bodies make necessary corrections in the voter's lists;
- ♦ Registering and announcing candidates for deputies in single-mandate constituencies;
- ♦ Registering representatives of candidates for deputy and supplying them with certification;
- ♦ * Aggregating vote totals from the PSCs and announcing the results of elections in the single-mandate constituency;
- ♦ Reviewing complaints alleging illegal or irregular actions of the part of PSCs;
- ♦ Issuing certificates to deputies elected in single-mandate constituencies;
- ♦ Forwarding all election records and documentation to the CEC in accordance with the law.

ZEC decisions can be appealed to the CEC within 3 days of their announcement. The CEC must examine the complaint and issue a decision within 3 days.

POLLING SITE ELECTION COMMISSION

PSCs are comprised of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Secretary and a representative of each political party or bloc which has nominated a candidate in the constituency in which the PSC is located. The membership of each PSC must be approved by the respective ZEC based on CEC regulations governing the ZECs and not later than 10 days before the election.

The PSCs are tasked with:

- ♦ Ensuring the free and peaceful conduct of elections in polling stations in accordance with the law;
- ♦ Enforcing strict implementation of voting procedures;
- ♦ Registering voters who have come to the polling place with a special voting certificate or court decisions allowing them to vote and to be added to the list in that polling place;
- ♦ Counting votes which have been cast according to the single-mandate constituency ballot and the party list ballot;
- ♦ Recording complaints and requests of commission members and voters, examining them, and taking the appropriate action.

During elections, instructions of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the PSC are binding for all citizens in the polling station and can be annulled only by a majority decision of PSC members.

THE ROLE OF FEDERAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES

The Council of Ministers is appointed to provide the material and financial means necessary for the implementation of the election law. State administrative bodies are obligated to undertake administrative and logistical support of the organization of the elections in accordance with the CEC and ZEC. In addition, the local government structure plays a crucial role in the preparation of elections. Albania is divided into 12 Prefectures, a prefect being appointed by government. Within the Prefectures, there are a total of 27 districts. Below these are some 63 municipalities and 310 rural communities. Mayors and Council Members from the municipalities and rural communities work the prefects to compile of voters' lists. In previous parliamentary elections, election materials and documents, including ballots, to the respective Prefecture. However, according to the amended election law, these are now to be forwarded to the CEC. At the same time, however, there are still some "dangling" references to the prefectures in the election law regarding the collection and storage of election materials and documents.

SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATION AND GOVERNANCE

Albania is a parliamentary republic, national sovereignty deriving from and belonging to the Albanian people. Legislative authority is invested in the 155 member People's Assembly, which is to be elected by popular vote every four years.² It is comprised of 115 deputies elected according to majoritarian system with the remaining 40 elected according to proportional representation via national party lists. A candidate in a single mandate constituency is elected if he wins more than half of the valid votes. In the event that no candidate receives more than 50% of the valid votes, run-off elections among the two leading contenders are held one week after the first round of voting. In the run-off, the candidate obtaining the largest number of votes is declared the winner. In the event of a tie, the deputy is chosen by lot.

According to 7 June 1997 ruling of the Albanian Constitutional Court, the party mandates will be distributed according to a pure proportional system. Previously, a dual system of proportionality was employed whereby the two political parties with the greatest number of votes would have 10 seats pre-apportioned to them, or 25% of the total. Remaining mandates, or 75% of the seats, would then be allocated to the remaining parties which passed a 2% national threshold. The Court found that the dual system was unconstitutional, violating the principle of equality of votes. It ruled that *each electoral subject [political party, bloc, or independent group] will take seats in the parliament in proportion to the number of votes accumulated providing for all participants equality before the law.*

As a result, mandates will distributed according to the following formula: The total number of votes won by electoral subjects surpassing the 2% threshold will be divided by the number of votes received by each qualifying electoral subject multiplied by the total number of seats (40). Since these are unlikely to be integers and all of the seats will not be allocated at the end of this process, remaining seats will be distributed based on the highest decimal numbers. At most, one mandate will be awarded per electoral subject using the decimal process. If for any mathematical reason parity exists, lots will be drawn in accordance with the election law. In the event that an electoral subject has fewer names on the party list than the number of mandates it has received, the losing candidate(s), nominated by the electoral subject for a single-mandate seat, who has received the highest number of votes is awarded the seat(s).

Among the powers of the People's Assembly:

- It defines the main directions of domestic and foreign policy;
- It adopts and amends the Constitution and federal laws;

² The parliament of the previous convocation was elected in May 1996 in balloting universally criticized by international observers. That parliament has since stepped down in the face of Albania's political crisis, necessitating new elections. An interim government of reconciliation is currently in place.

- ♦ It adopts draft economic and social programs including economic indicators and the state budget;
- ♦ It declares partial or general mobilization of the armed forces, a state of emergency, and a state of war and fulfills obligations derived from international treaties;
- ♦ It ratifies or denounces treaties;
- ♦ It grants amnesty;
- ♦ It takes action upon people's referenda;
- ♦ It elects and removes the President of the Republic of Albania;
- ♦ It controls the activity of Albanian Radio, Albanian Television, the Albanian New Agency and other official media outlets;
- ♦ It determines the territorial-administrative structure of the country;
- ♦ It decides upon the creation or dissolution of ministries or other government bodies of equal status.

The People's Assembly must convene within two months of its election and must hold at least 4 sessions per year. At its first session, the People's Assembly elects a commission to examine the mandates of the new deputies. At its proposal, the People's Assembly confirms or annuls the deputies' mandates. The People's Assembly elects its leadership, which consists of the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen. Sessions of the People's Assembly are called by its Leadership, the President of the Republic, the Council of Ministers, or by one fourth of the deputies. A quorum is reached when a majority of the deputies are present. Sessions of the People's Assembly are open to the public unless otherwise stipulated.

The legislative process may be initiated by the President of the Republic, the Council of Ministers, deputies, and an initiative group of 20,000 citizens with the right to vote. Laws and acts of the People's Assembly, with the exception of Constitutional laws, are adopted if voted for by a majority of the deputies present, but not less than one-third of the total membership of parliament. Laws are to be announced not later than 15 after adoption and enter into force 15 days after being published in the official gazette.

Deputies of the People's Assembly enjoy immunity. Deputies are not to be obstructed from performing their duties or obtaining access to information, with the exception of state secrets. Deputies bear no legal responsibilities for votes cast, positions adopted, or activities undertaken in the performance of official duties.

NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

Consistent with Constitutional Law guarantees, any Albanian citizen who has the right to be elected in accordance with the election law, can be a candidate for the People's Assembly as a representative of an electoral subject, ie. a political party, group of parties, or independent candidates. No candidate is permitted to run in more than one single-mandate constituency, although candidates running in a constituency race can also run on the party list. Candidates winning in the single-mandate constituency are withdrawn from the party list for the purpose of proportional allocation of party seats.

Candidates running for single-mandate seats must register with the ZEC not later than 20 days prior to election day. To affect registration, candidates must submit:

- ♦ A written application from the nominating electoral subject, requesting registration of the candidate. It must include the candidates full name, birthdate, and place of residence. This must be submitted in duplicate;
- ♦ A statement of acceptance of nomination from the candidate for the specific constituency in which s/he will be registered. This must be submitted in duplicate;
- ♦ A copy of the decision by the State Verification Commission on the basis of the "Law on Public Control of Officials . . ." and the "Law on Genocide" . . .;
- ♦ A petition signed by no less than 400 voters of the respective constituency in support of the nominated candidate (voters are not permitted to sign more than one candidacy petition).

With respect to the collection of voters' signatures, petitions must contain the name and symbol of the electoral subject nominating the candidate or clearly indicate that the candidate is running as an independent. The petition must contain the full name, address, identification card or birth certificate number, and the signature of the voter. The signatory must reside within the constituency. If the ZEC identifies any irregularities in the list, it requests that the electoral subject make necessary corrections within two days. If the electoral subjects fail to make the necessary corrections the nominated candidate's registration is denied. If all conditions of the law are fulfilled, the ZEC must register candidates for deputy and announce their names and the nominating electoral subjects to the public not later than 17 days in advance of the elections. Certification must be provided by the ZECs to all candidates. All petitions in favor of a candidates nomination are ultimately forwarded to the CEC and kept on file and can be inspected with its authorization.

Only those electoral subjects who register candidates in 25 of the 115 single-mandate constituencies and in no less than 10 districts of the country are permitted to forward candidates for inclusion in the national party list ballot. Each electoral subject can submit a list of up to 100 names. If a political bloc meets the above criteria, each of its member parties is entitled to put forward its own list. In addition

to its proposed list of candidates, qualified electoral subjects seeking access to the national party list ballot must submit to the CEC:

- A copy of the decision of the State Verification Commission based on the "Law on Control of Officials . . . ; and the "Law on Genocide . . . ;"
- A statement of the candidate accepting nomination to the party list of behalf of the nominating electoral subject.

The list of candidates must contain the authorizing signature and official stamp of the respective electoral subject. The list and all supporting documents must be submitted to the CEC not later than 20 days prior to the election. Electoral subjects retain the right to make changes to their party list but not later than 17 days before the election.

As noted earlier, all perspective candidates must be approved by a State Verification Commission on the basis of the "Law On Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity . . ." and the "Law On the Control of Officials . . ." The government appointed Commission, which does not operate in a transparent manner, makes determinations about whether a person is on the so-called "genocide list" by majority vote if its membership. It is not known how many people are on the "genocide-list," although some 200 candidates were denied registration on these grounds in the previous parliamentary election and some 30 candidate have been disqualified to date in the current election campaign. Candidates do have seven days to file an appeal of the Verification Commissions decision with the Cassation Court. The Court must render a decision within 15 days. Depending upon the timing of each of these actions, however, a decision might not be forthcoming in sufficient time to gain access to the ballot if the Court ruled in the complainants favor.

THE PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The election campaign commences with the announcement of elections and ends 24 hours prior to election day. Every electoral subject and all citizens enjoy the right to campaign through rallies, meetings, radio, television, press, and other media. All campaign materials of candidates and electoral subjects must include the name of the electoral subject and can be placed in public locations identified by local governments. Equal conditions must be offered to all electoral subjects for the posting of campaign materials. Campaign activities which are in violation of the law, which disrupt public order, or which slander or otherwise attack the personal dignity of candidates are prohibited. Defacing or removing campaign materials is not permissible until the end of the campaign period. Similarly, disruption of legal campaign rallies and meetings is prohibited. Campaign activities are forbidden within military units and detachments. Local government authorities and representatives of state bodies are prohibited from engaging in campaign activities. It is not permitted to publish any public opinion polls within eight days of the election.

ALLOCATION OF MEDIA TIME

Political parties which in the recent local elections obtained more than .5% of the votes will receive state allocated media time totaling four hours. One half of this time will be given to governmental coalition parties and the other half to opposition parties. Within this division, the amount of time awarded to each political party will be proportionate to the percentage of votes which they received in the local elections but with no political party receiving less than 15 minutes. Other political parties participating in parliamentary elections will have at their disposal 10 minutes. The content to be aired during this broadcasting time is subject to CEC approval. To regulate strict compliance with these time limits, an Electronic Media Supervisory Commission is established. The Commission will also be responsible for monitoring the content of news and information programs. It will be comprised of representatives from each political party in the Reconciliation Government. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Commission will represent the largest party of power and of the opposition respectively. The Commission reports to the CEC.

CAMPAIGN FINANCING

The Council of Ministers is responsible for the allocation of state funds to support the campaigns of political parties. The total allocation will be dependent upon the performance of the political party in the parliamentary election and will be proportionate to the percentage of the total votes received. A cash advance is provided to all political parties which obtained in excess of 1% of the votes in recent local elections. Parties failing to surpass the 2% threshold in the parliamentary elections will not qualify for state subsidies and must return the amount of their cash advance in full.

ROLE OF THE POLICE DURING THE CAMPAIGN

According to a regulation issued by the Ministry of Interior in carrying out the "Law on Elections to the People's Assembly . . . ," police officers are strictly prohibited from engaging in campaign activities. Police are to take all necessary steps to ensure the legal nature of campaign activities and are to provide for public order during campaign activities. They are also charged with protecting election observers and journalists during the course of the election campaign.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Voters' lists must be compiled for each polling station and must include the voter's full name, date of birth, and registration number. In cities and rural communities, voters' lists are the responsibility of the mayor and secretary of the council body. The mayor establishes and serves on a registration committee which includes representatives of the council body and the two largest political forces represented in that body. This committee facilitates and oversees the activities of special working groups tasked with compiling the voters' lists.

Once voters' lists have been compiled in quadruplicate, they are sent to the respective prefecture for review and preliminary correction. All four copies of the voters' lists must be signed by the mayor and the secretary of the prefecture. Three copies of the confirmed list are returned to the responsible municipal or community authority, one of which is retained by them, one of which is forwarded to the polling station, and one of which is provided to the district's civic office. Voter's lists are made public by the municipal or community authority which compiled them and not later than 17 days prior to the election. The prefectures must submit information on the number of voters in each constituency to the State Secretariat for Local Government not later than two days after the announcement of voter's lists.

Military personnel on active duty are registered to vote within their military units or detachments. Military commanders are responsible for providing lists of personnel living in their units or detachments to municipal or community authorities responsible for the compilation of voters lists. All other military personnel are registered in voters' lists in their place of permanent residence.

Albanians who currently maintain residence outside the Republic of Albania, but who plan to stay in the territory of the Republic for the election, are, at their request, included in the voters' list of the polling site serving their former address. Albanians living abroad who do not plan to return to the territory of the Republic for the elections are effectively disenfranchised as there is no provision for voting abroad. An estimated 15% of the population has gone abroad in search of work. Recent press reports indicate that this number is being augmented by the large numbers of citizens currently seeking tourist visas to neighboring countries as the elections approach in anticipation of potential violence. All will be affected by this omission of the law.

Persons temporarily residing in hospitals, sanatoriums, health and rehabilitation centers, re-education camps, and pre-detention centers are placed on voters' lists compiled by the directors of these institutions. Directors are required to inform the responsible municipal or community authorities so that corrections can be made to the voters' lists in which affected persons were originally registered.

Voters who must travel beyond the boundaries of their constituency as a result of being appointed to an election commission or to serve as an election observer can, upon written request of their electoral subject, be issued a special certificate to vote in the place where s/he will be on election day. Such voters are listed in the

supplementary voters' list of the polling site where they cast a ballot based upon presentation of the special certificate and identification card. A notation "moved" is placed next to the voter's name in the voters' list of the polling site where s/he normally votes.

Changes can be made to the voters' lists based on omissions, duplications, inaccuracies, loss of voting rights, death, or relocation but not later than 24 hours prior to the election. Every voter has the right to make a written request to correct errors and omissions in the voters' lists. This request is made of the municipal or community authority responsible for announcing the voters' list and must be reviewed and acted upon within 2 days of receiving the request. This decision can be appealed to a district court which obliged to review the complaint in a public judicial setting and render a decision within 3 days. This decision is final and must be immediately implemented by the appropriate Polling Site Commission. At the request of a voter, the Zone Election Commission may intervene with the municipal or community authorities responsible for announcing voters' lists in order to correct mistakes or shortcomings in the lists.

Voter's lists are available to all electoral subjects upon request and payment of a fee to cover duplication costs. Copies of the lists must be provided within 5 days of the placement of the request.

3

OPENING OF THE POLLS

According to Chapter IX of the election law, voting hours are from 8:00 am until 9:00 pm. There has been some discussion of adjusting the voting hours due to security concerns. Currently, there is a curfew in effect beginning at 8:00 pm. Some election officials have expressed reservations about keeping the polls open past nightfall.

The PSC begins its work at 7:00 am by checking the ballot box to ensure that it is empty. The empty ballot box is then closed and sealed with the official stamp of the polling station. The Chairman, in the presence of commission members, then stamps all of the ballots, the number of which is recorded in the official protocol, signed by all members of the commission present. During this process, it is possible for ballots to be declared invalid if they are found to have irregularities in size, color, form, paper quality, or contents, or have been damaged in some way. These ballots are marked "unusable." Once these steps have been completed, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, and the Secretary, in the presence of commission members, affix their signatures to the ballots. order for a ballot to be considered valid, it must contain both the official stamp of the PSC and the requisite signatures.

At approximately 7:30 am, in accordance with a regulation issued by the Ministry of Interior, the uniformed and armed police detail responsible for the security of the polling site arrives. Police personnel must display their personal number and identity card on their left side. Police personnel to are to introduce themselves and familiarize themselves with the full membership of the commission. They are charged with preventing masked persons or persons with firearms from entering the polling station and are obligated to periodically report to the Chief of Police concerning the security situation at the polling station.

The polling place must be devoid of any campaign materials. It should have secrecy booths , which are to be provided to the PSC in proportion to the number of people on its voters' list. The commission desk, at which voters will be received, signed in, and issued ballots should be placed in such a manner as to allow members of the commission and observers to move around it. Ballot boxes must also be in full view of all present.

Accredited observers are permitted to observe the course of activities on election day and have the right to ask questions, gather information, and express their opinion.

Once necessary tasks have been completed in the proper order and at 8:00 am, the Chairman announces the poll open.

SUGGESTIONS FOR OBSERVERS

- ♦ Begin your observations even before you arrive at the polling site. Survey the town or neighborhood for evidence of campaigning or suspicious activity nearby. Take note of any busses or carloads of voters approaching the polling site or any unusual number of voters coming to the polling site from one particular location;
- ♦ Note the location, accessibility, and sufficiency of the polling site. Observe indications of disorganization such as unusually long lines or people who appear to be milling around without a purpose. Also note the presence of and role of police officers. Are their government at the polling station? Are they attempting to direct the activities of the commission members?;
- ♦ Campaigning is prohibited 24 hours prior to the election and campaign materials are prohibited within the polling site. Look for the presence of unauthorized partisan campaign materials such as candidate pamphlets, party literature, or unofficial voter instructions. Take note of campaign activities or incentives which may be being offered to voters as they come to the polling site;
- ♦ Upon entering the polling site, identify yourself, show your credentials, and ask to speak with the Chairman of the Commission. With the least possible disruption of election preparations or processing of the voters, speak with other members of the commission and observers. Look for peculiar signs of tension or dissension;
- ♦ Confirm that all persons working as election officials and issuing or handling ballots are duly appointed members of the PSC;
- ♦ Notice whether there are individuals or groups lingering about who are not officials, voters waiting to vote, or accredited observers.
- ♦ Take note of the layout and organization of the polling site, including the division of tasks among commissions members, placement of the commission table and election materials, secrecy cabins, and ballot box. Determine if the layout provides for a reasonable flow of traffic, efficiency, and adequate security of materials. Is secrecy of the vote protected? Is the ballot box in plain view of commission members and observers. Are members of the commission representing electoral subjects or other observers being hindered or restricted in their observations in any way?
- ♦ Do members of the PSC arrive on time? Are they able to complete the necessary tasks in time to open the polls at 8:00 am as required by law? Are the tasks completed in the proper sequential order?;
- ♦ Ask the Chairman how many ballots were initially received by the polling site and the total number of voters on the voters' list.

4

THE BALLOT

Design of the ballot is determined by the Council of Ministers. Ballots shall be of the same form, size, color, and paper quality. According to Article 68, the ballot is to be clearly divided into two parts. On the left side is the single-mandate constituency portion of the ballot and on the right side is the party list portion of the ballot. For the single-mandate constituency, next to the full name of each candidate is printed the symbol of the electoral subject which nominated him or the notation "independent." On the party list portion of the ballot appear the symbol and name of electoral subjects. On each side of the ballot the order of candidate names and electoral subject names is listed alphabetically. On each portion of the ballot and at the beginning of each entry there is a separate area for voters to make their mark in favor of their choice. According to press reports, green has been selected as the color for the ballots as it has no political connotations. An actual ballot for each constituency is posted outside the voting premises of each PSC for familiarization by voters (Article 71).

INVALIDATION OF BALLOTS

Ballots can be declared invalid prior to the opening of the polls during the counting and checking process if they are found to have irregularities in size, color, form, paper quality, or contents, or have been damaged in some way. These ballots are marked "unusable." During election day, ballots which are "spoiled" by voters either by being filled out incorrectly, torn, or otherwise damaged are invalidated and set aside. If a voter casts his or her ballot openly, it will be immediately invalidated by the PSC Chairman who will tear the ballot and issue the voter a new one. A protocol is prepared on torn ballots. Following the closure of the polls, ballots can be invalidated if they do not bear the official stamp of the PSC and requisite signatures of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Secretary of the commission. Voted ballots are also considered valid only if there appears one mark for the candidate on the left portion of the ballot and one electoral subject on the right portion of the ballot. In every other case, including instances where the voter has clearly marked each choice but made additional marks on the ballot, ballots are considered invalid (Article 74).

SUGGESTIONS FOR OBSERVERS

- ♦ Observe the handling and method of issuance of the ballots. Are they handed to the voter by the official, or is the voter allowed to take the ballot from the pile himself?;

- ♦ Note whether the ballots are maintained in tidy, secure piles. Are they secured from being handled by unauthorized persons?
- ♦ Determine if the ballots have been appropriately stamped with the official seal of the PSC and signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Secretary. Determine when the required marks are affixed, before opening of the polls or as ballots are issued;
- ♦ Inquire as to when the ballots and other voting materials were received and how they were secured prior to election day.

5

PROCESSING OF VOTERS

Voters are processed as they appear at the polling site. The PSC is obligated to verify the identity of voters and has the right to request that voters present an identity card, passport, military certificate, or birth certificate with a photo ID. Once the voter's identity has been established, the voter signs the voters' list. In accordance with Article 65 of the election law, the voter's identification number is then entered into the voters' list. Once this is completed, s/he is given a ballot.

The voter is to proceed to the secrecy booths to cast his or her vote. As stipulated in the Constitutional Laws, each person is to vote individually and secrecy of the ballot is to be upheld. Open, family, or proxy voting are not permitted. If a voter requires assistance, s/he can select a person to accompany him or her into the secrecy booth. In such cases, permission must be requested of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman of the PSC and a notation is made in the voters' list concerning person who is selected by the voter to assist. This person is precluded from assisting more than one voter. If voters are required to wait in line to enter a secrecy booth, the line must form at an approximate distance of 3 meters from the booth. Once the voter has marked and cast his ballot into the ballot box, the last page of his identification document is stamped (Article 65).

EXCEPTIONS TO THE ROUTINE

If a voter casts his or her ballot openly, it will be immediately invalidated by the PSC Chairman who will tear the ballot and issue the voter a new one. A protocol is prepared on torn ballots. Ballots which are "spoiled" by voters either by being filled out incorrectly, torn, or otherwise damaged are invalidated and set aside.

Although the election law makes reference to supplementary voters' lists, upon which would be entered data on persons who, for example, had special certificates to vote outside of their assigned polling site (Article 25), no mention is made to the processing of such voters or other criteria for entries to the supplementary voters' list in Chapter IX "Voting" of the election law. Regulations on the compilation of voters' lists also envision that citizens voting in places of temporary residence will be added to supplemental voters' lists but similarly fail to elaborate on procedures for dealing with additions by way of the supplemental voters' list on election day.

SUGGESTIONS FOR OBSERVERS

- ♦ Ask how many voters are on the voters' list and how many have actually presented themselves to vote. Write down the numbers and make a not of the

time. As you proceed throughout the day, you will get a feel for the turnout trend. How many names appear on the supplemental voters' list and why have they been added to this list?

- ♦ Ask if anyone (and how many) has been turned away because their name did not appear on the list or they did not have appropriate ID. Ask how these situations were handled and the problems were resolved;
- ♦ Watch to see if voters are attempting to vote on behalf of others. Observe whether officials are allowing them to do so.
- ♦ Observe whether or not the secrecy of the voters' votes is being maintained or whether people are being allowed to enter the voting booth together or to vote in the open;
- ♦ Ask if anyone seems to be assisting more than one voter;
- ♦ Ask the Chairman if there have been any disturbances, irregularities, or complaints. Ask how they have been resolved;
- ♦ Note whether or not the members of the PSC who have been appointed by electoral subjects are playing any substantive role in the processing of voters or does their role appear to be nominal?;
- ♦ If confidentiality and discretion are possible, try to ask the members of the commission who represent electoral subjects or partisan observers if they are generally satisfied with the processing of the voters and the performance of the commission. Sense any unusual tension that might exist;
- ♦ Determine if undue pressure appears to be being applied to voters or if instructions given to voters appear to be tainted with bias;
- ♦* Note whether voters seem familiar with the ballot format and understand how to fill it out. Have there been a high number of spoiled ballots?;
- ♦ What role is being played by the police detachment. Are their activities limited to keeping order, or are they engaging in any improper activities such as influencing voters, intimidating commission members, or otherwise expressing political sentiments or attempting to run the polling site?;
- ♦ Check the seals on the ballot boxes. Are they secure, or do they appear to have been tampered with?;
- ♦ Ask when the PSC was formed, when they received ballots and necessary election materials, whether or not they have received any training, and if they were familiar with recent amendments to the election law.

6

CLOSURE OF THE POLLS AND COUNTING OF VOTES

Ballots are counted at the polling station by the PSC members immediately after closure of the polls at 9:00 pm. Any voters remaining in the polling site at that time who have not yet cast their ballots are allowed to vote. Immediately after voting has ended, the PSC Chairman, in the presence of the commission and accredited observers:

- ♦ Declares the end of voting;
- ♦ Counts the number of voters who have participated in balloting based on the entries in the voters' lists, which must be signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Secretary and any member of the commission wishing to do so. The voters lists are then placed in an envelope which is sealed and stamped and signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and the Secretary of the PSC, and any member of the commission wishing to do so.
- ♦ Counts the unused ballots which are then placed in an envelope which is sealed and stamped and signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and the Secretary of the PSC and any member of the commission wishing to do so.

These actions must be completed in order and recorded in the final protocol of results.

Only at this stage in the process is the counting of voted ballots to proceed. The following ordered steps are then taken by the PSC:

- ♦ The ballot box is opened and a member of the PSC who has been selected by lot removes one ballot and gives it to the Chairman who in an audible voice declares whether or not the ballot is valid and in favor of which candidate and electoral subject it is. The ballot is then shown to all members and observers.³ Only after each vote has been recorded is the ballot set in a specified place and the next ballot taken from the ballot box;
- ♦ All ballots found in the ballot box are counted in the manner. Ballots of irregular color, form, contents, or paper quality are counted. Ballots of standard form

³ A ballot deemed invalid is identified and agreed upon by commission members. If the membership fails to reach an agreement, a notation is made in the official protocol.

which are otherwise invalidated are counted.⁴ And, standard form and valid ballots in favor of each of the candidates and electoral subjects are counted.

- The total number of votes is compared with the number of signatures appearing in the voters' lists. If there is a discrepancy, the counting process is repeated.

Data obtained during this process is entered into the official protocol of results.

COMPLETION OF THE PROTOCOL

Upon the completion of vote counting, the PSC chairman completes the remaining line items of the official protocol. Official protocols must contain the following information:

- PSC number and ZEC number;
- The time of the opening and closing of the polls;
- The number of voters in the voters' list;
- The number of voter's in the supplementary voters' list;
- The number of voter's based on signatures in the voters' lists;
- The number of ballots received;
- The number of ballots "destroyed" before and during the voting process;
- The number of unused ballots;
- The number of ballots found in the ballot box;
- The number of ballots of irregular form, color, content, or paper quality;
- The number of standard form ballots;
- The number of invalidated standard form ballots;
- The number of standard form and valid ballots of each of the candidates in the single-mandate constituency and each electoral subject on the party list;

⁴ Following the closure of the polls, ballots can be invalidated if they do not bear the official stamp of the PSC and requisite signatures of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Secretary of the commission. Voted ballots are also considered valid only if there appears one mark for the candidate on the left portion of the ballot and one electoral subject on the right portion of the ballot. In every other case, including instances where the voter has clearly marked each choice but made additional marks on the ballot, ballots are considered invalid (Article 74).

- ♦ The number of protocol copies prepared⁵;
- ♦ Information concerning comments or complaints forwarded by members of the commission and observers and the decision rendered in response to them;

The official protocol is then signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and the Secretary of the PSC and bears the official stamp. Each member of the PSC is obliged to sign the copies of the protocol and has the right to attach remarks. If the latter is the case, the member makes the notation "remarks" next to his signature. Although s/he is obliged to sign, the election law stipulates that "the absence of one member's signature in the protocol does not invalidate it." Each member of the PSC who has signed the protocol has a right to take a copy of it.

The count having been completed, the *PSC posts the results on an obvious location outside the polling station*. The Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and the Secretary of the PSC then personally deliver to the ZEC at least two copies of the official protocol of results, ballots, stamps, ballot boxes, voters' lists and other polling site materials and documentation to the ZEC. They can be accompanied by any member of the PSC who wishes to do so. All materials must be delivered to the ZEC within 24 hours of the closing of the polls.

AGGREGATION OF THE VOTES

The ZEC then aggregates vote totals based on the results of each PSC and records them in the official protocol of results for the constituency. This official protocol includes:

- ♦ PSC number of ZEC number;
- ♦ The time of the opening and closing of the polls;
- ♦ The number of voters in the voters' list;
- ♦ The number of voter's in the supplementary voters' list;
- ♦ The number of voter's based on signatures in the voters' lists;
- ♦ The number of ballots delivered to the PSCs;
- ♦ The number of ballots destroyed before and during the voting process;
- ♦ The number of unused ballots;
- ♦ The number of ballots found in the ballot box;

⁵ Each member of the PSC is entitled to receive a copy of the official protocol. The law makes no reference to the eligibility of observers to receive copies of the protocol. As copies cannot be made until the protocol is finalized, it is not clear if the Chairman simply enters the number of commission members and makes a verbal inquiry of who would like to receive a copy of the protocol.

- ♦ The number of ballots of irregular form, color, content, or paper quality;
- ♦ The number of standard form ballots;
- ♦ The number of invalidated standard form ballots;
- ♦ The number of standard form and valid ballots of each of the candidates in the single-mandate constituency and each electoral subject on the party list;
- ♦ The number of protocol copies prepared;
- ♦ Information concerning comments or complaints forwarded by members of the commission and observers and the decision rendered in response to them;

The protocol of the ZEC also includes:

- ♦ The full name of the winning candidate in the respective single-mandate constituency or, if no candidate wins a majority of the votes the full names of the two front-runners who will proceed to a second round of voting.

As soon as the aggregation of votes is completed by the ZEC, results are posted in an obvious location outside the ZEC office. The Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Secretary of the ZEC and any member wishing to accompany them delivers all protocols and other election materials and documents to the CEC not later than 24 hour from receiving results from all PSCs in the constituency. At the same time, Article 79 implies that ballots and election commission stamps would be collected by the prefectures.

In constituencies where a second round of elections is necessary, they will be conducted one week after the first round of elections.

SUGGESTIONS FOR OBSERVERS

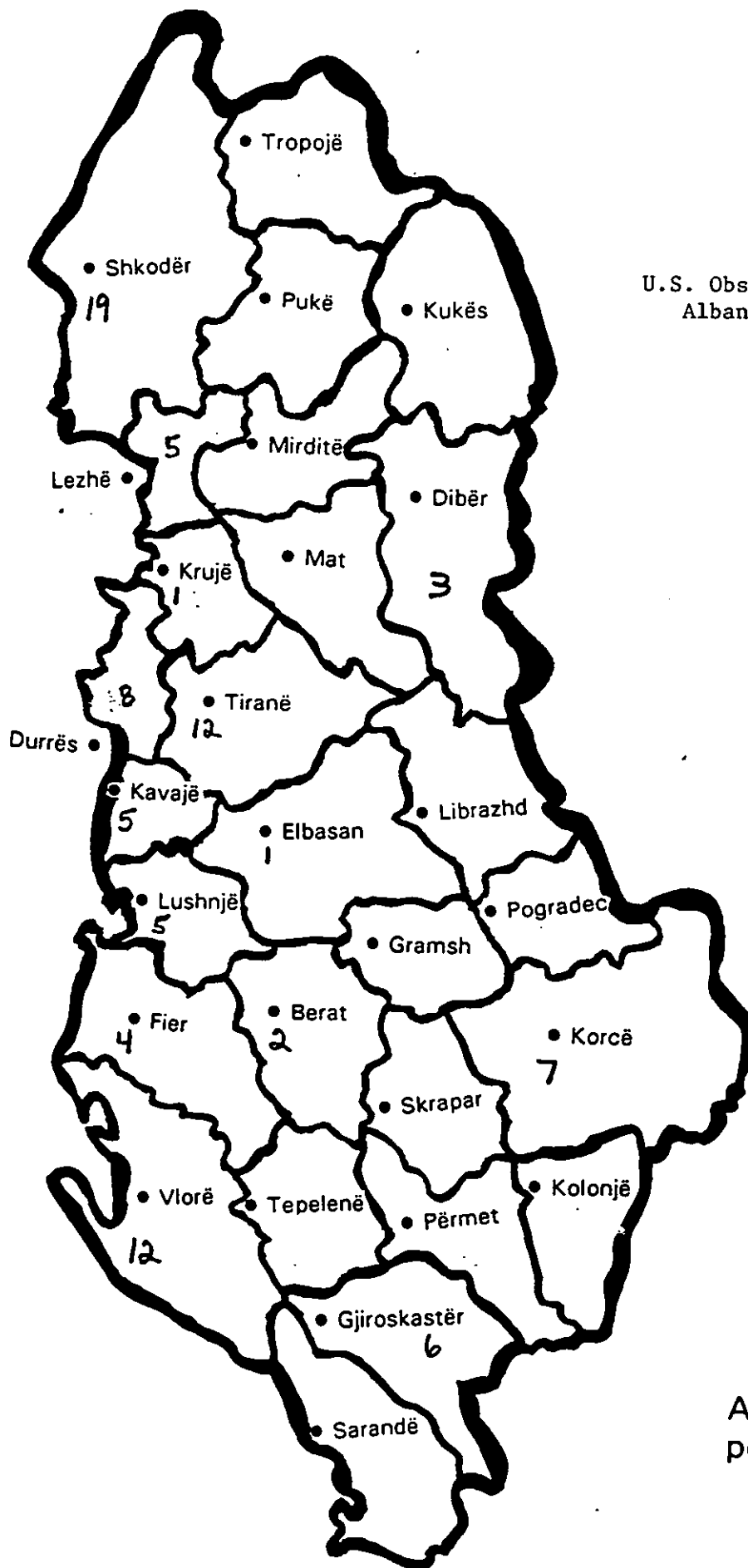
- ♦ Plan to arrive at the polling site shortly before closing of the polls. It is likely that for security reasons access to the polling site after closure of the polls may be restricted, but accredited observers are entitled to observe the count;
- ♦ Observe whether PSC members and observers representing electoral subjects are present and whether restrictions are being imposed by the leadership of the PSC which hinder their view of the process;
- ♦ Note whether the unused ballots are canceled, defaced, or destroyed after being counted;
- ♦ How are votes being tallied. Is this process chaotic?;

- ♦ Carefully observe the method and standards for identifying invalid ballots and whether such ballots are being appropriately segregated. Are standards uniformly applied? Does their appear to be any bias in the invalidation of ballots? Does their appear to be a consensus among commission members about what constitutes an invalid ballot? If a portion of the ballot is invalidated, say for excess marks on the single-mandate constituency ballot, is the party list portion invalidated also even if completed correctly? Does the number of invalidated ballots seem unusually high?;
- ♦ Do there appear to be stacks or clumps of ballots in the ballot box?;
- ♦ Observe whether the ballots are handled, stacked, or sorted in a methodical way which provides for ease of counting, and a fundamental basis of order, and reasonable security;
- ♦ Observe whether ballots are allowed to be handled by persons other than members of the PSC. Note if officials make any other marks or notations on the ballot;
- ♦ Note how disputes among commission members or complaints raised by observers are resolved;
- ♦ Ask the Chairman how ballots, voting materials, voter lists, and protocols are to be packed. Ask what arrangements have been made for transport and security at the point materials are ready for transfer to the ZEC. Clarify whether or not some of the voting materials such as official PSC stamps and ballots will go to the prefectures rather than to the ZEC;
- ♦ Make note of how long it takes the commission to complete the count;
- ♦ Determine whether the number of votes cast equals the number of signatures in the voters' list. Ask the Chairman what the percentage of voter turnout is. Does it match?;
- ♦ Observe whether or not PSC official seem comfortable with completion of the official protocol form. Does there appear to be any confusion. Are numbers being arbitrarily adjusted to "make the math work" or to shift votes between candidates and electoral subjects?;
- ♦ Copy down the information contained in each line item of the official protocol including the results for the single-mandate constituency and the party list ballot in that polling site;
- ♦ Observe who receives copies of the official protocol of results and whether there are any disputes concerning who is entitled to an copy of the protocol. Are their enough copies of the protocol forms for each members of the commission to be provided with a copy of the results.;

- ♦ Note whether, upon completion of the protocol, the results are posted outside the polling site;
- ♦ Ask PSC members which issues or procedures caused them the most confusion during the conduct of the poll;
- ♦ Ask for their thoughts about any improvements they would like to see implemented in the future;
- ♦ If possible, accompany the group turning in the copies of the official protocol and election materials and documents to the respective ZEC to monitor the efficiency, security, impartiality, and transparency of the aggregation process.

APPENDIX B

DEPLOYMENT LISTS



ALBANIA
population 3,300,000

**United States Delegation to the OSCE Albanian Observation Project for the June 29, 1997 Parliamentary Election
DEPLOYMENT SCHEDULE for First Wave Observers**

Name	Home/Aff	Passport #	Team #	Deployment Area	Overnight Accomodations	transportation taxi/military
Robbins, Peggy	Stuart, FL	151431428	BE3	BERET	ITALIAN CAMP IN KUCOVA	T
Abraham, Alexandra	DC/IFES	150039779	DU8	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Mancuso, Bethany	Schenectady, NY	063260932	DU17	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Lutz, Robert	Pekin, IL	025998923	DU10	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Struckhoff, Richard	Springfield, MO	086113788	DU7	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Ivory, Hugh	Hyattsville, MD	76408441	DU14	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Calingaert, Daniel	Washington, DC	Z7146688	DU9	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Mau, Ann	Booksville, Fl	155779774	DU15	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Durant, Thomas	Boston, MA	156418297	DU18	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Chang, Elsie	Fairfax, VA	015466674	DU11	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Slocum, Warren	RedwoodCity, CA	054912163	DU16	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Duggan, Francis	Washington, DC	150031524	DU6	DURRES	ITALIAN SHIP-SAN GEORGIO	T
Cash, Barbara	Hillaed, OH	154208961	EL11	ELBASON	HOTEL KAMPA, ELBASON	T
Brock, Laura	San Antonio, TX	130828615	FI8	FIER	HOTEL FIERI, FIER	M
Wilson, Vivian	Lumberton, NC	16011819	FI15	FIER	HOTEL FIERI, FIER	M
Stern, Charles	Sheridan, OR	072861457	FI3	FIER	HOTEL FIERI, FIER	M

Name	Home/Affl	Passport #	Team #	Deployment Area	Overnight Accomodations	tranportation taxi/ military
Kraemer, Carol	Washington, DC	015492315	FI12	FIER	HOTEL FIERI, FIER	M
Golden, Nicole	DC/IFES	015345692	GJ1	GJOROKASTRA	ROMANIAN CAMP-GJOROKASTRA	M
Ruggles, Dorothy	Clearwater, FL	151081893	GJ10	GJOROKASTRA	ROMANIAN CAMP-GJOROKASTRA	M
Carlson, Richard	McLean, VA	0151717663	GJ4	GJOROKASTRA	ROMANIAN CAMP-GJOROKASTRA	M
Ward, Melissa	Kansas City, MO	152172989	GJ7	GJOROKASTRA	ROMANIAN CAMP-GJOROKASTRA	M
Burke, Robert	Columbia, MO	154189194	GJ12	GJOROKASTRA	ROMANIAN CAMP-GJOROKASTRA	M
Konturas, Konstanin	Cambridge, MA	27022659	GJ9	GJOROKASTRA	ROMANIAN CAMP-GJOROKASTRA	M
Parkins, Janet	Montana	074582887	KO17	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
Green, Pamela	Stafford, VA	151699966	KO21	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
Saleh, Nhelly	IFES/DC	Z6525660	KO11	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
TinAung, Isabelle	New York, NY	140139501	KO22	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
Levaditis, Alexandra	IFES/DC	015703362	KO12	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
Siber, Dina	New York, NY	014275346	KO6	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
Noren, Wendy	Columbia, MO	086114133	KO4	KORCE	HOTEL ILIRYA, KORCE	M
Winchester, Jackie	W PalmBeach,FL	041993023	LE2	LEZHE	SPANISH CAMP, SHENGIN	T
Sirvello, Tony	Houston, TX	132030442	LE6	LEZHE	SPANISH CAMP, SHENGIN	T
Parten, Robert	Ft. Worth, TX	160111565	LE5	LEZHE	SPANISH CAMP, SHENGIN	T
Ross, Kimberley	Washington, DC	015261126	LE11	LEZHE	SPANISH CAMP, SHENGIN	T

Name	Home/Affl	Passport #	Team #	Deployment Area	Overnight Accomodations	tranportation taxi/ military
Ravenscraft, Bob	Palmyra, MO	081671807	LE8	LEZHE	SPANISH CAMP, SHENGIN	T
Meyer, Marge	IFES/DC	023063019	LU5	LUSHNJE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA	M
Schramm, MaryLou	IFES/DC	01498832	LU4	LUSHNJE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA	M
Zimmer, Craig	Dayton, OH	022590843	LU8	LUSHNJE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA	M
Young, Antonia	Hubardville, NY	110986844	LU6	LUSHNJE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA	M
Woodward, Chuck	Ft. Collins, CO	074107392	LU7	LUSHNJE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA	M
Fischer, Jeffrey	DC/IFES	015226994	HQ	OCCE HQ	MINERI HOTEL ROOM 404	
DeGregorio, Paul	St. Louis, MO	082491188	HQ	OSCE HQ	TIRANA INTERNATIONAL#1103	
Hinde, Patricia	Tipp City, OH	086117007	PE10	PESHKOPI	TURKISH CAMP, PESHKOPI	M
Stawnycha, Marta	Leighton, PA	09274	PE9	PESHKOPI	TURKISH CAMP, PESHKOPI	M
Penhollow, MarySue	Bend, OR	074541889	PE11	PESHKOPI	TURKISH CAMP, PESHKOPI	M
McCarroll, Mathew	Des Moines, IA	160036650	SH1	SKHODRA	HOTEL ROZAFI, SKHODRA	M
Kingley, Ginny	Hillsboro, OR	072592648	SH6	SKHODRA	HOTEL ROZAFI, SKHODRA	M
Bauer, Dick	St. Louis, MO	086113124	SH5	SKHODRA	HOTEL ROZAFI, SKHODRA	M
Edwards, Sharon	DC/IFES	15189097	TI3	TIRANA	LINZA	T
Hofman, Gwenn	DC/IFES	042834693	TI17	TIRANA	LINZA	T
Barnes, Catherine	Frederick, MD	015357590	TI6	TIRANA	LINZA	T
Rickenbach, Maryann	Abington, PA	093910303	TI5	TIRANA	LINZA	T

Name	Home/Affl	Passport #	Team #	Deployment Area	Overnight Accomodations	transportation taxi/ military
Hopper, Marilyn	Windsor, CT	27057386	LE10	TIRANA	LINZA	T
White, Nellie	Washington, DC	015604331	TI4	TIRANA	LINZA	T
Weil, Leon	New York, NY	154320009	TI1	TIRANA	LINZA	T
Lawrence, Shelia	San Diego, CA	133940668	TI7	TIRANA	LINZA	T
Weatherill, James	Kiev, Ukraine	160979870	VL3	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Walker, John	Ashland, OHI	086114032	VL6	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Tipps, Anthony	Dayton, OH	086114696	VL10	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Lecuona, Rafael	IFES/DC	Z6482721	VL9	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Sanderson, JohnDoug	OklahomaCity,OK	131437387	VL5	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Gibson, Gerald	Danville, VA	086089960	VL11	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Schildhaus, Aaron	Washington, DC	015628563	VL8	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M
Belay, Tim	Boston, MA	023817354	VL7	VLORE	MILITARY NAVAL ACADEMY	M

**United States Delegation to the OSCE Albanian Observation Project for the
July 6, 1997 Runoff Parliamentary Election (2nd wave)
DEPLOYMENT SCHEDULE**

Name	Home/Affl	Passport #	Team #	Deployment Area	Overnight Accomodations
Miller, Michael	Cogan Station,PA	Z7187148	BE01	BERET	ITALIAN CAMP,KUCOVA
Bingham, Peggy	Hillsboro,MO	086114719	DU10	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Curis, Robert	W.Hartford,CT	140200759	DU11	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Gallagher, Ann	Kankakee,IL	026003279	DU11	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Green, Doug	Mt. Orab, OH	086116548	DU08	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Hack, Shelly	Santa Monica,CA	035888363	DU12	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Hawthorne, Amy	Washington, DC/IFES	Z7083070	DU09	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Parementer, Justin	St. Louis, MO	Z7187157	DU10	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Rausche, Adrian	Washington,DC	014728657	DU13	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Reissig, Anthony	Cincinnati, OH	083908572	DU09	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Schwindt, Mark	Bellingham, WA	071389609	DU03	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Tate, Doris	Ft. Smith, AK	101362927	DU12	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Weidenfeld, Ed	Washington, DC	150601917	DU14	DURRES	ITALIAN CAMP
Boda, Michael	Washington,DC/IFES	K001003	SH05	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA
Dawkins, Stephen	Alexandria,VA	Z7610272	SH12	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA
Drewniany, Peter	Poland/USA	Z7557180	SH07	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA
Filipink, Eric	New York, NY	062794871	SH11	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA
Ginnold, Elaine	Oakland, CA	052353744	SH07	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA
Hartenbower, Karen	Emporia, KS	132259805	SH08	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA
Lee, Terrance	Belvidere,NJ	090860270	SH13	SHKODER	HOTEL RASAFA

Malitz, Christina	Pt. Lookout, NY	Z7682761	SH12	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Moses, Michael	Los Angeles, CA	035435684	SH09	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Nordlinger, Gary	Washington, DC	015452476	SH13	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Pulver, Robert	Ann Arbor, MI	042782363	SH11	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Remias, Richard	Arlington, VA	081951363	SH09	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Schwarzkopf, Lyall	Minneapolis, MN	073671426	SH08	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Sethi, Sanjeev	Washington, DC/IFES	A1234055	SH06	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Streit, Sherrie	Washington, DC/IFES	150601917	SH04	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Wojtewicz, Reggie	Milan, MI	024416027	SH10	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Yoctrowic, John	Washington, DC	160079105	SH10	SHKODER	HOTEL RASafa
Cooper, Susanne	Mt. Holly, NJ	092016215	TI11	TIRANA	LINZA
Gough, Lance	Chicago, IL	025999843	TI	TIRANA	LINZA
Hughes, Justin	Santa Monica, CA	035387587	TI11	TIRANA	LINZA
Weidenfeld, Shelia	Washington, DC	101362927	TI12	TIRANA	LINZA
Carlson, Scott	Washington, DC	151741274	VL02	VLORE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA
Kroll, Jonathan	Greendale, WI	084021670	VL04	VLORE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA
Lennon, Stephen	Newport, RI	100551438	VL03	VLORE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA
Carlson, Buckley	Washington, DC	151741274	VL02	VLORE	ITALIAN CAMP, KUCOVA

APPENDIX C

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES - AGENDAS

IFES Schedule of Activities:**June 23-July 2****Monday, June 23**

2:20-3:20pm	Arrival, registration and transportation of <u>13</u> IFES STOs	IFES/OSCE
5:30pm	Check-in at Chateau Linza	Linza
7:15pm	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to Hotel Tirana	Linza
9:30pm	Shuttle from Hotel Tirana to Chateau Linza	Linza

Tuesday, June 24

8:00 am	Buffet breakfast for 13 people at Chateau Linza	Linza
8:45 am	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to Hotel Tirana	Linza
11:30 am	Shuttle from Hotel Tirana to Chateau Linza	Linza
1:15-3:20pm	Arrival, registration and transportation of <u>43</u> IFES STOs	IFES/OSCE
5:30 pm	Check-in at Chateau Linza	Linza
8:00 pm	Buffet dinner for 60 people at Chateau Linza	Linza

Wednesday, June 25

8:00 am	Buffet breakfast for approx. 55 people at Chateau Linza	Linza
	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to Hotel Tirana	IFES/Linza
12:25-3:20pm	Arrival, registration and transportation of <u>7</u> IFES STOs	IFES/OSCE
5:30 pm	Check-in at Chateau Linza	Linza
6:30-8:00pm	IFES Orientation in Conference Room at Chateau Linza	IFES
8:00 pm	Buffet dinner for 67+ people in restaurant at Chateau Linza	Linza

Thursday, June 26

6:30 am	Wake-up calls for IFES team	
7:15 am	Buffet breakfast for ____ people at Chateau Linza	Linza
8:00 am	Shuttle from Chateau to Army Cultural Ctr (OSCE bus + Linza shuttle)	OSCE/Linza
9:00am -2pm	OSCE Briefing for STOs at the Army Cultural Center	OSCE
3pm	STOs meet interpreters and drivers	OSCE
4pm	Transport from Army Cultural Ctr. to Chateau with OSCE drivers	OSCE
6:30 pm	Dinner - to be determined (approx. 65 people)	Linza

Friday, June 27 DEPLOYMENT DAY (D-DAY)

4:15 am	Wake-up calls for IFES team	Linza
4:45 am	Buffet breakfast for approx. 55 people at Chateau Linza	Linza
5:30am	OSCE drivers pick up STOs and transport to Pyramid Square	OSCE
6:00am	STOs assemble at Pyramid Square for deployment	OSCE
11:30 am	Transport from Chateau Linza to Tirana Hotel for OSCE briefing	IFES/Linza
2:00 pm?	Transport from Tirana International to Chateau Linza	IFES/Linza

Saturday, June 28

IFES in the field
Arrangements for 4 IFES STOs in Tirana - to be determined IFES

Sunday, June 29

ELECTION DAY

IFES in the field
Arrangements for 4 IFES STOs in Tirana - to be determined OSCE

Monday, June 30

IFES STOs return to Chateau Linza throughout the day
Arrangements for 4 IFES STOs in Tirana - to be determined IFES

Tuesday, July 1

8:30 am	Buffet breakfast for ____ people at Chateau Linza	Linza
____	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to Hotel Tirana (to be determined)	(OSCE?/Linza?)
____	Shuttle from Hotel Tirana to Chateau Linza (to be determined)	(OSCE?/Linza?)
____	Dinner - to be determined	IFES

Wednesday, July 2

____ am	Buffet breakfast for ____ people at Chateau Linza	Linza
____	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to airport (to be determined)	(OSCE?/Linza?)



**SCHEDULE FOR U.S. OBSERVERS
27 JUNE - 2 JULY**

Thursday 26 June

6:30 am	Wake-Up Calls for All Observers
7:15 am	Buffet Breakfast at Chateau Linza
8:00 am	Shuttle Bus from Chateau Linza to Army Cultural Center
9:00 am	OSCE Briefing for STOs at the Army Cultural Center (until 2:00 pm)
3:00 pm	STOs Meet Interpreters and Drivers
4:00 pm	Shuttle Bus from Army Cultural Center to Chateau Linza
7:30 pm	Dinner at Chateau Linza

Friday 27 June

DEPLOYMENT DAY

4:15 am	Wake Up Calls for IFES Team
4:45 am	Buffet Breakfast at Chateau Linza
5:30 am	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to Pyramid

** Remember to bring everything that you will need for deployment*

6:00 am	STOs Assemble at Pyramid Square for Deployment
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Saturday 28 June

Observers in the Field

Sunday 29 June

ELECTION DAY

Observers in the Field

Monday 30 June

Daytime	IFES STOs Return to Army Cultural Center then to Chateau Linza
8:00 pm	Dinner at Chateau Linza

Tuesday 1 July

Morning	IFES STOs Return to Army Cultural Center then to Chateau Linza
8:30 am	Buffet Breakfast at Chateau Linza
8:00 pm	Dinner

Wednesday 2 July

8:00 am	Buffet Breakfast at Chateau Linza
	Shuttle from Chateau Linza to Airport

United States Election Observer Mission to Albania

IFES Briefing

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

18:30-20:00 hours

Hotel Chateau Linza

Tirana, Albania

Agenda

1. IFES Welcome Mr. Paul DeGregorio
Observer Coordinator-IFES
2. U.S. Embassy Welcome Ms. Lynn Gurian
U.S. Embassy
3. Security Mr. Jim McDermett
U.S. Embassy
4. Consular Services Ms. Susan Lively
U.S. Embassy
5. OSCE Activities/IFES Staff Ms. Connie Kaplan
OSCE Coordinator
6. The Role of OSCE Observers Mr. Charles Lasham
OSCE Specialist
7. Observer Guide/Update Ms. Catherine Barnes
Training Specialist-IFES
8. Schedule Ms. Gwenn Hoffman
Logistics-OFES
9. Administrative Announcements Mr. Paul DeGregorio
Observer Coordinator-IFES

TALKING POINTS FOR IFES OBSERVER ORIENTATION

Wednesday Night 25 June 1997

Catherine Barnes (10 minutes)

What You Are Going to Hear at OSCE Briefing on the Election System

- Pertinent Points of Law**
- Election Commission Structure**
- PSC Procedures on Election Day**

Explain Approach to Observer Guide

- Based on Constitutional Laws, Election Law, and Existing Regulations**
- Suggestions for Observers Based on Findings During 1995 Parliamentary Elections and 1996 Local Elections**

- Gaps, Inconsistencies, and A General Sense of Undue Complexity**
- Cutting Corners in the Current Electoral Environment**

Supplementary Advisory Memoranda and Latest Developments

- Referendum on Constitutional Monarchy (PSC and ZEC Implications)**

- Invisible Ink and Processing of Voters**

- Voting Hours (Proposal of CEC, 7 to 7, President Forwarded to CC)**

- Invalidation of Ballots**

- NGO Observers**

- Counting and Tabulation Process**

Highlights of Election Observation

- You Are an OSCE Observer**

- Monitor and Report, DO NOT DISRUPT or INTERFERE**

- Maintain Neutrality and Impartiality**

- Be Vigilant and Take Detailed Notes (Observer Forms)/Verifiable and Factual Evidence**

- Recognize Mistakes**

- DO NOT MAKE STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS ON BEHALF OF IFES**

- Carry Credentials, Passport, and OSCE Wear AT ALL TIMES**

OSCE/ODIHR

TO: ALL OBSERVERS

June 26, 1997

Dear Colleague

Welcome to Albania and to the OSCE/ODIHR briefing which we hope you will find enjoyable and informative. We have put together a programme designed to cover all areas relevant to our mission and your important role in its success.

You should have registered upon arrival and today you should have received your briefing pack containing information about the elections and equipment necessary for your observation duties.

There is one point we would like to emphasise. This is an election for the people of Albania and we are here to assist. Our role is to observe the elections and we must not interfere or intervene in the process in any way. This will be referred to, more than once, during the briefing session today.

Attached to this letter is a schedule for today's session and you will notice that questions are to be dealt with at the end of our briefing. To assist with this we have produced a tear-off slip at the bottom of this page which will help in dealing with your questions in an efficient manner.

Best wishes

Carlos A. Guerrero

Charles E. Lasham

✂-----

Indicate the area your question relates to by ticking (✓) the appropriate box below, detach and pass to one of our assistants.

☐ Security ☐ Law/Parties ☐ Logistics/Admin. ☐ Election Day ☐ Deployment

1.
.....
.....

2.
.....
.....

BRIEFING OF SHORT TERM OBSERVERS

0900hrs THURSDAY JUNE 26, 1997

OSCE BRIEFING CENTRE

0900 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

0905 TONY WELCH, ELECTION COORDINATOR

0915 SECURITY & COMMUNICATIONS

Match
Stavlet

Present Situation	}	
Risk Assessment	}	(20) Karsten Kolding
Travel Advice	}	
Equipment & General Advice	}	
Communications	}	(15) Maksim Gjergji

Notes
6 of 11 minutes

0950 ELECTION LAW & THE
POLITICAL PARTIES

Notes

Dan Blessington
Nomi Bar-Yaacov
Erin Saberi, NDI

7 PM - 9 PM
(Ch. Closing)

1020 LOGISTICS
&
ADMINISTRATION

(15) Pat Keogh
Kate Mounce
(10) Ray Snider

1045 BREAK *Self Admin + can. info*

1115 ELECTION DAY PROCEDURES

i.	Polling Station Procedures	(15)	Carlos Guerrero Lorella Dapporto
ii.	Practical Demonstration Opening General	(30)	Connie Kaplan
iii.	Election Day Activities	(10)	Charles Lasham
iv.	Form Completion	(15)	Hans Schmeets Anders Eriksson
v.	PSC & ZEC Counting Procedures	(20)	Michail Konstantinov Kamen Ivanov

1245 DEPLOYMENT

André Bouchard

1300 QUESTIONS
1330 END OF BRIEFING

OSCE/ODHIR MISSION OF ELECTORAL OBSERVATION IN ALBANIA



BRIEFING FOR OBSERVERS

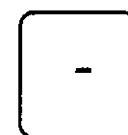
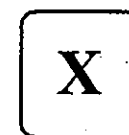
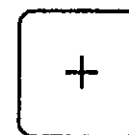
In co-operation with the European Union and the Council of Europe

ALBANIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS



JUNE 29, 1997

THE POLLING STATION COMMISSION PSC



COMPOSITION OF THE PSC

- ✓ CHAIRMAN
- ✓ DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
- ✓ SECRETARY
- ✓ REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH
SUBJECT OR ELECTORAL GROUPING
THAT PRESENTED CANDIDATES
- ✓ PSC MEMBERS PERFORMING DUTIES
CANNOT WEAR DISTINGUISHED
SIGNS OF ANY POLITICAL
PARTY



EXCLUSION FROM PSC

- ✓ MILITARY
- ✓ PUBLIC ORDER INSTITUTION
EMPLOYEES
- ✓ NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE
EMPLOYEES (SHIK)
- ✓ CANDIDATES



DUTIES OF THE PSC ON POLLING STATION

- ✓ ENSURE PEACEFULL ELECTIONS
- ✓ STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF VOTING
PROCEDURES
- ✓ REGISTER VOTERS
- ✓ ISSUE BALLOTS TO VOTERS
- ✓ COUNT VOTES
- ✓ PREPARE VOTING PROTOCOLS
- ✓ SEND PROTOCOL TO THE ZECs
- ✓ RECORD AND DECIDE ON COMPLAINTS



ELECTION MATERIALS

- ✓ BALLOT BOX
- ✓ BALLOTS
- ✓ PROTOCOLS
- ✓ A STAMP
- ✓ ULTRA VIOLET LAMP
- ✓ BOTTLE OF INVISIBLE INK



- NOTE: VOTERS LIST, MANUAL OF PROCEDURES ARE DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY TO EACH PSC



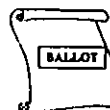
PSC DESK INSTALLATION

- ✓ 7:00 AM PSC MEMBERS MEET AT POLLING STATION
- ✓ PSC MEMBERS CHECK ELECTION MATERIALS
- ✓ ESTABLISH THE VOTING BOOTHS LOCATION
- ✓ CHECK THE BALLOT BOX, ASSEMBLE, CLOSE AND SEAL IT WITH THE STAMP
- ✓ COUNT THE NUMBER OF BALLOTS, STAMP THEM, RECORD THE NUMBER IN PROTOCOL AND SIGN BALLOTS
- NOTE: THERE SHOULD BE NO BALLOTS IN VOTING BOOTHS

POLLING STATION

- ✓ THE VOTING ROOM MAY HAVE SEVERAL BOOTHS TO SPEED UP THE PROCESS
- ✓ PSC DESK SHOULD BE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED
- ✓ BALLOT BOX SHOULD BE PLACED VISIBLE TO ALL PERSONS PRESENT

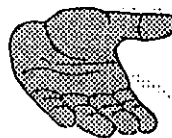
VOTING



- ✓ VOTING STARTS AT 8:00 AM
 - ✓ VOTERS VOTE ACCORDING TO ORDER OF APPEARANCE AT PSC
 - ✓ VOTERS IDENTIFICATION IS VERIFIED
 - ✓ VOTERS LEFT THUMB CHECKED WITH ULTRA VIOLET READER
 - ✓ VOTER SIGNS THE VOTER LIST
 - ✓ VOTER TAKES A BALLOT AND GOES TO VOTING BOOTH
 - ✓ VOTER RETURNS AND DEPOSITS BALLOT IN BALLOT BOX
- (continue....)

VOTING (cont.)

- ✓ LAST PAGE OF IDENTIFICATION IS STAMPED FOR PROOF OF VOTE
- ✓ LEFT THUMB IS MARKED WITH INVISIBLE INK



PUBLIC ORDER AT PSC



- ✓ IF NECESSARY POLICE HELP CAN BE REQUESTED BY 2/3 MAJORITY DECISION
- ✓ NO ARMED PERSONS ARE ALLOWED IN THE POLLING STATION
- ✓ NO MILITARY ARE ALLOWED AT PSC
- ✓ ONLY UNARMED MILITARY ON DUTY ARE PERMITTED TO APPEAR IN UNIFORM
- ✓ PSC CAN DECIDE ON SUSPENDING ELECTIONS IF THERE ARE SERIOUS VIOLATIONS

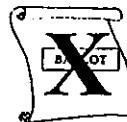


CLOSING OF PSC

- ✓ AFTER VOTING HAS ENDED CHAIRMAN DECLARES THE VOTING CLOSED
- ✓ CHAIRMAN COUNTS VOTERS THAT PARTICIPATED IN VOTING AND LIST IS SIGNED BY PSC MEMBERS
- ✓ LIST IS PLACED IN ENVELOPE, SEALED WITH THE STAMP AND SIGNED BY PSC MEMBERS
- ✓ ENVELOPE IS SENT TO ZEC FOR CONTROL AND VERIFICATION

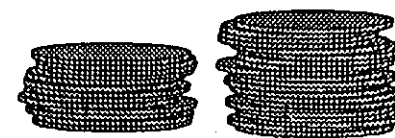
UNUSED BALLOTS

- ✓ PSC CHAIRMAN COUNTS UNUSED BALLOTS
- ✓ RECORD IN BOX 6 OF PROTOCOL
- ✓ NUMBER OF BALLOT DESTROYED DURING VOTING IS WRITTEN IN BOX 5b OF PROTOCOL
- ✓ NUMBER OF VOTES IN BOX 5 SHOULD BE EQUAL TO THE SUM OF BOX 5a AND 5b



START OF COUNTING

- ✓ AFTER PREVIOUS PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, BALLOT BOX SHALL BE OPEN
- ✓ BALLOTS FOUND THAT DON'T MEET REQUIREMENTS ARE CONSIDERED IRREGULAR



+

COUNTING

X

X

- ✓ BALLOT BOX IS OPENED BY PSC MEMBERS
- ✓ BALLOTS THAT DO NOT MEET REQUIREMENTS ARE INVALID
- ✓ BALLOTS ARE VALID ONLY IF VOTER MARKED A CANDIDATE OR PARTY PRESENTED IN THE BALLOT
- ✓ ADDITIONAL MARKS IN BALLOT MAKE THE BALLOT INVALID
- ✓ VALIDITY OF BALLOT IS EVALUATED SEPARATELY

-

X

+

BALLOT STATUS

REGULAR

- VALID
- INVALID

IRREGULAR

REGULAR: VALID

- ✓ BALLOT IS DIVIDED IN TWO PARTS: LEFT AND RIGHT
- ✓ FIRST COLUMN OF BOTH SIDES USED FOR CASTING THE VOTE WITH AN + - OR X
- ✓ BALLOT MARKED WITH OTHER SIGNS ARE CONSIDERED INVALID
- ✓ BALLOT ARE ALSO CONSIDERED INVALID WHEN MORE THEN ONE CANDIDATE HAS BEEN MARKED
- ✓ VALIDITY OF THE TWO VOTES ARE EVALUATED SEPARATELY

CASES OF VALIDITY

Candidates	Political Subject
Valid	Valid
Valid	Invalid
Invalid	Valid
Invalid	Invalid

COUNTING PROCEDURES

- ✓ PLACE OF COUNTING SHOULD BE CLEARED FOR ALL OBJECTS EXCEPT: BALLOT BOX, COPIES OF PROTOCOL, ACCOUNTING SHEETS
 - ✓ ONLY MEMBERS OF PSC WHO ARE FILLING ACCOUNTING SHEET SHOULD CARRY A PEN DURING COUNTING
 - ✓ TWO OR MORE MEMBERS OF PSC WHO WORK INDEPENDENTLY ARE IN CHARGE OF RECORDING ZONE CANDIDATES
- (continue...)

COUNTING PROCEDURES (cont.)

- ✓ TWO OR MORE MEMBERS OF PSC *WHO WORK INDEPENDENTLY* ARE IN CHARGE OF RECORDING POLITICAL SUBJECTS
- ✓ A DIFFERENT MEMBER IS IN CHARGE OF CHECKING THAT CHAIRMAN READS BALLOT CORRECTLY

TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUAL BALLOT

- ✓ BALLOT BOX IS OPEN
- ✓ A MEMBER OF PSC SELECTED BY LOT TAKES A BALLOT FROM BOX GIVES TO CHAIRMAN, WHO READS LOUD ON VALIDITY OF BALLOT, CANDIDATE AND POLITICAL PARTY VOTE BELONGS
- ✓ BALLOT IS SHOWN PUBLICLY
- ✓ DATA IS RECORDED IN ACCOUNTING SHEET
- ✓ REGULAR AND IRREGULAR BALLOTS ARE PUT IN SEPARATED FILES

COUNTING FOR ZONES CANDIDATES

- ✓ PSC DETERMINES THE NUMBER OF VOTES FOR EACH CANDIDATE
 - ✓ VALID BALLOTS ARE PUT IN PILES, ONE PILE PER CANDIDATE
 - ✓ INVALID BALLOTS ARE ALSO PUT IN PILES ONE PILE PER CANDIDATE
 - ✓ NUMBER OF INVALID BALLOTS ARE WRITTEN IN BOX 8a IN PROTOCOL
 - ✓ NUMBER OF VALID BALLOTS ARE WRITTEN IN BOX 8b IN PROTOCOL
- (continue...)

COUNTING FOR ZONES CANDIDATES (cont.)

- ✓ THE NUMBER IN BOX 7b SHOULD EQUAL THE SUM OF 8a AND 8b
- ✓ THE SUM OF VOTES FOR CANDIDATES SHOULD EQUAL THE NUMBER IN BOX 8b

COUNTING FOR POLITICAL SUBJECTS

- ✓ PSC DETERMINES THE NUMBER OF VOTES FOR EACH CANDIDATE
 - ✓ VALID BALLOTS ARE PUT IN PILES, ONE PILE PER CANDIDATE
 - ✓ INVALID BALLOTS ARE ALSO PUT IN PILES ONE PILE PER CANDIDATE
 - ✓ NUMBER OF INVALID BALLOTS ARE WRITTEN IN BOX 8a IN PROTOCOL
- (continue...)

COUNTING FOR POLITICAL SUBJECTS (cont.)

- ✓ NUMBER OF VALID BALLOTS ARE WRITTEN IN BOX 8b IN PROTOCOL
- ✓ THE NUMBER IN BOX 7b SHOULD EQUAL THE SUM OF 8a AND 8b
- ✓ THE SUM OF VOTES FOR CANDIDATES SHOULD EQUAL THE NUMBER IN BOX 8b

COUNTING OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR

- ✓ REGULAR AND IRREGULAR PILES ARE COUNTED FROM PILES
- ✓ TOTAL OF REGULAR BALLOTS IS WRITTEN IN BOX 7a
- ✓ TOTAL OF IRREGULAR BALLOTS IS WRITTEN IN BOX 7b
- ✓ IRREGULAR BALLOTS ARE PACKED AND REMOVED FROM TABLE
- ✓ THE NUMBER IN BOX 7 SHOULD BE EQUAL TO THE SUM OF BOX 7a AND 7b

PROTOCOL

- ✓ WHEN VOTE COUNTING AND EVALUATION OF BALLOTS IS OVER, THE ESTABLISHED FORM IS USED TO COMPILE THE PROTOCOL.
- ✓ PROTOCOL SHALL BE SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY AND BEARS THE STAMP OF THE POLLING STATION
- ✓ EACH MEMBER OF POLING STATION IS OBLIGATED TO SIGN THE COPIES OF PROTOCOL INCLUDING ANY REMARKS
- ✓ THE ABSENCE OF ONE SIGNATURE DOES NOT MAKE THE PROTOCOL INVALID
- ✓ EACH PSC MEMBER WHO HAS SIGNED HAS RIGHT TO A COPY OF PROTOCOL

HOW TO CHECK THE NUMBERS IN PROTOCOL

$$4 = 5 + 6 + 7$$

$$3 = 7$$

$$5 = 5a + 5b$$

$$7 = 7a + 7b$$

$$7b = 9a + 9b$$

- ✓ THE SUM OF VOTES FOR CANDIDATES SHOULD EQUAL TO THE NUMBER IN BOX 8b
- ✓ THE SUM OF VOTES FOR POLITICAL SUBJECTS SHOULD BE EQUAL TO THE NUMBER IN BOX 9b

POSTING OF RESULTS

- ✓ PSC SHALL POST RESULTS ON A CLEARLY VISIBLE PLACE OUTSIDE PSC
- ✓ SUBMIT TWO COPIES OF PROTOCOL AS FOLLOWS:
 - ONE TO ZEC
 - ONE TO CEC
- ✓ BALLOT, STAMPS, BOXES, AND ANY OTHER MATERIAL
- ✓ ALL THESE MATERIALS ARE DELIVERED TO ZEC PERSONALLY BY CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

To: Friday's "Mobilization Team"
From: Catherine Barnes
Re: The Drill for Friday Morning
Date: 26 June 1997

Despite all of the concern expressed by the US team about military escorts and protection during the deployments, I can assure you (having witnessed the deployment of the LTOs) that this is a "military" operation). As such, we don't want the US delegation holding up the European Command because the bus had to turn around and go back to the hotel for a forgotten item. You will need to make sure that everyone is on the bus and ready to go on Friday morning at 5:30 a.m. Someone will need to check-off each person's name as they get on the bus - DO NOT check off their name and allow them onto the bus until you confirm that they have on their person each of the following items:

- (1) Passport
- (2) Observer Credential
- (3) OSCE Wear (hat, t-shirt, arm-band)
- (4) Hand Luggage

After they have confirmed that they have each of these things, make a mark next to their names and allow them on the bus. Thanks.

MEMORANDUM

To: US OSCE Observer Delegation

From: Paul DeGregorio, IFES Observer Project Manager
Catherine Barnes, IFES Training Coordinator
Gwenn Hofman, IFES Logistics Coordinator

Re: Post-Election Activities

Date: 30 June 1997

Welcome back to Tirana and to the comfort and relative security of the Chateau Linza. We trust that your mission to the field was of benefit to the Albanian people and the future stability of the country. We are relieved by everyone's safe return and look forward to hearing your stories. Please be advised of the following post-election activities:

Tuesday 1 July 1997

8:30 am Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel Linza

6:30 pm Mandatory De-Briefing of U.S. IFES Observer Team at the covered stage

Please select a spokesperson among each deployment group (city) to give oral report of findings at the de-briefing.

7:30 pm Dinner in the Restaurant

8:30 pm After dinner reception for Observers sponsored by IFES

Wednesday 2 July 1997

8:00 am Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel Linza

Those delegates departing for the US on Wednesday afternoon should spend the morning packing, paying their hotel bill (everything but lodging expense), saying their good-byes and be ready to board the bus for the airport promptly at 12:00 noon.

12:00 noon All Delegates Departing for the U.S. on Wednesday Board Bus for Airport

Thursday 3 July 1997

8:00 am Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel Linza

Those delegates departing for the US on Thursday afternoon should spend the morning packing, paying their hotel bill (everything but lodging expense) saying their good-byes, and be ready to board the bus for the airport promptly at 12:00 noon.

12:00 noon All Delegates Departing for the U.S. on Thursday board bus for Airport.

2:20 pm Second wave of 38 U.S. Observers for the July 6th runoff to arrive.

Those delegates wanting to check on overnight accommodations for your transit back to the U.S. or airline changes should see Gwen Hofman. Again, thank you for your commitment to this difficult yet memorable mission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call upon the IFES staff.

**US Contingent of the OSCE Observer Delegation
Schedule of IFES and OSCE Activities
Parliamentary Run-Off Elections In Albania**

Thursday 3 July

Afternoon

Arrive in Tirana
Proceed to OSCE Registration at the Hotel Tirana
Check-In at Chateau Linza

7:30 pm

Buffet Dinner at Chateau Linza

Friday 4 July

7:30 am

Breakfast Buffet at Chateau Linza

8:30 am

OSCE Bus Departs for Hotel Tirana

9:00 am

OSCE Short Term Observer (STO) Briefing at Hotel Tirana

Afternoon

sight-seeing Downtown following OSCE Briefing

6:30 pm

IFES Briefing at Chateau Linza

7:30 pm

Buffet Dinner at Chateau Linza

Saturday 5 July

TBA

Breakfast Buffet at Chateau Linza

TBA

OSCE Bus Departs for Team Deployments

TBA

Teams Deploy

TBA

Dinner for Tirana Teams

Sunday 6 July

Election Day

Monday 7 July

Daytime

Teams Return to Tirana and Chateau Linza

6:30 pm

IFES De-Briefing at Chateau Linza

Please select a spokesperson among your deployment group (city) to give an oral report of findings at the de-briefing.

7:30 pm

Dinner Buffet at Chateau Linza

Tuesday 8 July

8:00 am

Breakfast Buffet at Chateau Linza

Delegates departing for the US should spend the morning packing, paying their hotel bill (everything by lodging expense), saying their good-byes, and be ready to board the bus for the airport promptly at 12:00 noon.

12:00 noon

OSCE Bus Departs for Airport

Those delegates wanting to check o overnight accommodations for transit back to the U.S. or airline changes should see Gwenn Hofman. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call upon the IFES staff. Again, thank you for your commitment to this difficult yet memorable mission.



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OSCE Presence in Albania

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

2nd Round Briefing of Short Term Observers
4 July 1997 0900-1300
Balsha Room - Tirana Hotel

0900	Introductions	Carlos Guerrero/Connie Kaplan
0905	Welcome	Anthony Welch Election Co-ordinator
0915	Security	Karsten Kolding
0930	Administration	Ray Snider
0945	Logistics	Pat Keogh
1000	Radio Communication	Kevin Cotter
1015	Break	
1045	1 st Round/2 nd Round Legal Aspects Political Parties	Dan Blessington Erin Saberi, NDI
1100	Polling Place Procedures	Carlos Guerrero Lorella Dapporto
1115	Observer Role on Election Day	Connie Kaplan
1145	PSC and ZEC Counting Procedures	Michail Konstantinov Kamen Ivanov
1200	STO Survey Completion	Carlos Guerrero
1215	Questions	
1230	Deployment	Andre Bouchard
1245	End of Briefing	

Debriefing for RTA/LTO/STO

JULY 7 18.00 h. Balshai Room

- Opening by Anthony Welch

- Reports from Vlore *See Vlore, 1 PP and great tension
W.O.T. 25% involved in some aspects*

Elbasan - OK; finished work.

Berat - no production problems.

Durres - Kavaje; from 11/12/77 to 12/12/77

Burrell, Peshkopi, Diber, Kukes

Korce - 48% to;

Shkoder - 60% to; *11/12/77 to 12/12/77*

Tirana - OK *11/12/77 to 12/12/77*

→ Remarks by Anthony Welch

- III- Round scheduled for July 13th; 3 to 5 zones;

- Information about departures times from Tirana to the airport

Bus

- Jones,

- Shuter Hotel bill, see net at dinner

- Transport ~~to~~ Hotel then 9am - 11:15am return

- Who is going past Treasurer → Must notify, Simon,
- # changes, Bank (Sueo likely)

- Roads -

APPENDIX D

**OSCE WELCOME AND INFORMATION PACKET
FOR OBSERVERS**

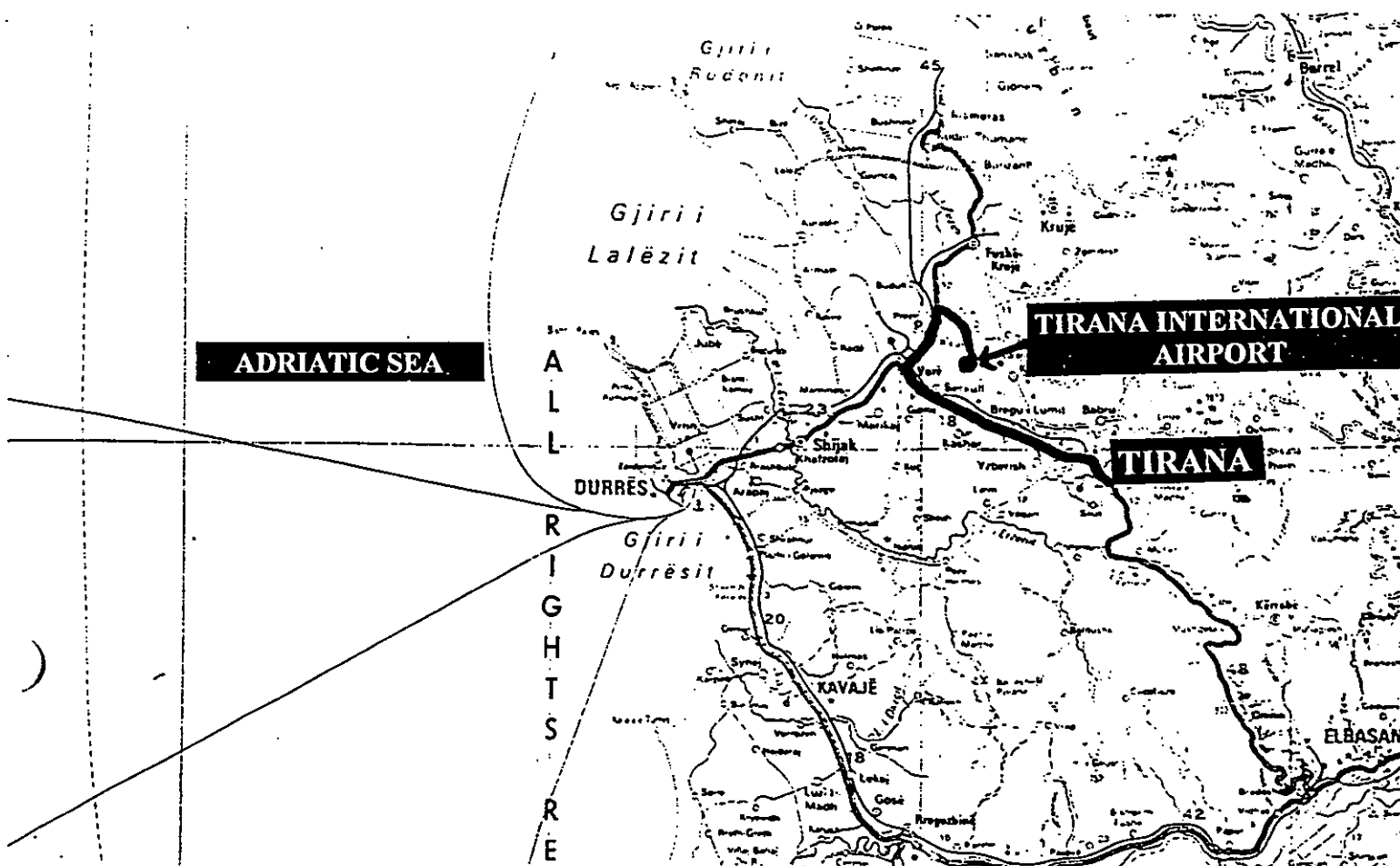
OSCE/ODIHR

Welcome to Tirana and Albania

You are about to be processed by Albanian Customs and Immigration authorities. On completion of these formalities you will be shown to a bus in the carpark which will transport you to the OSCE Briefing Centre in Tirana.

The journey to Tirana will take approximately 45 minutes. At the OSCE Briefing Centre you will be registered and commence the accreditation process. You will also be issued with a Welcome pack giving further information. Basic refreshment facilities will be available. Following the Registration/Accreditation process, transport will be available to conduct you to your accommodation.

OSCE/ODIHR wish you a very pleasant and a safe stay in Albania.





Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

OSCE Presence in Albania

Welcome to Albania!

The Albanian Army Cultural Center (ACC), located on Rruga Jean D'Ark, in Tirana, will serve as the principal meeting point, briefing, and registration center.

The OSCE Presence is located at Villa 6, Rruga Donika Kastrioti, Tirana. The telephone is (355-42) 35996, Fax: 40002.

This Welcome Kit contains maps, printed materials, and other items to assist observers during their stay.

A **national curfew** is enforced between the hours of 2200 and 0500. All international visitors are strongly urged to respect this curfew and to plan evening activities accordingly.

The Multinational Protection Force (FMP) will be providing military escorts where appropriate.

The European Community Monitoring Mission (ECMM) will also be assisting and produced the attached introduction to Albania.

It is not recommended to drink tap water while in Albania. Bottled water should be used as much as possible.

Key personnel within the Presence include:

Amb. Dr. Herbert Grubmayr, Resident Deputy of the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE

Dr. Wolfgang Vorwerk, Deputy for OSCE Matters

Mr. Raymond Snider, Deputy for Management Support

Mr. Marco Hennis, Senior Co-ordinator (EU, MPS)

Ms. Melissa Fleming, OSCE Spokesperson

Amb. Gerard Stoudmann, Director, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

Mr. Anthony Welch, Election Co-ordinator

Mr. Patrick Keogh, Chief Logistics Officer



Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

DATE: June 24, 1997

TO: OSCE Observers

FROM: General Anthony Welch, Election Coordinator 

SUBJECT: OSCE Code of Conduct during the Election Observation Process

In reading the Law on Elections for the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania and Albanian Governmental Decrees (from the various institutions), you will notice that the laws allow election observers to participate in the election process by allowing observers to make statements publicly and to make written comments on the protocol sheets, and other such conduct that is in conflict with the OSCE Code of Conduct for Observers.

It is mandatory that you read the OSCE Code of Conduct for Observers, as the above activities are **PROHIBITED**. The OSCE Code of Conduct expressly prohibits any type of activity that may be construed as "participating" in the electoral process. The OSCE Code of Conduct is the standard that must be complied with at all times.

TIRANA

General Orientation for Briefings/Deployment

HOTEL TIRANA

Tirana International Hotel

BRIEFING ROOM

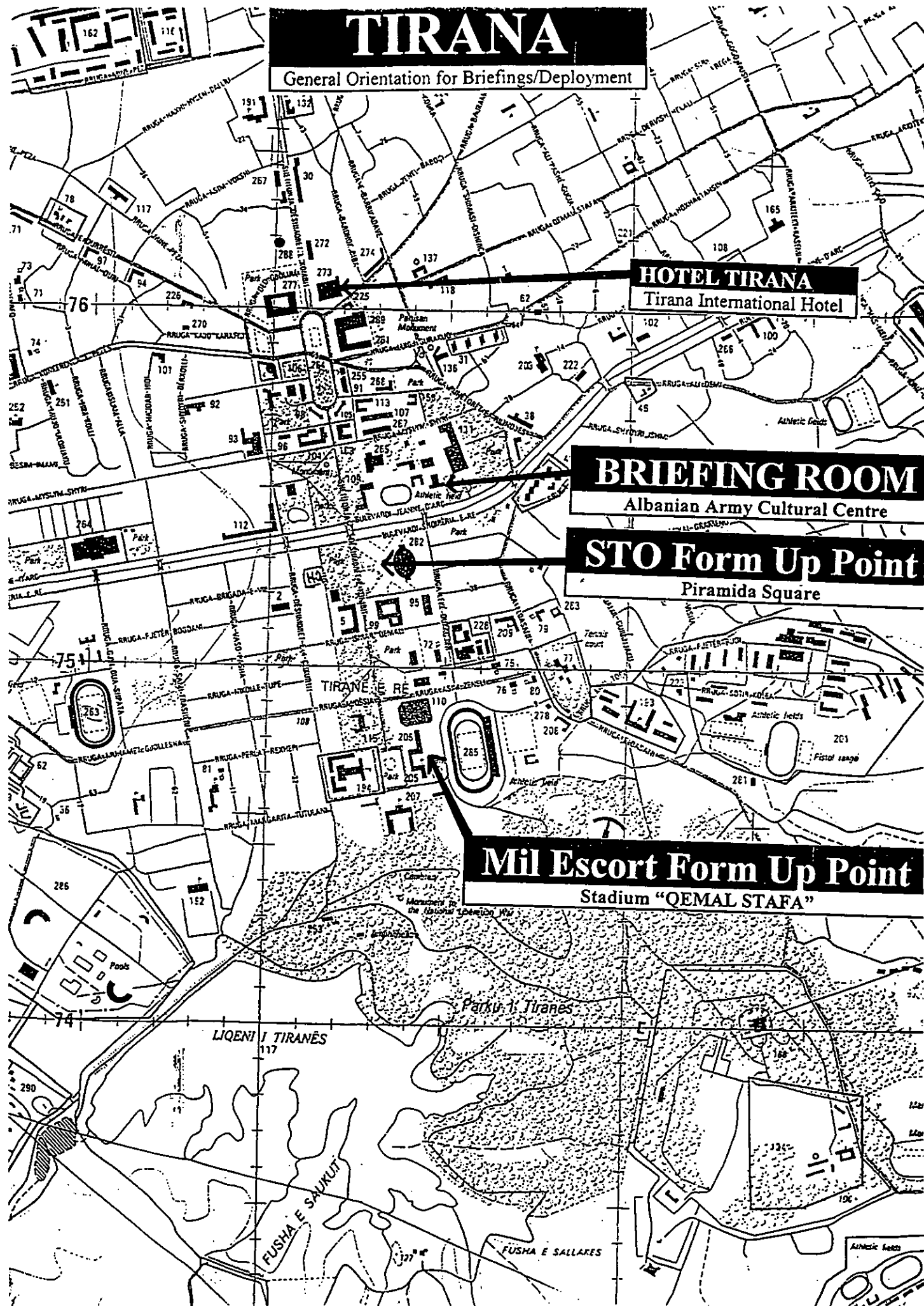
Albanian Army Cultural Centre

STO Form Up Point

Piramida Square

Mil Escort Form Up Point

Stadium "QEMAL STAFI"



RESTRICTED

WELCOME PACK

Updated 10 May 1997

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Introduction	2
Population	2
Geography	3
Employment	3
Health	4
Education	5
Economy	5
Natural Resources	5
Industry	5
Agriculture	5
Tourism	6
Infrastructure	6
Housing	7
Crime	7
Police	8
Army	8
Kosovo	8
Present Situation	9
Political Spectrum	11
Useful Albanian Translations	15

Enclosures

MAP

DISTANCES

RESTRICTED

Introduction.

This pack is designed as an introduction to life in Albania, to assist newcomers both operationally and socially in order to inform about life in general, a brief history and the present situation. No brief is better than first hand experience, so you will probably learn more in the first few days, weeks than anything that you read here. After having been here a little while a feed back would be appreciative as to any inclusions that could be possibly made to this pack. Albania has not been the most visited place in the past, so there are not that many people who are aware exactly what it has to offer. We hope you find the time here both rewarding, interesting and satisfying, so that when you leave, you promote the place internationally, thus helping to bring Albania into the twentieth century.

The first thing that must be appreciated is that the country has recently emerged from 40 years of severe communist repression, so that this new experience called democracy is something totally new to them. In 1991 when they held their near bloodless revolution, they vented their anger and frustration on anything to do with the former regime, both good and bad, without regard for the future.

This in turn led in 1991/2 to emaciated Albanians fleeing to Italy (an exodus overshadowed by operation Desert Storm in Kuwait). Subsequently an Italian led operation (Pelicano) was launched, where food aid was distributed, provided by the European Union. Seeing the present situation some may think things have gone full circle.

Population:

The population consists of approximately 3.5 million people of which 365,000 reside legally in Tirana. However the actual population is estimated to be approximately 100,000 more than this, due to an exodus from the north (which is ongoing), illegally settling in the suburbs. The populous can be roughly divided into two parts, separated by the river SHKUMBIN, which is the natural division line between north and south. The TOSKS in the north and the GHEGS to the south. As religion was banned under the communist regime, the majority of the people are merely registered, not practising, to one faith or the other. The three main religions are Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Muslim. You will find mosques in most towns and villages, but predominately this is due to a precondition of any aid that was sent from Muslim countries. Religion however is not considered to be a factor at present.

The Albanians were originally organised into tribes, which migration has taken a toll on. Mixed marriages are now commonplace but tribal culture still dominates the way of thinking. In ethnic terms this means that a relative large number are condescending towards minorities such as gypsies and Negroes.

There is an ancient law of the KANUN which is still observed in some of the remoter districts especially in the north. This lays down rules and regulations about every facet of life in these tribal groups. It goes into great detail, for example, as to who should come to the (arranged) wedding, what each person shall bring, in what order, and even itemises the menu. A more sinister part of this law is the 'blood revenge' which legalises taking retribution in the case of murder. This can be taken out on any male member of the family, which is a problem for the police in some of these remote places trying to stop the 'tit for tat' slayings. Even now it is suggested that many males are in hiding in fear of these revenge killings.

Women for the most part, certainly in the north, are classed as second class citizens. Little has changed in recent times, although the veil is now no longer worn. To take a photograph of a woman you need the permission of a man who usually refuses. As a result few photographs of the real life in the north reach the outside world. Women do the work, and afterwards are found in or near the home, whereas the man spend their time walking or drinking raki in the cafes. In the countryside a visitor is still an object of interest and arouses curiosity particularly of the children and male population.

In Tirana and the south the situation is entirely different, women walk around in groups and are freely able to visit bars and discos. They are not totally emancipated but have much more freedom than their 'sisters' in the north. Due to the sexual equality that has been practised in the education system, a casual observer would be hard pressed to see a difference between the, as yet unmarried generation, and their contemporaries in Western Europe. The same would apply to the professions, where there is a high percentage of female doctors, managers, etc.

Geography

Albania shares common borders with MONTENEGRO and KOSOVO to the north, with MACEDONIA to the east, and with GREECE to the south. To the west there is the Adriatic and Ionian sea, with ITALY a short boat trip away. The whole country covers 28,748 sq km, which is largely mountainous, many beautiful lakes, and fine sandy beaches.

Employment.

Although the rate of unemployment officially stands at 10% there is little industrial activity to be seen in Albania. There are however many "entrepreneurs" who attempt to provide all manner of goods in small quantities, ranging from motor oil to bananas. The few factories in use are in shabby, dilapidated and woefully inefficient. They are in the main a legacy of the communist era, designed on outdated Russian or Chinese technology. They are at best running at 20% capacity, and in many cases in total ruin. With minor exceptions all mines have been closed, although the country is rich in chromium, copper and iron ore. There is very little investment, due to the inherent transport problem, falling ore prices and the present political situation, making any potential business very risky indeed.

In the past agriculture was a large employer, but since the state farms were broke up and collectives disbanded, most of the arable land was divided into small plots and issued to the local farming population. These people had little or no organisational ability of their own, which together with poor irrigation system meant that the land was very poorly husbanded, thus adding to the exodus, increasing unemployment and the national debt. The situation is slightly better in the south, as there is some investment by the government, the land is relatively flat, easier to cultivate and very fertile.

Approximately 15% of the population can be found working abroad. This activity brings into the country a large percentage of the national income, which for some extended families is the main source of income. The majority of these people can be found working as labourers or menial tasks, even though a lot have enjoyed a secondary education even placements at university. The illegal crossing of the Greek border, or via FYROM (Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia), takes place on a large scale. Italy is also a favourite destination for the illegal immigrant, but made more difficult by the Adriatic Sea. Desperate Albanians will pay large sums to unscrupulous gangs to transport them in disgusting and often dangerous conditions. The area around VLORE is a particular rife in this trade and a large "industry" has built up around it.

Until recently the people remained optimistic about the future. Despite this pessimistic account they were much better off, in material terms, than they were in 1991. The people are not lazy and work hard, especially the women, but have little regard for market research. This is

illustrated by the fact that bars, hotels and kiosks are being built everywhere, without planning permission, a total disregard to where the potential customers are to come from, and not considering any competition.

In short, there is sufficient reason to assume that the unemployment rate is higher than the official figures lead us to believe. A rough but cautious estimate would be 35 to 40%, but probably much higher in the north. This inevitably leads to many beggars on the street, as there is no social 'safety net' for the disadvantaged. These are a pitiful site, many carrying babes in their arms, to maximise the sympathy generated, but beware there are a lot of organised groups that are profiting nicely from these rackets.

Health.

In brief health in the country is lamentably poor. The main streets of Tirana are swept at night by women, but one gets the impression it is only done for the benefit of the ministries located on those streets. Elsewhere rubbish lie around in piles, where dogs, cows and humans scratch around for what they can find. It is therefore not surprising that epidemics break out from time to time. Only last year (1996) there was an outbreak of polio, which spread across the country. The numbers of fatalities that occurred is very difficult to assess, but is thought to be in excess of 100. A vaccination programme was run by Medicines sans Frontiers, which was deemed to be successful, but severe difficulties was experienced educating the local health workers on the necessity of maintaining the cold chain. Fortunately it was carried out before the onset of the hottest weather which no doubt helped.

Untreated sewerage is ~~cheerfully~~ emptied into canals, lakes, rivers, and the sea, thus contaminating the major source of all the water. This coupled with the ancient and outmoded delivery and sewerage system leads to the recommendation that all drinking water is boiled before use, or better still use only bottled water. Stomachs therefore should be suitably prepared and all personal vaccinations strictly controlled.

Under the communist system there was a mandatory cleaning day once a week but as previously explained, as this was part of the old doctrine, was quickly discarded. There is no guidance or prorate given to this on behalf of the government, thus no processing scheme is existence. Thus the whole country is seen in a bad light, as most towns and villages have no organised refuse collection, and indeed where it does happen, there are heaps of decaying rubbish on the outskirts of these places.

Hygiene in the hospitals is also a worrying situation. There are no health inspectors, and the condition of the infrastructure and equipment has to be seen to be believed. Patients lie on grubby mattresses, often with a relative sleeping on the floor in the same room, children tied into cots in order to prevent them wandering. It is up to the relatives of the patient to care for the patient, which includes feeding and in some cases carrying to and from the treatment rooms and operating theatres. The concept of sterilisation has yet to be introduced - in one case - team was shown around the hospital including the operating theatre without any precautions whatsoever. For a Western visitor, a visit of these institutions invokes pity for the patients, and anger to the authorities for allowing these conditions to exist.

Although medical treatment is technically free in this country, in practice it is anything but this. A surgeon is paid in the region of USD 100 per month, the remainder of his wage is agreed for each treatment - no money - no treatment. There is no insurance against such a system, after all the service is technically free. The whole system needs a large injection of capital of which there is precious little. What little money does appear is frittered away through incompetence or corrupt officials.

Education.

A positive legacy of the communist era is the structure and organisation of the educational system. Naturally the schools and universities cannot be compared with what we are accustomed to in Western Europe, but it appears that inspectors and teachers know what they are doing. Of course money, as always is lacking and the infrastructure is generally in a sorry state. Heating, windows, chalk, and blackboards are typical of items that need investment, but books are the main concern. The majority of books date from the Stalinist period, which contains communist dogma and propaganda. Although the education budget amounts to 10% of the state budget (financed almost entirely by the EU), it is still only USD 96 million. Not everything can be completed at the same time, but it is felt that genuine improvements are being made. The present system is based on one of the first laws enacted by the democratic government, in order to raise standards to that of Europe. Education is compulsory between the ages of 6 to 14. After 1992, secondary education collapsed, resulting in attendance dropping by 35%.

Economy.

In 1996 the official Albanian state budget spent amounted to only USD 960 million. Figures for income, particularly for those Albanians working abroad are difficult to quantify. Even more obscure is the revenue coming in through non-legal activities of which there seems a vast amount. Added to this are the governmental and non-governmental loans and donations, whose value is lost in the lack of reliable publications. As is common knowledge now, a vast proportion of the national wealth has disappeared in the 'pyramid schemes', a situation which is ongoing at present. Possibilities for the developing the economy lie in tourism, agriculture, and exploitation of the vast resources of the natural product. However these cannot begin without first, a stable and reliable government, and massive investment from outside.

Natural Resources

Albania is rich in mineral and was the fourth largest producer of chromium in the world, with a production of two million tons per year. Sadly the figure has fallen dramatically to approximately 250,000 tons. Others minerals to be found include, oil, bitumen, nickel, copper, and iron. The land also offers up another rich commodity - water. The rivers are harnessed and are an important source of hydro-electricity, of which a lot is exported. Salt is extracted using salt pans along the coast near VLORE. Most of the forests in the mountainous areas, which contained, oak, chestnut, beech, and pine have been decimated during 1991/2. This was mainly due to the fuel shortages in that winter. Several projects had been started since in an attempt to rectify the damage caused.

Industry.

The conditions of the Albanian factories are very poor, as indicated, the former five year plan was not set up with the modern market in mind. Primarily the function was to create jobs, not the end product, and many have long since been abandoned or destroyed. Mining activities are also on the decline. Although hydro-electric is produced and exported, the condition of the whole industry is extremely poor, inefficient and a gross waste of a natural product. Due to these reasons the country is being forced backwards to an economy that is based on agriculture. There is no observable serious investment or research, it seems everybody wants to make a lot of money quickly with minimum of outlay. Some foreign interest was recently abandoned, mainly due to the recent troubles.

Agriculture.

In 1990 agriculture provided more than a third of the gross national income. In 1991 the government began to dismantle the former communist state-run system, farms and co-operatives. As

a result most of the land passed into private hands, by mid 1992. However these were small plots with production taking place manually rather than mechanically. The yield obviously fell, not helped by the irrigation system that had started to fall into disrepair having no co-ordinated effort to maintain it. A large proportion of the population leads a very poor existence which is another contributing factor into the migration from the rural areas to the cities.

Tourism.

The scenery in the countryside is marred by the state of the infra structure, but looking beyond this, the country has an enormous potential. It has 360 km of coastline, a large part of which consists of sandy beaches. Unfortunately these are, in the main, 'decorated' by concrete bunkers a legacy from the Hoxha regime. There are beautiful lakes, such as those at Shkodra and Pogradec, teeming with fresh water fish, vast areas of Alpine regions, and stunning landscapes that capture the imagination. Yet there are few tourists that have ventured into the country. There is a small industry in the south, mainly flying prospective visitors into CORFU and then sailing across the water gap to engage in some trekking. This only attracted the more hardy and adventurous of guests. This situation will not be resolved until better amenities are installed including communications, road, rail, airports and decent accommodation. Until then tourism will remain at a very low level relying on the internal market. This obviously will not contribute to the national income.

Infrastructure.

The road system consists in its entirety of 7,450 km of highway, of which 38% is very badly maintained, and creates some very 'interesting' drives. It is dangerous to drive at night, if only that you cannot see all the hazards inherent in the surface. Added to the night time experience, is the number of cars, carts, and animals, that very rarely display a rear light! Driving on these surfaced roads can only be conducted at moderate speeds, and on non-surfaced, at low speeds, preferably with all terrain vehicles. Such are the problems, that whenever one is asked how far is a particular destination the reply is invariably given in hours, rather than kilometres. Generally the conditions in the north are worse than in the south.

Cars were not introduced into Albania on a large scale until after 1991. Now a Mercedes can be bought on the market in DURRES for a price ranging from USD 5,000 to 20,000. It would however stand a good chance of being registered on the Interpol tracing list. Driving is mainly a domain for men, a licence can be obtained through the normal channels, or by bribing officials. Driving is therefore very erratic to put it mildly, and the majority of drivers appear impatient and very aggressive. Road signs are very few in number and traffic lights are very prone to failure. Driving on these roads in these conditions is a major hazard, one which cannot be emphasised too much. The only advice that can be offered is take extreme care and expect the unexpected! There is a rail system which consists of approximately 750 kms of track. The majority of the engines are of an ancient Chinese variety, which have a top speed of about 40 kph. The crossings have poor if any safety measures. It has little traffic, both passenger or freight.

The only navigable waterway is the river DRIN, south of Shkodra which has seen some commercial traffic in the past. There are four ports, the main one being DURRES approximately 30 kms west of TIRANA, the others being VLORA and SARANDA in the south and LEZHA in the north.

The international airport is RINAS, on the outskirts of TIRANA. The single runway consists of hexagonal concrete slabs, and only suitable for small to medium aircraft. There is an ongoing project to improve the strip and the amenities, but it is a painfully slow process.

The chief concern is the improvement of the road system, which is the minimum criteria that any prospective investor would seek. To this end there are two projects currently in hand, one north to south to link SHKODRA and VLORE, and the other east to west linking FRYROM and DURRES

via TIRANA. Little evidence can be seen of these projects except for construction work being carried out on the TIRANA - DURRES section, this is mainly due to delay in external funding.

Housing.

Tirana was built up in the Italian style of the thirties, the main boulevard and it's nearby housing still exude this ambience. The communist regime added uniformity building hideous flats, which do little more than provide a roof over the heads of the population. They are very cramped living conditions which are now in a neglected condition owing to a lack of money and will. In the north of the city, there has developed a 'shanty' town of illegally built dwelling, constructed by the migrants that come to the city in search of a better life. These are very poorly constructed and rarely have running water, electricity and not connected to any sewerage system. At times the police intervene to evict some of these families which invariably ensues into furious demonstrations. In the north a lot of the housing in the villages is of adobe construction (mud bricks). The interior of the average dwelling exude poverty, or is at best extremely shabby. Where electricity is available, the television - connected to the satellite antenna, takes centre stage.

Crime.

Unsubstantiated sources state that eight out of every ten dollars that comes into the country disappears into the pockets of the authorities and 'businessmen' without going through the regular processes! This is the main reason the country is in the state it is in. The World Bank, the EU and USA are very reluctant to provide any funding under these conditions. On the 'free' market most things can be bought, and Albanian passport costs USD 150, and a university degree certificate USD 100. Naturally corruption is endemic when there is no relation between wages and the cost of living. For instance, a policeman earning USD 70 a month, will write out a few more tickets to supplant his income. Checks by the superiors are minimal, in fact this practice is almost accepted. This it is widely believed has contributed in no small way to the present situation.

On top of this there is the organised crime which manifests itself in many forms. One of the more sinister is the trafficking in humans. There are several "specialisations", including smuggling illegal workers out of the country, transiting immigrants from outside the EC into Europe itself, and supplying women for prostitution. Many of these activities are organised by Italian/Albanian crime organisations, and earn substantial amounts of money. It appears that this would have to involve corrupt officials. It is known that, to comply with criticism from Italy, all speedboats were confiscated in VLORA and moored centrally in a small harbour guarded by police. At night the boats would be taken out, under the noses of the bribed police, to transport illegal immigrants to Italy. The boats would then be returned back to the harbour, to be seen bobbing innocently in the water before sunrise. It is unknown the amount of casualties incurred in these operations.

The now notorious pyramid schemes were believed to be just a front for a lot of criminal activities, so as to legitimatise the profits from them. It is extremely difficult to obtain evidence, but there are strong rumours that the political parties also were involved in these schemes. The bigger company in this category is called VEFA, (an abbreviation for economic activities in the army), is officially a holding company involved in supermarkets, hotels, etc. This company has very high profile in the country sponsoring every major event that occurred. These included, international soccer matches, trade fairs and even the Miss Europe contest. Having this type of legitimacy it is easy to see why it attracted an enormous amount of speculators when it offered interest of 8% per month. The IMF ruled that as long as these schemes were operating, they would not release loans that had been granted. This left the government with a predicament. The profit being paid by these unscrupulous firms was very popular with the electorate, and to close them down would have not been received very well, but not to do so, would rule out the very much needed investment. As now is common knowledge the decision was taken out of the governments hands with the turn of events.

Although most of these pyramid schemes have now collapsed, VEFA is officially still in existence. It has however ceased paying interest and is concentrating on paying back capital. For the time it is said it will pay all amounts up to USD 5,000. To date these people are still waiting.

Police.

Many of the countless policemen are former political prisoners with little or no education. The professionalism of the force therefore leaves a lot to be desired. Even if they are good willed, they have little grasp of the normal routines associated with police procedure, let alone any detailed knowledge of the law and regulations they are supposed to maintain. Considering the fact that the average policeman's day starts off with a few rakis with his coffee, following the example of his superiors, it is hardly surprising that they are not the most efficient. The overall efficiency is not helped by the fact that the majority of the Chief of the Commissariats are political appointments. Invariably these posts are filled with non-professional people who have not had any background at all in police matters.

Army.

The army although now is in a situation of disarray, is based on nine divisions, five of which are partially active and the remaining four held in reserve. The five divisions are garrisoned in GIROKASTER, KORCA, KUKES, SHKODRA, AND LEZHA districts. The army was reorganised in 1995, although the actual structures are now not absolutely clear. It is mainly consisting of conscripts which have to serve a minimum period of one year. The funding for the military is limited and it is felt that a large proportion of goes simply into day to day administration, food, etc. This leaves very little for improvement of facilities and equipment. The capacity at the last known survey was 500 tanks, 700 artillery pieces, 95 attack aircraft, and 70 small ships. These are mainly old and out-dated, but durable none the less. They have signed up for the PFP, (partnership for peace), and have held several exercises last year under this concept, with Germany, USA and it's Balkan neighbours. Their uniforms are ill fitting and shabby which indicates the level of moral which is low.

Kosovo

Little is known here of the exact nature of the situation in KOSOVO, and that is best left to the people on the ground there. What is of importance here is the effect that the area has on this region. Late last year, the ECMM conducted a survey on all operations outside of Former Yugoslavia with a view to down sizing. As we know several missions have already closed since this study. The mission here was also put under the microscope and survived the "knife" due to some extent to it's common border line with Kosovo. The province was ceded to Serbia after the First World War, without much knowledge of the Balkans as a whole. It is generally accepted that it consists of 90% ethnic Albanians. This seventy year old ethnic question is still an active issue to the present date. It is generally felt that this could be the next 'tinder box' to erupt into flames in the Balkan region. However the experience of the mission here in Albania, is that in the country as a whole, it is not an issue. The Kosovars, are considered by most of the populous, criminals who come to this country to exploit the situation and are involved with the criminal fraternity. This being so there is not a great deal of sympathy for their problem, feeling that they have enough problems of their own without inviting more. On the other hand if the situation got out of control in Kosovo, it is considered unlikely that the resulting refugee exodus would come to Albania as there would be better places to head for i.e. Macedonia.

Having said this there is more support for the cause in the north, and as this is BERISHA'S stronghold any possible north/south conflict would have to consider the Kosovo problem.

The Present situation.

A build up to the present situation is fully covered in an annex to this brief, so no attempt will be made to duplicate this. The immediate situation, although not satisfactory, is stable for the time being. There is in place a national curfew, from 2000hrs to 0600hrs, which is enforced to different levels around the country. In general the places are quiet and seemingly under control during the day, but at night the criminal element is evident by the sound of gunfire together with various felonious activities. As always there are some areas worse off than others. In VLORE and POGRADEEC, it transcends into anarchy as soon as the daylight disappears and sometimes sooner. It is suspected that the criminal element is making best use of the time before the multi national force enters their particular area. Although it has been publicly stated many times that public order is not in the force's mandate, it is generally considered otherwise by many locals.

The police has lost what little respect that they enjoyed a few months ago, and the citizens believe they cannot rely on them to protect them, or uphold the law. In their defence it is difficult to be loyal if your family has been intimidated, your own structure politically divided, and your wage amount to a pittance. All business feel they have to employ their own security, made up of citizens recently armed from the looted arsenals. The same goes for the individual, considering that he needs a weapon to protect himself, his family and his property, in the absence of law and order.

Quite where the country is going from here, is open to speculation. The 'rebels' are insisting that BERISHA steps down and elections are called, before they will release control of the towns in the south. The President is equally adamant that elections will not be held, until these people hand back control to the elected authorities. Quite how free and fair elections can be held in this environment is impossible to imagine. To retrieve all these weapons back from the country is not considered a feasible possibility, certainly not in the short term. Possibly the way forward is for people to register the fact that they are in possession of a firearm, that way the authorities could have a degree of control, without actual confiscation of weapons.

The final solution will rest with the politicians, but at the moment a solution that is considered fair and practicable to all sides seems a long way off. It is possible that an abnormal circumstance will slowly become to be accepted as the norm.

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

I PLURALISM

a. By the end of 1990 Albania was close to a major political upheaval. Students and intellectuals were the first to suggest the necessity of political change to follow the political developments in Eastern Europe and especially the breakdown of communism in Romania.

b. At the meeting of the political bureau of the Party of Labour of Albania, the Prime Secretary of the party, Ramiz Alia, presented to the political bureau the request to declare pluralism as part of the political life. After many objections by the political bureau he succeeded in declaring it. According to this, the Party of Labour of Albania would not be the only political party in the country.

c. Immediately after this decision, the Democratic Party was founded by the most distinguished intellectuals of Albania although the composition of this party is quite heterogeneous: intellectuals, students, ex-political prisoners, people who have been persecuted by the communist regime etc. The Party of Labour of Albania changed its name into Socialist Party and was divided into two factions i.e. the socialists and the communists. The last one founded the Communist Party and later at the request of the Democratic Party and the decision of the parliament, it was banned.

d. In 1992 the Democratic Party won the majority of the votes. When the DP came into power, its leaders declared that they favoured a coalition with the other political parties except the Socialist Party.

e. During these last years, 27 political parties and organizations have been founded. You will find a brief summary of the main ones in para. 2.

f. On 26 May 1996 the third pluralist political elections were held in Albania, where the Democratic Party won comfortably and secured 87% of the seats in the Parliament.

g. The Socialist Party withdrew its members from the electoral commissions. They also did not accept the result and refused to participate in the Parliament (and still do), although one member attends it independently.

II THE MAIN ALBANIAN POLITICAL PARTIES

The main political groupings are the Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, the Centre Pole (a pre-election coalition between the Democratic Alliance and the Social-Democrats), the Forum for Democracy and Right Democratic Union.

a. Democratic Party: Chairman Tritan Shehu (right arm of Berisha, Minister of Foreign Affairs and deputy Prime Minister)

It is a right of centre party. Its political program excludes coalition with the main opposition party, the Socialists. Concerning the economic program, they stand for a major economic and social reform. Their foreign policy tends towards Europe tendency but there are preferences even for the Islamic countries. To the last point they have been criticized by the opposition for including Albania in the Islamic Conference.

b. Socialist Party: Chairman Fatos NANO (jailed for four years ago, now pardoned). It is the main opposition party. Its political program accepts coalitions with other political parties and its economic program consists in more gradual economic and social reform and it favors a free market economy. Actually, it was undergoing a crisis after the severe defeat in the general and local elections. Recent events have galvanised the party, now they see a chance to regain power.. The Eurosocialist Youth Forum is trying to gain more independence and have its own influence in the Albanian politics.

c. Centre Pole parties (coalition):

(1) Democratic Alliance Party: President Neritan Ceka (one of the founders of DP). Came into life as a split from the Democratic Party, initiated as a faction within the DP. It is a liberal democratic party and West oriented. They have been consistently against Albanian membership in the Islamic Conference.

(2) Social-Democratic Party: Chairman Skender Gjinushi. Formerly supporting the DP, now in opposition and, alike the DA is against the polarization of Albanian politics, placing itself in the middle as a balancing force. Both parties have lost support and are financially facing bankruptcy because they won nothing in the elections. Actually they are at the crossroads of seeking alliances from left to right of the political specter.

d. Right Democratic Union (coalition)

It consist of the National Front Party and the Legality Party Initially it started as a pre-election coalition. Soon, the coalition proved to be successful politically in winning the post of the Mayor in the most important town of Albania, in Shkodra. Then both parties decided to create the Right Democratic Union of Shkodra in which they invited the Association of the ex-politically prosecuted prisoners. The coalition extended to the towns of Vlora and Berat and it is aiming to expand in all Albania. Despite the difficulties, they think that they will be the main political force in future. Recently, due to rapid developments in the aspects of economy (bankruptcy of the usury companies) and politics, times have become favorable for the coalition. Recently the coalition declared that a Right Democratic Union of Albania is now created and consolidated. The Coalition is extended to 12 main towns and districts of Albania.

(1) Balli Kombit (National Front)

Acting chairman: Hysen Selfo (deputy) The real force of it is in the Albanian Diaspora. The Chairman Prof Abaz Ermenji left Albania soon after the general elections protesting against the manipulations with the votes and the collaborating attitude of the steering committee of his party. It is a very right wing and nationalist party. It fights for Great Ethnical Albania. It is the oldest Albanian party founded in 1942. It worked in exile till 1992, and it is very anti-Communist.

(2) Legality Party(Royalist)

Main chairman is Guri Durollari It consists of three factions namely: Legality Party, the Movement of the Legality party and the Democratic Union of the Legality Party). It fights for a democratic installation of Constitutional Monarchy headed by King Leka I (King Zog's son), who lives in South Africa. Having recently returned to his native country, this party is experiencing a revival, expected to be short lived.

e. The "Forum for Democracy" has been founded recently. It is headed by a group of three representatives, who will be in charge of the coordination of activities among the member parties. The actual chairman is Mr. Kurt Kola (chairman of the Association of the ex-politically prosecuted prisoners and formerly the main support and basis of the ruling DP. Trying to run as a "parallel" parliament, it aims at uniting all the political forces against the DP. Against all predictions and experience, the Forum consists of left wing parties (SP, SDP and centre DAP) as well as right wing ones like RDP (extreme right but minor), Right Republican Party, Democratic Ideal Party, Legality Movement Party, National Unity Party and Agrarian Party as well as the Association of the ex-politically prosecuted prisoners. The Forum aims at bringing all the political parties together and discuss in a round table the big issues the nation is faced with.

f. Republican Party: Chairman Sabri Godo. Is one of the first parties founded at the beginning of 1991. The main issue in its economic program is restitution of properties to former owners. It does not influence much the political life of Albania as it does not have much support.

g. Human Rights Union Party: Is a strong political force in the South of Albania. In theory this party was set up to defend the interests of all the minorities existing in Albania (Slav - Macedonians, Montenegrins and Greeks), but as a matter of fact, this party came into existence soon after the Albanian Parliament of 1992 passed a law, in which parties based on ethnic minorities were not allowed in Albania. So "Omonia", the political organization of the Greek minority population became the basis of the new party. This party is very Greek- oriented. It exploits the large number of refugees in Greece, in every election campaign, extremely well.

h. Other minor parties:

(1) Christian Democratic Party: is more influential in North Albania (otherwise it is called the party of the Catholics).

(2) National Unity Party: is operational in all the areas where Albanians live in the Balkans (Kosova, Southern Macedonia, Montenegro, Croatia and Turkey) as well as in U.S.A, Germany, Switzerland where the Albanian Diaspora lives. It is the only party that has a program for a peaceful historical reunification of "Greater Albania". It cooperates with political associations like "Kosova" and "Cameria". The latter is a political organization that fights for the rights and the restitution of the properties to the Albanians who lived in Northern Greece. Opened to coalitions with any party, except with ruling DP. Its chairman is in jail, at present.

(3) Agrarian Party: People refer to it as the party that fights for the farmers' interests. This party scored a small victory in the 1992 local elections, but now, it does not have much support. It tends to fall in coalitions with the Left wing parties.

3. PARLIAMENT IN RESIGNATION

The Albanian Parliament was set up according to the results of the last general election of May 26, 1996, when the Democratic Party won the majority of the seats in the parliament. There were 140 deputies in the Albanian Parliament. 122 seats belonged to DP, 10 to SP, 3 to Republican Party, 3 to HRUP, 2 to the National Front. 9 Socialist MP's and 2 HRUP MP's refused to participate in the parliament. Following is a comparative table of the results of the two last pluralist elections:

1992	1996
DP had 83 seats -59.3%	DP has 122 seats
SP had 38 seats -27.1%	SP has 10 seats
SDP had 7 seats -5 %	
RP had 1 seat -0.7%	RP has 3 seats
HRUP had 2 seats -1.4%	HRUP has 3 seats
Indep. had 9 seats -6.4%	Nat.Front has 2 seats

PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION.

Presently there is an interim government holding office during the present crisis. It is headed by the Socialist Prime Minister, BASHKIM FINO. Elections are planned for the end of June. All parties have agreed on a consensus for the electoral law. The democratic party are suffering from internal arguments which has resulted in the formation of a breakaway union called Movement for Democracy. Quite how much following this will have is yet unknown. What can be certain is that it will weaken the DP party.

The next few weeks will determine the course of the country leading up to the millennium.

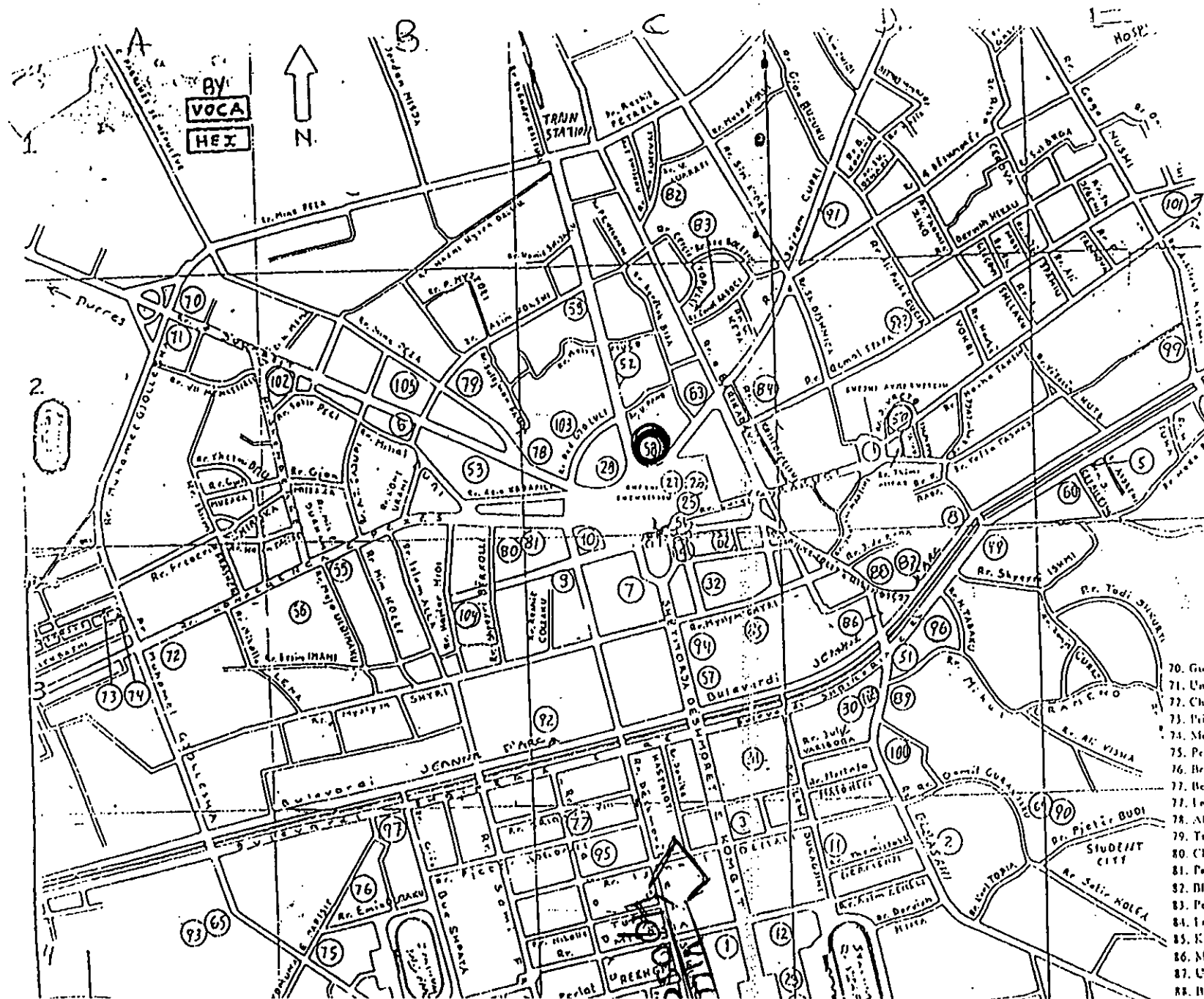
Some standard phrases in Albanian.

Good Morning	Mirëmëngjes
Good Day Good Afternoon	Mirëdita
Goodbye	Ditën e mirë
Good night	Natën e mirë
Good bye, So long	Mirëupafshim
Hello, how do you do	Tungatjeta
How are you?	Tungatjeta
I am fine	Shumë mirë
Thank-you	Faleminderit
How is your family?	Si jeni nga familja?
Pleased to meet you	Kam kënaqësi t'ju takoj
So so	çka (disi)
Yes	Po
No	Jo
Good (well)	Mirë
Bad	Keq
Please	Ju lutem
All right (OK)	Në rregull (dakord)
With pleasure	Me kënaqësi
Perhaps	Ndoshta
I see (I understand)	E marr vesh, e kuptoj
I don't understand	Nuk e kuptoj
I know	E di
I don't know	Nuk e di
Excuse me (I am sorry)	Më falni
Cheers!	Gëzuar
I am ready	Jam gati
Let's go, Come on	Eja, shkojmë
I must go	Duhet të shkoj
I am hungry	Kam uri
I want something to eat	Dua të ha dicka
I am thirsty	Kam etje
I want something to drink	Dua të pi diçka
What is your address?	Cila është adresa juaj?
Don't forget	Mos harroni
Wait a moment please	Prisni një minutë, ju lutem
Come here please	Ejani këtu, ju lutem
As soon as possible	Sa më shpejt të jetë e mundur
Would you like a cigarette (drink)	Dëshironi një cigare (ndonjë pijë)
Come and have breakfast with us	Urdhëroni të hamë mëgjesin bashkë
Lunch - Supper	Drekën - Darkën
How do you spell it?	Si shkruhet?
How much does it cost?	Sa kushton?
It's expensive!	është i shtrenjtë!
It's cheap!	është i lirë
I wish you good luck	Ju uroj fat të mbarë
Congratulations	Urime

Happy birthday
Best wishes to you
All the best
Thank you very much
I am very grateful to you
It's very kind of you
Where are you from?
I am from
How long are you going
to stay in Albania?
I shall stay for a few days
weeks, months, year
What is your nationality?
I am
What language do you speak?
I speak English
Do you speak Albanian/English?
No I don't speak Shqip
Just a little
Do you understand me?
I understand you
I don't understand you

Gëzuar ditëlindjen
Urimet më të mira
Gjithë tëmirat
Ju faleminderit shumë
Ju jam mirënjohës
Jeni shumë i sjellshëm
Nga jeni ju?
Jam nga
Sa kohë do të qëndroni në Shqipëri?

Do të qëndroj disa ditë
javë, muaj, vit
ç'kombësi keni?
Jam
ç'gjuhë flisni?
Flas anglisht
Flishni Shqip/Anglisht?
Jo, nuk flas shqip
Fare pak
A më kuptoni?
Ju kuptoj
Nuk ju kuptoj



1. U.S. Embassy B4
2. Council of Ministers C1
3. Municipality C1
4. Ministry of Health & Environment I2
5. Attorney General's Office B1
6. Ministry of Agric. & Food C1
7. Albanian Television Agency I2
8. Post & Telecommunications C1
9. Bank of Albania C2
10. Television Albania D4
11. Palace of Congress C4
12. University Library C4
13. Polytechnic University C4
14. Academy of Arts C4
15. National Library C2
16. Palace of Culture C2
17. Theater of Opera & Ballet C2
18. National Museum of History C2
19. Archeological Museum C1
20. VOCA
21. Int'l Cultural Center - Pyramid C1
22. USAID C3
23. National Theater C3
24. Open "Industrial" Market D3
25. Grand Food Market D2
26. Open Food Market D3
27. Blue Greek Market C2
28. American Express B2
29. Mosque
30. Catholic Church
31. Orthodox Church
32. HOTEL S
33. Dajti C3
34. Tirana C2
35. Albania C2
36. Athens F2

37. Dajti C3
38. Tirana C2
39. Albania C2
40. Athens F2
41. Dajti C3
42. Tirana C2
43. Made in Italy B3
44. Diplomat A1

RESTAURANTS

45. Guden A2
46. Unioni A2
47. Chinese A1
48. Private A1
49. Mondial A1
50. Pepi B1
51. Brnans B1
52. Berluer C1
53. Louanne C4
54. Alfa C2
55. Taverna Tafaj B2
56. Chez Louant (Fr) B1
57. Pasty Rins C3
58. Black Eagle (Fr) C1
59. Pelikon C2
60. La Perle (It) C2
61. Ksajps C3
62. Mona Lisa (Pizze) D3
63. Ure e Tabakere (Pizze) D3
64. Berliner Kintle D3
65. Amis B1
66. Shaziz (Assian) C1
67. Diplomat A1
68. Las Vegas Las Vegas
69. Restaurant Tirana C1
70. Etna e Maltre (China)
71. Hong Kong P. House
72. Laska D2
73. Picholo F2
74. Bodge F3
75. Mollo F1
76. Rapiti (Indones) D2
77. Piazza (Indones) C2
78. Burgov D3
79. Krupa B2
80. Chateau du Bois C4
81. Carlsberg C4
82. Fil D3

EMERGENCY

POST-OFFICE

Tel. 13/142 44/342 09/220 99/230 99 321 2

AMBULANCE

Tel. 17

FIRE-BRIGADE

Tel. 18

POLICE

Tel. 19/233 22/244 45/248 19/245 29

ELECTRICAL EMERGENCY

Tel. 264 92/226 16

INFORMATION

Tel. 14

PHYSICIANS

Gjergj THEODHOSI

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Mihail TAZE

Tel. 336 44

Viktor QERESHNIKU

Tel. 326 45

APPENDIX E

**OSCE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS
FOR DEPLOYMENTS**

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION RECEPTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF STOs – 211200 JUN 97

1. GENERAL.

Approximately 450 STOs /Parliamentarians will arrive in Albania between 20 – 25 June 97, will be accommodated in Tirana, briefed, trained, equipped and will deploy throughout Albania to observe and report on the elections.

The election date is Sunday 29 June. Most STOs depart the mission on Wednesday 02 July. A number of observers will remain or return to observe Phase 2

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ARRIVAL OF OBSERVERS

Five clearly marked buses with a total capacity of 150 persons and luggage will assemble at the Airport at 1100 hrs each day.

- The buses will ferry STOs as required to the Army Cultural Conference Center, where registration will take place, on order from Denis Killian.
- The buses will continue this activity until Fri 27 June 97.
- Two minibuses will also carry out this activity.
- A clearly marked manned Control Center will operate at the airport from Fri 20 June until Fri 27 June and again on 02 and 03 July. STOs will be checked on to the buses against personnel lists.
- Three Log staff members will carry OSCE marker boards and organise transfer to the buses. A loud hailer will be available.
- Denis Killian will organise and oversee the Airport details.

3. REGISTRATION

- On arrival at the Army Cultural Conference Center, Jean dArc St., STOs will be directed to the center.
- Three Log staff members, assisted by three STO staff personnel will carry out the registration and application for accreditation.
- Kate Mounce will organise and control Registration.
- Gregor Neisson is in charge of Accreditation.
- Lorraine Waitt will organise and control an Information Desk where STOs may seek assistance.
- Two photographers will be in attendance at the conference center.

- On completion of registration, STOs will be driven by bus/minibus to their accommodation and informed of next days programme at the conference center.
- Andre Bouchard controls the deployment details of the STOs.

4. BRIEFINGS

- Briefings and training will be conducted by Carlos Guerrero in the conference center as per his prepared programme.
- A bus shuttle service will operate from 0800 hrs to 0900 hrs from the Tirana Hotel to the conference center. However, most observers will be encouraged to make their own transport arrangements.
- The main briefing day will be Thu 26 June when teams are announced and a deployment rehearsal takes place on the same day (without participation of STOs)
- Teams operating OUTSIDE and INSIDE TIRANA will meet their interpreters and drivers at the Briefing Centre at 1500hrs on 26 Jun 97.
- Briefings, registration and advance payments of Interpreters takes place at 0900 hrs on Mon 23 Jun.
- Briefing, advance payment and issue of ID cards to Drivers takes place at 0800 hrs on Tue 24 Jun.

5. REHEARSAL OF DEPLOYMENT DRILL 0600hrs THU 26 JUN

Teams OUTSIDE TIRANA

- A rehearsal of the move out for teams OUTSIDE TIRANA will be effected on Thu 26 June at 0600 hrs, the day before the actual deployment.
- Cars, military and civilian, will assemble as per Annex A attached. All vehicles will be clearly marked with two letters of the final destination and the car serial number (e.g. Durres will be DU1 to DU5).
- These car numbers will be assigned to teams (which will have numbers but not a letter) according to where the teams are to go.
- The location of the packets of the cars is the Pyramid Square shown on the map attached as Annex B.
- Military escort vehicles will not be available for the rehearsal.
- STOs will not be available for the rehearsal.
- Interpreters will be available for the rehearsal and will assemble opposite the Pyramid at 0700 hrs and form up opposite their team numbers which will be on display.
- The drivers will wait in their cars until told to move out.
- Interpreters will be told by the Transport Manager Dario Micchiche to go to their cars at 0730hrs and prepare to move out.
- The packet will move at approximately 0800 hrs, on orders from the Movement Controller Peter Mullen who will be equipped with a radio and a loud hailer.
- The route will follow closely that which will be their route on deployment day. However, Interpreters will disembark at the University and packets will divert to.

the Old Airport where debriefing and fitting of radios and medical kits to the vehicles will take place before dispersal.

- At 1500 hrs. drivers and interpreters will assemble at the Briefing Centre. The drivers will park outside along the river. The Drivers, Interpreters and STOs will then become familiar with one another.

6. DEPLOYMENT DRILL FOR TEAMS OUTSIDE TIRANA FRIDAY 27 JUNE

- All personnel will assemble by bus or on foot at Pyramid Square at 0600 hrs on Friday 27 June. They will take up positions opposite their numbers and will be joined by their interpreters. The drivers stay in their cars which are located as at rehearsal. Personnel will be dispatched to their cars on order of the Movement Controller Peter Mullen.
- It will be the responsibility of the STOs to be at the Pyramid Square no later than 0600hrs. Details of a limited bus shuttle service to assist STOs in this regard will be announced at the briefing on 26 June
- All cars will be drawn up in packets as at rehearsal.
- Military escort vehicles will assemble at Stadium Square and will be called up by radio when the packet is ready to move out. Packets having to move the furthest distance will be moved out first, as per Plan.
- The Transport Manager, Dario Micchiche will decide when packets will move.
- Movement Controller Peter Mullen will issue orders for the move out.
- Repair and Recovery. Repair and recovery facilities exist within the military vehicle organisation.
- Medical. Medical facilities exist within the military system. A First Aid pack will be issued to each driver at the Old Airport following deployment rehearsal.
- Emergency. Assembly areas in the event of any dangerous developments will be the nearest military post.
- Dispersal points. Packets will be met on arrival by LTOs already in location who will organise further deployment, hotel check-in etc.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

- All cars will be fitted with radios as necessary at the Old Airport following the deployment rehearsal on 26 June under the direction of the Communications Officers.
- Strict radio silence will be enforced on the route and only emergency calls will be made.

8. PARLIAMENTARIANS

- Some observers may not arrive in the mission area in time for the main briefing and deployment.

- Parliamentarians will be briefed in the Parliament Office building on Friday 27 June at 1000hrs.
- A separate grouping will be briefed in the same building at 1800 hrs on Friday 27 June.
- These personnel will receive their allocated drivers/interpreters at 1900hrs in the Tirana Hotel, and at 2000 hrs in the Rogner Hotel.
- If any of this particular group are required to operate OUTSIDE TIRANA, then a specific deployment plan will be required. Sufficient notice must be given for adequate liaison to take place in regard to escorts etc..

9. RETURN TO TIRANA (DRIVERS/INTERPRETERS)

- Packets will re-assemble and return individually following the election to Pyramid Square, at which point their escorts will disperse.
- Drivers will take personnel to their hotels following which the cars will drive to the "Qemal Stafa" Stadium carpark from 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs daily in order to return their radios. On satisfactory receipt of radios, drivers will be issued with a Clearance Certificate which will be necessary in order to receive their final payment.
- Final payments to drivers and interpreters who have finished their contracts will take place in the OSCE Office in the Tirana Hotel on Friday 04 July from 1200 hrs to 1500 hrs.
- Personnel will be taken by bus from Pyramid Square as before to the Airport on 01-03 July.

10. RETURN OF STOs TO HOME COUNTRIES

- A bus shuttle service will operate from the Tirana International Hotel from 01 to 03 July. Detailed timings will be issued at the Briefing on 26 June.



Patrick Keogh,
Chief Logistics Officer
 Distr: Section Heads

TIRANA

General Orientation for Briefings/Deployment

HOTEL TIRANA

Tirana International Hotel

**OSCE BRIEFING
CENTRE**

Albanian Army Cultural Centre

STO Form Up Point

Piramida Square

Mil Escort Form Up Point

Stadium "QEMAL STAFI"

**THE MAIN BRIEFING FOR
STOs
WILL TAKE PLACE AT
OSCE BRIEFING CENTRE
AT 0900hrs on THURSDAY
26 JUNE 97**

DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS FOR THE ELECTION DAY

- ☐ OSCE/ODHIR ELECTION OBSERVATION HANDBOOK
- ☐ MAP OF ALBANIA
- ☐ MAP OF THE OBSERVATION ZONES
- ☐ REGULATION FOR THE OBSERVERS (CEC)
- ☐ EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND MILITARY CAMPS
- ☐ FMP ELECTIONS DEPLOYMENT MAP
- ☐ ALBANIAN ELECTORAL LAW (IN ENGLISH 1 PER OBSERVER)
- ☐ ALBANIAN ELECTORAL LAW (IN ALBANIAN 1 PER TEAM)
- ☐ POLICE INSTRUCTIONS
- ☐ LIST OF POLITICAL PARTIES (IN ALBANIAN AND IN ENGLISH)
- ☐ OBSERVERS ELECTION DAY INSTRUCTIONS
- ☐ ELECTION FORMS FOR OBSERVERS (10)
- ☐ PHOTOCOPY OF PROTOCOL TO TRANSCRIBE COUNTING RESULTS (2)

- ☐ ENVELOPE TO DELIVER FORMS (1)
- ☐ CEC CREDENTIAL (1)
- ☐ OSCE CAP (1)
- ☐ OSCE ARM BAND (1)
- ☐ CLIPBOARD (1)
- ☐ PEN (1)
- ☐ FLASHLIGHT (1)
- ☐ BATTERIES (1 PACK)
- ☐ SLEEPING BAG (WHEN APPLIED)
- ☐ RADIO (WHEN APPLIED)
- ☐ BLANKET (WHEN APPLIED)

Additional documents that will be available at registration:

- ☐ WELCOME TO ALBANIA
- ☐ MAP OF TIRANA
- ☐ ALBANIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 1997
- ☐ STANDARD PHRASES IN ALBANIAN
- ☐ RADIO COMMUNICATIONS CODES AND INSTRUCTIONS

Information to be posted

- ☐ TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF OSCE IN TIRANA
- ☐ LIST OF EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES

Documents to be distributed on briefing day

- ☐ INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PSC MEMBERS
- ☐ ZEC INSTRUCTIONS
- ☐ SUMMARY OF PSC PROCEDURES (SLIDE PRESENTATION)

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

1. General. The purpose of this plan is to provide guidelines in case of emergency. This includes:
 - Accidents or illness.
 - Physical threat from a hostile person or a group of persons.
 - Worst case: a repetition of the general disorder in March and a renewed outbreak of widespread violence.

Medical Care

2. OSCE has been allowed to use the MPF medical system. This includes medical treatment at a MPF medical unit and medical evacuation by land or helicopter to a MPF medical unit or evacuation to a hospital in Brindisi.

Assembly Plan

3. In Tirana. In any scenario it is strongly recommended that all OSCE personnel working in Tirana observe the following guidelines:
 - a. During normal working hours. Personnel stay in Villa 6. Personnel outside Villa 6 must go directly to either Villa 6 or Hotel Rogner, depending on the situation, and report to the Austrian guard from MPF.
 - b. Outside normal working hours. If possible, go directly to either Villa 6 or Hotel Rogner, depending of the situation, and report to the Austrian guard from MPF. If that is not possible, then stay in your accommodation and wait until contacted by the Austrian Guard from MPF or until it is safe to go to Villa 6 or Hotel Rogner. If necessary, the Austrian guard will evacuate personnel lodged in Hotel Tirana or in private accommodation to Villa 6 or Hotel Rogner.
4. Outside Tirana. In case of an emergency it is recommended that all OSCE personnel working outside Tirana observe the following guidelines:
 - a. If approached by a hostile group, or in another way threatened, and there is no possibility to move away from the area: try to establish contact with the nearest MPF patrol or location by radio or telephone; if that is not possible, try to establish contact with OSCE/Villa 6 by same means.
 - b. In case of general disorder and violence, go to the nearest MPF location for protection.

Evacuation

5. MPF will evacuate all OSCE personnel after these have assembled in MPF locations, and an order to execute evacuation has been received.

JOB DESCRIPTION COORDINATORS

1. The Regional Coordinator is in charge of ODHIR operations in the region and is responsible for contacts with HQ
2. He/she has to have an overview of the region
3. Has to receive, brief and deploy STO's (including RTA and LTO)
4. Has to organize the observation of the ZEC
5. Has to collect and dispatch reports on E-Day and on E-day + 1
6. Is responsible for regional debriefing on E-day +1 (Monday)
7. Is responsible for the regional report
8. Is responsible for the departure of STO to Tirana
9. Has to attend the debriefing in Tirana on Tuesday, July 1st, 17.00 h.

ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES For STOs

Aims

You should aim to cover 10 polling stations during the day spending a minimum of 30 minutes in each station. It is not a competition to see which observers can visit the most stations – we are looking for quality rather than quantity.

You should select one **Primary** polling station and nine **Secondary** stations. The Primary station is the one you will visit first and last witnessing the opening, the voting, the closing and the count.

You should always work as a team, staying together at all times.

General Instructions

1st station should be military base (if available)

1. You should arrive at your first polling station by no later than 0645hrs. The Polling Station Commission (PSC) starts work at 0700hrs so you should witness the arrival of the ballot box and other materials together with members of the PSC.
2. You should wear your cap and arm band ^{And T-Shirt} at all times. Your I.D. should be visible at all times and your first task is to introduce yourself to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and other members of the Commission. You should inform the Chairman that it is your intention to observe the opening of the poll and to remain in the polling station for some time after opening to observe the process of voting. Find yourself a chair and sit away from the PSC in a position which allows you to observe the whole process.
3. As an observer you should be courteous at all times remembering that you are looking at the process and that you should not intervene or interfere in any way whatsoever. Should you witness any irregularities then this should be recorded on the election form for that particular polling station. You may inform the PSC that you have made such a record but before doing so you will need to take account of the atmosphere within the station.

Prior to Opening the Polling Station

4. The "Manual for Polling Station Commission Members" enclosed in your pack sets out the preparations needed before voting commences and these include checking the ballot box; sealing it; recording the number of ballots received; stamping and signing of ballots and determining those ballots which are unusable.

The Opening and the Voting Process

5. As soon as the procedures described in paragraph 4 have been completed, and providing it is 0800hrs, the Chairman of the PSC declares the voting opened. You may find that the PSC members will cast their votes first. The

voting procedures up to and including the close of voting are described in the "Manual for PSC Members". At the end of the Manual is a flow-chart describing the voting procedure.

6. It is recommended that you remain at the **Primary polling station** for thirty minutes after the first voter votes. You should not advise the PSC that you will be returning.
7. You should then travel to your second polling station and you should cover **four secondary stations** during the morning. Upon arriving the procedures described in paragraphs Nod. 2 and 3 above should be followed.
8. It is recommended that the election observation form is completed before you leave the station. It is easy to forget important details if you delay completion. Remember you should stay for a minimum of 30 minutes at secondary stations. Upon leaving the station thank the Chairman and the other members of the Commission and say if time allows you will return some time before close of polling.
9. You should complete the visit to the fourth secondary station in time for you to meet your zone coordinator at approximately 12 noon. The five polling station observation forms completed by you should be delivered at that time. You should then break for lunch.
10. After lunch you should visit the remaining five **secondary stations** allowing enough time for you to arrive at your **Primary station** by no later than 8pm.

Close of Poll and Count

11. You should witness the closing of the **Primary polling station** and complete your election form as appropriate. The PSC will then organise the counting of the votes, a procedure you should watch carefully. Again, it's worth pointing out that you are there to observe and no matter how great the temptation you should not intervene or interfere in the counting process in any way.
12. After the filling of the evaluation for counting form (you will find this at the end of the booklet), using the photocopy of the protocol sheet provided to you, transcribe the results of your **Primary polling station**. Then go to the nearest polling station still working and try to observe its counting process complete the second evaluation form and transcribe the results in the protocol photocopy. If you do not find any PSC still operating at least do the transcription of the result.
12. Your final task is to deliver all remaining forms to the zone coordinator who will arrange for rapid transportation to the Tirana computer centre. You should write your team number, the names of your team members and I.D. numbers on the outside of the envelope.

TEAM REPORT FORM

Team No. _____

Date: _____

Zone No. _____

VOTER REGISTRATION:

- Are the voters list posted? Yes _____ No _____

- Temporary Residence

Established list for each polling station? Yes _____ No _____

Procedures set up to cancel registration in former address
Yes _____ No _____

Comments: _____

INTERVIEW WITH A MEMBER OF THE ZONE ELECTORAL COMMISSION:

Name & title _____

Phone no. _____ Address _____

Is the ZEC meeting? Yes _____ No _____

Has candidate registration started? Yes _____ No _____

Is the candidate registration completed? Yes _____ Date _____

Number of Polling Stations in Zone _____

Number of voters in the Zone _____

Number of voters per Polling Station in Zone.

INTERVIEW WITH THE PREFECT (NAME):

Have they been allocated sufficient resources (included finances) to:

- a. Secure sufficient number of polling stations?
- b. Build voting booths
- c. Other

Comments:

POLITICAL RALLIES

Party _____ Date _____ Place _____

Security

Crowd

Disturbance

CONTACT WITH POLITICAL PARTIES (CANDIDATES)

Comments:

OWN ASSESSMENT

Security situation in the area:

Communication – radio, etc:

EMERGENCY CALLS

1. MAYDAY – MAYDAY – MAYDAY.
2. THIS IS (FULL CALL SIGN).
3. (POSITION).
4. (REASON FOR EMERGENCY).
5. OVER.

WAIT FOR ANSWER.

- a. NO ANSWER AFTER 30 SECONDS – REPEAT THE ABOVE.
- b. NO ANSWER AFTER ANOTHER 30 SECONDS – SWITCH TO INTER-REGIONAL REPEATER AND REPEAT THE ABOVE.

ACCOMMODATION RESOURCES OUTSIDE OF TIRANA

LOCATION	No. of Teams	No. of Pers	Accommodation Arrangements	Contact No	TRANSPORT		Remarks
					Taxis	Military	
BERAT	5	20	Italian Camp in KUCOVA		5		
LUSHNJE	11	44	Italian Camp in KUCOVA			11	
DURRES	25	100	Italian Ship - SAN GEORGIO		25		
ELBASON	16	64	Hotel KAMPA, ELBASON	0545-2661/2441	16		
FIER	18	72	Hotel FIERI, FIER	0642-2394		18	
GJOROKASTRA	13	52	Romanian Camp GJOROKASTRA			13	
KAVAJA	10	40	Italian Ship. SAN GEORGIO		10		
KORCE	20	80	Hotel ILIRYA, KORCE	0824-3168		20	
KUKES							
LEZHE	13	52	Spanish Camp SHENGIN		13		
PESHKOPI	14	56	Turkish Camp, PESHKOPI			14	
PODGRADE	5	20	Hotel ILIRYA, KORCE	0824-3168		5	
SARANDE	2	8	Romanian Camp GJOROKASTRA			2	
SKHODRA	15	60	Hotel ROZAFI, SKHODRA Tel: 0224-2767/3590	0224-2767/3590	3	12	
VLORE	15	60	Hotel APPOLONIA <i>M. L. H. K.</i> Hotel ARTHUR <i>Ar. Ar. Ar.</i>		15		Check Scty urgently
	6						

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION RECEPTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF STOs ROUND TWO

1. GENERAL.

A total of 66 teams, each consisting of two observers, one interpreter and one driver, will be deployed over a three day period 04-06 July to monitor Round Two of the Albanian elections.

The teams will separately be made up of LTOs, STOs and Parliamentarians, and ECMM personnel. Some of these personnel are already in the mission area, others will arrive on Thursday and Friday 03/04 July.

The election date is Sunday 06 July. The return from the outlying areas will be on Monday 07 July, and most observers will depart the mission on Tuesday 08 July.

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ARRIVAL OF OBSERVERS

Observers will be met at Rinas Airport and transported to the Tirana International Hotel where Registration and Accreditation will take place in the Bogdani Room.

- Dick Andrews will organise and oversee the Airport details.

3. REGISTRATION

- Kate Mounce will organise and control Registration.
- Carlos Guerrero is in charge of Accreditation.
- Two photographers will be in attendance at the conference center.
- Andre Bouchard controls the deployment details of the STOs.

4. BRIEFINGS

- The main briefing day for STOs will be Fri 04 July in the Balsha Room in the Tirana International Hotel.
- Kate Birsell will coordinate interpreters in the Albanian Army Cultural Center at 1330 hrs on Friday 04 July.

5. POINTS OF CONTACT BETWEEN STOs, AND THEIR DRIVERS/INTERPRETERS

- LTO Teams will meet their interpreters and drivers at the Tirana International Hotel at 0800 hrs at Friday 04 July.
- STO Teams will NOT meet their drivers and interpreters until actual deployment at 0600 hrs on Sat/Sun at Pyramid Square. It is essential therefore that personnel are punctual.

6. DEPLOYMENT DRILL FOR LTO TEAMS FRIDAY 04 JULY

- Deployment will take place from the Tirana International Hotel at 0800 hrs on Friday 04 July.
- Cars will be of a military type and will be parked in front of the Hotel with the drivers remaining in the cars.
- The Military Escort will form up in front of HOTEL DAJTI on the main Boulevard.
- Lorella Dapporto will organise the matching of teams with interpreters and their drivers/cars for the move out.
- The Commanders of the Military Escorts will be in the lobby of the Tirana Hotel and will call up their escorts for the move out on the instructions of Dario Micchiche.
- LTOs NOT deploying outside of Tirana, will meet their interpreters and drivers after the departure of the main body. They will instruct their drivers and interpreters re further contact, including deployment time and date.

7. DEPLOYMENT DRILL FOR STO TEAMS SATURDAY 05 JULY

- All personnel will assemble by bus or on foot at Pyramid Square at 0600 hrs on Saturday 05 July. All personnel staying in Chateau LINZA will be collected by bus at 0530hrs. Personnel staying in Hotel Tirana will be collected by bus at the same time.
- It will be the responsibility of the STOs to be at the Pyramid Square no later than 0600hrs.
- All cars will assemble on the Boulevard and will be clearly marked with their team destination (e.g. Shkoder teams will be designated SH 1 -10, Vlore VL 1-3 etc.) The drivers will remain in their vehicles.
- Interpreters will match up with their teams and drivers under the control of Kate Birsel.
- Military escort vehicles will assemble at "Qemal Stafa" Stadium Square and will be called up by radio when the packet is ready to move out.
- The Transport Manager, Dario Micchiche will decide when packets will move.
- Movement Controller Peter Mullen will issue orders for the move out.
- Repair and Recovery. Repair and recovery facilities exist within the military vehicle organisation.

- Medical. Medical facilities exist within the military system.
- Emergency. Assembly areas in the event of any dangerous developments will be the nearest military post.
- Dispersal points. Packets will be met on arrival by LTOs already in location who will organise further deployment, hotel check-in etc.

8. DEPLOYMENT DRILL FOR STO TEAMS SUNDAY 06 JULY

- Teams operating in Tirana and Durres will deploy on Sunday 06 July at 0600 hrs under the same arrangements that apply in Para 7 above.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

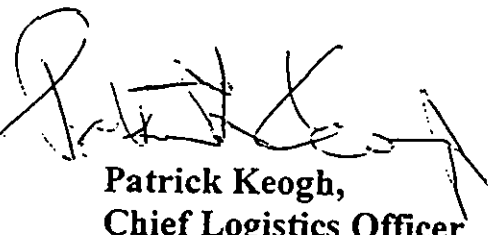
- All cars will be fitted with radios.
- Strict radio silence will be enforced on the route and only emergency calls will be made.

10. RETURN TO TIRANA (DRIVERS/INTERPRETERS)

- Packets will re-assemble and return individually following the election to Pyramid Square, at which point their escorts will disperse.
- A transport service will be available to transport personnel to their accommodation.
- Final payments to interpreters who have finished their contracts will take place in the Tirana International Hotel at 1200 hrs on Thursday 10 July.
- Final payments to LTOs and TAG drivers/interpreters who have finished their contracts will take place in Villa 6 at 1200 hrs on Friday 11 July.

11. RETURN OF STOs TO HOME COUNTRIES

- A bus shuttle service will operate from Chateau LINZA, and as required from 08 to 11 July.


Patrick Keogh,
Chief Logistics Officer
 Distr: **Section Heads**

ROUND TWO DEPLOYMENT

REGION	TEAMS							ACCOMMODATION
	LTO (Fri)	TPT	STO		TPT	ECMM	TOTAL	
			Sat	Sun				
SHKODER	3	Ger	10		Ital	2	15 17	Hotel Rasafa, Shkoder
DURRES	3	Ital		13 8	Ital	0	16 13	N/A (TIR) Italian Camp <i>North</i>
TIRANA	5	Aus		10	Ital	0	15 4	N/A (TIR) <i>West</i>
ELBASAN	2	Ger				1	3	Hotel Campa, Elbasan
BERAT	2	Ger				1	3 1	Italian Camp, Kucova
KORCE	2	Ger				1	3	Hotel Aleria, Korce <i>South</i>
VLORE	1	Ger	3		Gre	2	6 4	Italian Camp, Vlore
DIBER	2	Ger				3	3	N/A (TIR) <i>South</i>
TOTALS	20		13	23		10	66	

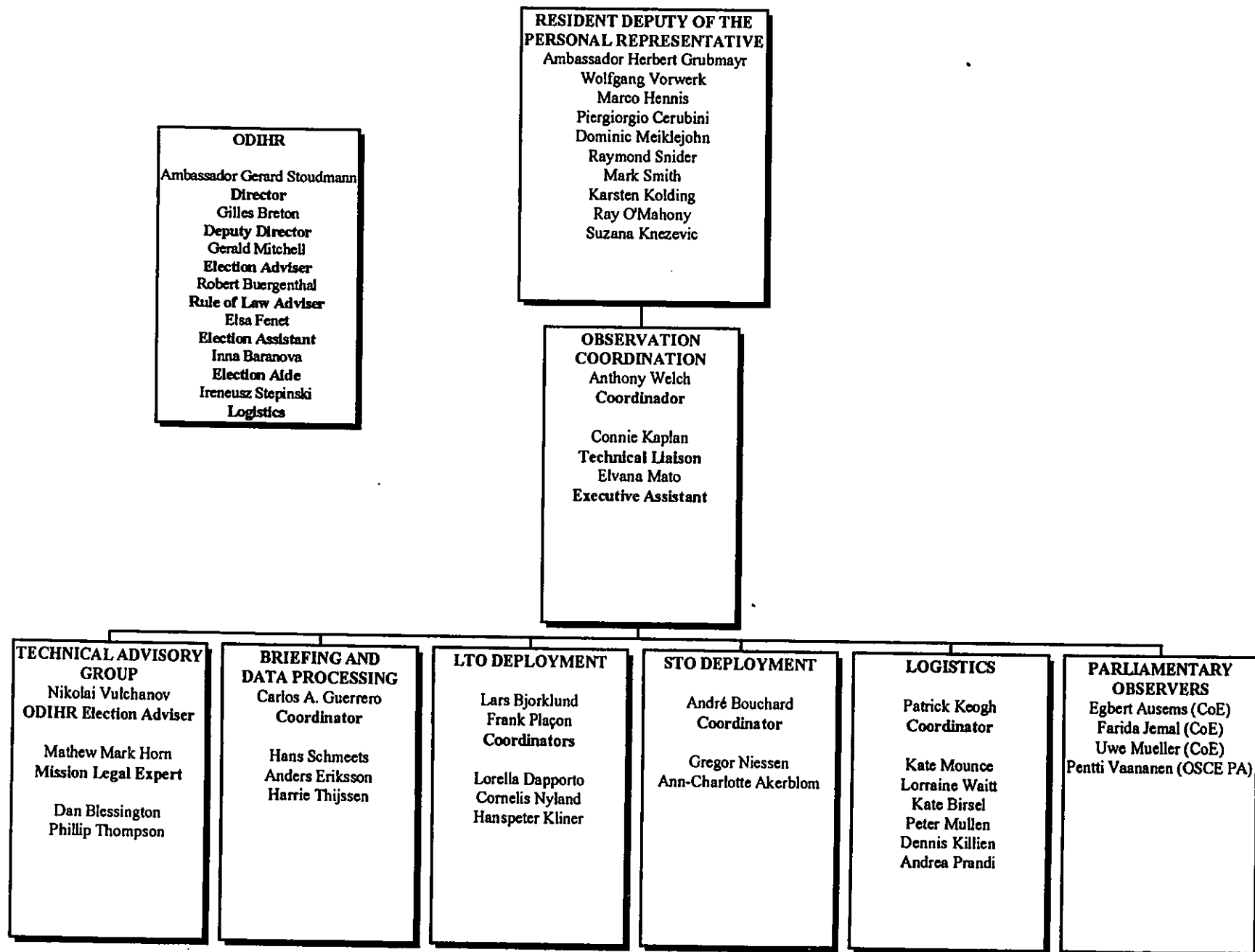
15
13

APPENDIX F

OSCE/ODHIR MANAGEMENT FLOW CHART

OSCE/ODIHR ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION

ALBANIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS OF 1997



DEPLOYMENT PLAN 23 JUNE - 01 JULY

Team n°	NAME	COUNTRY	SEX	LOCATION	MIS
1	Van Keulen Joof Santini Tullio	NL IT	M M	FIER	ETD: 08.00
2	Pinchler Heinrich Welch Johan	AUS UK	M M	VLORE	ETD: 08.00
3	Parziale Alessandro Stam Peter	IT NL	M M	ELBASAN	ETD: 08.00
4	Jyrkinen Anna Riita Anastasios Fakiolas	FIN GR	F M	KRUJE	ETD: 09.00
5	Sciarra Lino Lohri Bernard	IT AUS	M M	ELBASAN	ETD: 08.00
6	Mette Jacobsgaard Mokrzcka Blanka Ivanov Kamen	DK PL BU	F F M	LUSHNJE	ETD: 09.00
7	Huttunen Kaisu Baghdassarian Sarmen	FIN ARM	F M	KAVALJE	ETD: 09.00
8	Accame Carlo Ferrucio Vaczi Pal	IT HUN	M M	FIER	ETD: 08.00
9	Leprêtre Jean-Pierre De'Ath Patricia Frances	FR UK	M F	LEZHA	ETD: 08.00
10	Cardettini Onelia Pronio Massimo	IT IT	F M	TIRANA	ETD: 09.00
11	Murezi Michael Perna Laura	CH IT	M F	LUSHNJE	ETD: 09.00
12	Vecchiato Diego Doktor Zoltan	IT HUN	M M	FIER	ETD: 08.00
13	Donati Federica Hofreiter Jorg	IT AUS	F M	TIRANA SOUTH	ETD: 09.00
14	Atanassian Konstantin Reichel Sarah	ARM GER	M F	TIRANA	ETD: 09.00
15	Ambrogetti Agostino Engelhardt Marcus	IT AUS	M M	KAVAJE	ETD: 09.00
16	Sancho Paloma Tzanov Vassil	SP BUL	F M	SHKODER	ETD: 08.00
17	Fabretti Lorenza Kinast Kurt	IT AUS	F M	TIRANA	ETD: 09.00
18	Ala-Hannula Esco Pfaff Hans J	FIN CH	M M	GIROKASTER	Tirana Plates ETD: 08.00
19	Hommers Johan Jensen Conny	NL DK	M M	VLORE	ETD: 08.00
20	Chiodi Luisa Kostis Konstantinos	IT GR	F M	DURRES	ETD: 09.00
21	Reda Giovanna Haralambos Kundonis	IT GR	F M	LUSHNJE	ETD: 09.00
22	Wojtczak Piotr D'Ayala Valva Lorena	PL IT	M F	TIRANA NORTH	ETD: 09.00
23	Zbigneu Czech Staley Carol	P USA	M F	TIRANA	ETD: 09.00
24	Klinger Michael Pake Jens	PL DK	M M	GIROKASTER	Tirana Plates ETD: 08.00
25	Leguelte Georges Stamatios Georgoulis	FR GR	M M	BERAT	ETD: 08.00
26	Zufer Lalic Commelin Michel	FYROM FR	M M	SHKODER	ETD: 08.00
27	Robinot Jean-Michel Schemmer Jean	FR CAN	M M	DURRES	ETD: 09.00

28	Have Rikke Batsiotis Lampros	DK GR	F M	LEZHA	ETD: 08.00 4WD
OS01	Komeja Mohamed Kalush Mathias	NW GE	M M	SHKODER	ETD: 08.00 4WD
OS02	Chappelle Jim Raunig Florian	UK AUS	M M	KORCE	ETD: 08.30 4WD
OS03	Danielsson Christina	SW	F	BERAT	ETD: 08.00
OS04	Churcher Bob Fickenscher Daniel Lucassen W	UK GE NL	M M M	PESHKOPI	ETD: 07.30 4WD
OS05	Ibsen Helle Tsitselikis Constantinos	DK GR	F M	PESHKOPI	ETD: 07.30 4WD
OS06	Christopoulos Dimitris Skarvik Per Sander	GR NW	M M	KUKESI	ETD: 08.00 4WD
OS07	Kannangara Arjuna Pichler Robert	NL AUS	M M	PESHKOPI	4WD ETD: 08.00
OS08	Dediu Victor Bunea Iulia	RO RO	M F	GIROKASTER	Tirana-Plates ETD: 08.00
OS10	Madioudaki Konstantia Nilsson Albin	GR SW	F M	ELBASAN	ETD: 08.00
OS11	Wolgers John Frambe Svenningsen Tobias	SW NW	M M	KORCE	ETD 08.30

NB:

All locations mentioned in **BOLD** <=> permanent deployment
All others <=> daily deployment

Date : 21 June 1997

Glossary of Election Terms

Central Election Commission (CEC) - The permanent body which directs and supervises the electoral process in the Republic of Albania, as set forth in the election law, promulgated by the Parliament..

Domestic Observer - A representative from a local party, candidate, or non-partisan civic group who is observing the conduct of the election and is authorized by the ZEC.

Long Term Observer (LTO) - Person who arrives a month or two in advance of the election and to observe and report on the condition of the election preparations.

Short Term Observer (STO) - Person who arrives shortly before the election to observe the election, who is deployed to provide a broad presence throughout the country on election day.

OSCE Observer Code of Conduct - Located on page 5 of the blue OSCE handbook; provides the general principles and rules which all observers are to follow.

Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) - International expression for civic organizations.

Polling Station Commission (PSC) - Includes at least a Chairman, deputy chairman, and secretary; is responsible for the conduct of the election and count of the vote at the local level.

Protocols - The form used for recording information such as number of ballots, voting results, etc. Refer to the Code of Conduct for Observers present at voting counting.

Zone Electoral Commission (ZEC) - Created by the Albanian Parliament and set forth in the Electoral Law; 115 in number; decides on the composition of the PSC; implements election law throughout the zone.

APPENDIX G

OBSERVATION REPORT FORM

TEAM VLO9 - VLORE

ZONES: 108 - KOTE

104 - SEVASTER

- RAFAEL LECUONA
- JOSE LUIS MARTINEZ

Observation Report for the
Albanian Parliamentary Elections
of 1997

osce
ODIHR

in co-operation with



Instructions

- 1 Each booklet includes 10 voting reports and 2 counting reports
- 2 Fill in one form for each observation
- 3 We recommend to stay in a polling station for at least 30 minutes

It is very important to fill in:

- Polling Station number, Zone number (see list on the inside page of the back cover)
- Observer names, numbers and Team number

Examples

Polling station station number zone district name
1 7 4 1 Rrethi Tiranë

Observers observer number name team number
4 6 2 Mrs/Mr J. Smith 2 3
4 6 1 Mrs/Mr S. Jones 2 3

Time (visiting hours) hour min hour min
(24 hour clock) Arrival 7:4 5 Departure 9:0 0

When did the polling station open
(if observed) hour min
8:0 5

Please, indicate an overall opinion as to circumstances, followed procedures and comprehension

Circumstances

very good		very bad	don't know
	X		
fairly good		fairly bad	
		not good/ not bad	

Representatives of parties present

X yes	1 PD	9 PDK
no	2 SP	10 PUSI
don't know	3 PR	11 PAD
	4 PSD	12 PBK
	5 PUDNJ	13 PNK
	6 PA	14 PLL
	7 PUD	15 PUDK
	8 PUK	

- | | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | PD | Democratic Party | Partia Demokratike |
| 2 | SP | Socialist Party | Partia Socialiste |
| 3 | PR | Republica Party | Partia Republikane |
| 4 | PSD | Social-Democratic Party | Partia Social-Demokrate |
| 5 | PUDNJ | Human Rights Union Party | Partia Unionit I te drejave te njrit |
| 6 | PA | Agrarian Party | Partia Agrare |
| 7 | PUD | Democratic Union Party | Partia e Unionit Demokratik |
| 8 | PUK | National Unity Party | Partia e Unitetit Kombetar |
| 9 | PDK | Demo-Christian Party | Partia Demo-Kristiane |
| 10 | PUSI | Social-Democratic Union Party | Partia e Unionit Social-Demokratik |
| 11 | PAD | Democratic Alliance Party | Partia Aleance Demokratike |
| 12 | PBK | National Front Party | Partia Ballit Kombetar |
| 13 | PNK | National Conservative Party | Partia Nacional-Konservatore |
| 14 | PLL | Legality Movement Party | Partia e Levizjes se Legalitetit |
| 15 | PUDK | Demo-Christian Union Party | Partia Unionit Demo-Kristian |

0500

Report on Observation of Voting

Place

Polling station

KOTE

station number

01108

zone

district name

VLORE

Observers

observer number name

team number

Mrs/Mr

RAFAEL LECHONA

09

Mrs/Mr

JOSE LUIS MARTINEZ

09

Time (visiting hours)
(24 hour clock)

hour min

hour min

Arrival 06:30

Departure 7:45

When did the polling station
open
(if observed)

hour min

07:00

Voters

Nr. registered
voters

voters

494

Nr. voters
having voted

voters

7

Nr. voters
counted at

hour min

Irregularities
observed
by you

Did you observe any of the following problems/irregularities?

Circumstances

Intimidation of voters

yes X no

Agitation/unrest

yes X no

Campaigning at polling station

yes X no

Ballot boxes not visible

yes X no

Other problems

yes X no

Procedures

Not all ballots signed and stamped

yes X no

Identification not checked against Voters register

yes X no

Voters already carrying ink on finger

yes X no

Voters not signing the Voters list

yes X no

Identification documents not stamped

yes X no

Ink not applied properly to voters

yes X no

Ballot boxes not sealed properly

yes X no

Illiterate/handicapped voters not assisted properly

yes X no

Proxy/Family voting

yes X no

Insufficient or wrong voting materials

yes X no

Other problems

yes X no

Overall
impression

In general, the conduct of
the poll at this station was

X very
good

good

bad

very
bad

General remarks about voting process

A

Voters were not sure about which polling station they should vote at because there was not a list visible to the public.

Voters

B

Irregularities observed by you

Nature of problems/irregularities observed:

C

Was anybody refused the right to vote

no ☒ yes

Lack of proper documentation

yes ☐ no ☐

Not in the Voters List

☒ yes ☐ no ☐

Other reason

yes ☐ no ☐

Please, indicate an overall opinion as to circumstances, followed procedures and comprehension

Circumstances

very good					very bad	don't know
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

Procedures followed

very good					very bad	don't know
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

Voters understanding of the voting process

very good					very bad	don't know
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

Overall impression

D

Polling
Station
Committee

Did the PSC provide information on request	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> don't know
Was the PSC acting impartially	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> don't know
Were all members of the PSC involved in the process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> don't know
Was your presence as observer accepted by the PSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> don't know
Other problems	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> don't know

People
present

Representatives of parties present

☒ yes☐ no☐ don't know☒ 1 PD☒ 2 SP☒ 3 PR☒ 4 PSD☐ 5 PUDNJ☒ 6 PA☐ 7 PUD☒ 8 PUK☐ 9 PDK☐ 10 PUSI☐ 11 PAD☒ 12 PBK☐ 13 PNK☐ 14 PLL☐ 15 PUDK

1	PD	Democratic Party	Partia Demokratike
2	SP	Socialist Party	Partia Socialiste
3	PR	Republica Party	Partia Republikane
4	PSD	Social-Democratic Party	Partia Social-Demokrate
5	PUDNJ	Human Rights Union Party	Partia Unioni I te drejteve te njrnt
6	PA	Agrarian Party	Partia Agrare
7	PUD	Democratic Union Party	Partia e Unionit Demokratik
8	PUK	National Unity Party	Partia e Unitetit Kombetar
9	PDK	Demo-Christian Party	Partia Demo-Kristiane
10	PUSI	Social-Democratic Union Party	Partia e Unionit Social-Demokratik
11	PAD	Democratic Alliance Party	Partia Aleance Demokratike
12	PBK	National Front Party	Partia Ballit Kombetar
13	PNK	National Conservative Party	Partia National-Konservatore
14	PLL	Legality Movement Party	Partia e Levizjes se Legalitetit
15	PUDK	Demo-Christian Union Party	Partia Unioni Demo-Kristian

Other people present

Domestic observers

☒ present☐ not present☐ don't know

Media representatives

☐ present☒ not present☐ don't know

Unauthorized people

☐ present☒ not present☐ don't know

Did you speak to

☒ Domestic observers☒ Representatives of the Parties☐ Media representatives☐ Unauthorized people☐ Voters

Did the party representatives or domestic observers indicate any problems

☐ yes, many☐ yes, a few☒ noSecurity
measures

Local police present inside station

☐ present☒ not present☐ don't know

Local police present outside station

☒ present☐ not present☐ don't know

Albanian Armed Forces

☐ present☒ not present☐ don't know

International Forces (FMP) present (outside)

☒ present☐ not present☐ don't know

Did you feel the quality of the security measures was good

☒ yes☐ no☐ don't know

Polling station Committee



People present



Security measures



Disruptions during the day

Disruptions outside polling station

yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	don't know
-----	--	------------

Disruptions inside polling station

yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	don't know
-----	--	------------

Has voting been suspended

yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	don't know
-----	--	------------

Other problems

yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	don't know
-----	--	------------

APPENDIX H

MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE

(FMP)

FACT SHEET AND INFORMATION PACKAGE



MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE

(FMP)

FACT SHEET

Background

The intervention of a multinational force in Albania has been decided on the basis of:

- request of European Union to create a safe environment to humanitarian aids and give security to the International Control Commission;

- letter of Permanent Representative of Italy to UN Secretary General dated 27 March 1997;

- decision 160 of the Permanent Council for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) dated 27 March 1997, to ensure the respect of democratic rights, taking in account the official request from Albanian and other Nations authorities;

- letter of Permanent Representative of Albania to UN Secretary General dated 28 March 1997;

On 28 March 1997 the United Nations Security Council - acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations - adopted the resolution 1101, which authorises the Member States to establish a temporary and limited Multinational Protection Force (FMP), to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance, and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance.

The Force has a unified command, under the political direction and control of the Steering Committee based in Rome at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and composed of the representatives of the participating Nations. The Commander of the Operation, called ALBA OPERATION, is Admiral Venturoni. The Commander-in-Theatre was assigned to Lieutenant General Luciano Forlani, Commander of the Italian 3rd Army Corps.

The FMP operates under clear Rules of Engagement (ROE), which provide for robust use of force if necessary.

The following countries initially contributed to the deployment of FMP: Austria, Denmark, France, Hellas, Italy, Romania, Spain and Turkey. Slovenia and Belgium are contributing first-aid medical units. Portugal is contributing with a C-130 aircraft. Each country is generally responsible for paying its own activities; there is, however, also some common FMP funding, i.e. for headquarters.

From 05 to 20 May 1997, the Multinational Protection Force helped UNICEF-WHO to carry out a national immunization campaign against polio in Albania, providing additional security through areas reported to be unsafe.

On 09 May 1997 a six point document was signed by the 10 main political parties in Albania pledging themselves to cooperate in the Government of National Reconciliation with the assistance of the international community.

From 21 May '97 to 10 June '97, FMP helped UNFPA to deliver Medical Kits in all over Albania, providing security and assistance.

On 19 June 1997 the United Nations Security Council - acting under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations - adopted the resolution 1114 which decides that the operation will be limited to a period of forty five (45) days from 28 June 1997 and also authorises the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to conduct the operation in a neutral and impartial way and to ensure the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the multinational protection force.

The mission of the Multinational Protection Force (FMP)

Responding to the resolution of the United Nations, the Security Council has authorised an operation for a 3 month period starting from 28 of March 1997, at which time the Council will assess the situation on the basis of the reports from the Member States. FMP's mission is:

- to secure the main entry points (ports and airport) in the theatre of operations in order to guarantee security conditions for the flow and distribution of humanitarian aid;
- to guarantee security for the headquarters of the international mission in Tirane and for the activities of other organizations delivering humanitarian assistance to Albania;

Organization

COMANFOR is Lieutenant General Luciano Forlani, IT Army. There are also three Deputy Commanders:

- Major General Koksai Karabay, Turkish Army;
- Major General Maurice Godinot, French Army;
- Major General Ioannis Drougas, Hellenic Army;

Ten nations, until today, had been part of the deployment with almost 7000 troops as follows:

- Austria: 110 (One Military Police Company, based in Tirane at Linza)
- Belgium 14 (One Medical Unit, based in Rinas airport)
- Denmark: 57 (One Recce Infantry Platoon, based in Tirane)
- France: 940 (One Marine Infantry Regiment, based in Durres)
- Hellas: 782 (One Infantry Regiment, based in Ysberish camp, Tirane, with one Company in Vlore and one Company in Elbasan)
- Italy: 3531 consisting of:
 - One Brigade Headquarters, based in Vlore
 - One Army Corps Headquarters, based in Tirane
 - One Support and Command Regiment, based in Tirane
 - One Signal Regiment, based in Tirane
 - One Special Forces Battalion, based in Tirane
 - One Military Police Battalion, based in Tirane
 - One Airborne Regiment, based in Rinas
 - One Helicopter Regiment, based in Brindisi
 - One Mechanised Infantry Regiment, based in Kucove
 - One Bersaglieri Regiment in Korce
 - One Bersaglieri Regiment, based in Vlore
 - One Logistics Regiment, based in Durres
 - One Amphibious Battalion, based in Vlore
 - Two Recce Squadrons, based in Vlore
- Portugal One C-130 aircraft
- Romania: 398 (One Infantry Battalion, based in Gjirokaster, with one company based in Tepelene)
- Slovenia: 24 (One first aid medical unit)
- Spain: 345 (One Mechanised Infantry Battalion, based in Lezhe with one Company in Shkoder)
- Turkey: 758 (One Navy Infantry Regiment, based in Zallher, Tirane, and one company based in Rinas)

Besides land troops, some helicopters have been deployed also in the area of Rinas, Tirane and in Brindisi, Italy as follows:

- 9 x A 129 helicopter
- 10 x AB 205 helicopter
- 3 x CH 47 helicopter
- 2 x AB 412 helicopter
- 2 x A 109 helicopter

Since the beginning of the operation 143 helicopter missions have been executed as for medevac, transport, escort, secure, e.t.c.,

Achievements

The FMP mission has been successful so far. In particular:

- the ports of Durres, Vlore and also the airport of Tirana, where the aid arrives and initially stored, have been secured;

- by contributing to a secure environment, schools are open again, civilian agencies can continue to carry out the process of economic development, reconstruction, political institutions and an overall climate of reconciliation for Albania and its citizens has been achieved. As an example to the civil contribution, FMP on 13 June 1997, gave the starting step to operation "LIVEABLE VLORE", providing security, coordination and stimulating local people, for the cleaning of the environment in Vlore

- 156 convoy escort, 69 security road, and 234 OSCE escort missions have been executed since the beginning of the operation, allowing the inflow and distribution of humanitarian aid to different locations all over Albania and also providing security to the International Commission HQ, and to the activities run by the Organizations providing humanitarian aids and assistance to the elections, in Albania;

- the confidence among the civilian population has been restored while at the same time the tensions have been decreased, due to the presence of MFP;

- the integration of International airport of Rinas into the European norms of the air-traffic, by FMP personnel and means, allow the taking off and the landing of the airplanes by day and night, as well as under difficult atmospheric conditions;

- as a consequence of a secure environment the curfew has been reduced by three hours;

- 184 reconnaissance missions have been carried out, in order to recognize the roads and the possible obstacles for FMP missions;

- the Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) team of FMP in several situations (51) demolished ammunitions and explosives in order to protect the troops and civilians from being close to them;

- 16 NBC checks have been executed through the FMP NBC team, in different locations of Albania;

- eleven nations having different military capabilities and mentality succeeded to adapt their forces and policies to the requirements of the operation in a short time, showing their excellent flexibility and rapid reaction capability, as a result of their coordination in the past, during different NATO, PIP exercises and Peace-keeping operations, like in SOMALIA, BOSNIA, e.t.c.. In conclusion this operation shows that FMP remains prepared to deal with the new, multifaceted security risks;

- The GEO TAC PRINT section has already produced more than 650 plottings, at different scales, from digital cartographic data, spot satellite digital data and Digital Terrain Elevation Data (DTED). The section has also computed the position of a GPS trigonometric reference point, located in the COMAI BA base, by differential GPS measurements from the international geodetic network "TYRGEONET". The Albanian Military Topographic Institute and the Albanian Minister of Defence have been asked to start a technical cooperation in mapping activities with the GEO TAC PRINT section in order to get usefull cartographic data;

- Over 1.200.000 Km have been ran by FMP's vehicles through the different areas in Albania under difficult road conditions, without any accident or event, showing the experience and the well-training of FMP troops;

NOTE: For additional information on MFP, you can call MFP Public Information Office in Tirana.

Tel-Fax: 00355-42-64845



HEADQUARTERS MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION
FORCE

OPERATION ALBA

Public Information Centre

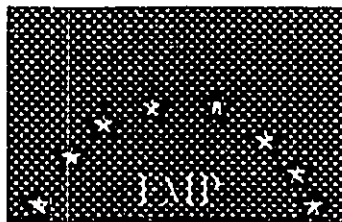
- Tirane -

Telephone - fax: ++355 /42 / 64845

- (sotrin) 4790013

Fax (sotrin) 4790291

INFORMATION PACKAGE



RESOLUTION 1101 **OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Security Council,

Taking note of the letter of 28 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations to the President of the Security Council,

Taking note also of the letter of 27 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations to the Secretary General,

Taking note of decision 160 of the Permanent Council for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of 27 March 1997, including to provide the coordinating framework within which other international organizations can play their part in their respective areas of competence,

Recalling the statement of the President of the Security Council on the situation in Albania of 13 March 1997,

Reiterating its deep concern over the deteriorating situation in Albania,

Underlining the need for all concerned to refrain from hostilities and acts of violence, and reiterating its call to the parties involved to continue the political dialogue,

Stressing the importance of regional stability, and in this context fully supporting the diplomatic efforts of the international community to find a peaceful solution to the crisis, in particular those of the OSCE and of the European Union,

Affirming the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Albania,

Determining that the present situation of crisis in Albania constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region,

1. Condemns all acts of violence and calls for their immediate end,
2. Welcomes the offer made by certain Member States to establish a temporary and limited multinational protection force, to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance, and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance,

3. Welcomes further the offer by a Member State contained in its letter to take the lead in organizing and commanding this temporary multinational protection force and takes note of all the objectives contained in that letter,

4. Authorizes the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to conduct the operation in a neutral impartial way to achieve the objectives set out in paragraph 2 above and, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, further authorizes these Member States to ensure the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the said multinational protection force,

5. Calls upon all those concerned in Albania to cooperate with the multinational protection force and international humanitarian agencies for the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance,

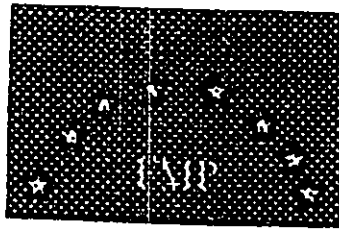
6. Decides that the operation will be limited to a period of three months from the adoption of the present resolution, at which time the Council will assess the situation on the basis of the reports referred in paragraph 9 below.

7. Decides that the cost of implementing this temporary operation will be borne by the participating Member States,

8. Encourages the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to cooperate closely with the Government of Albania, the United Nations, the OSCE, the European Union and all international organizations involved in rendering humanitarian assistance in Albania,

9. Requests the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary General, to the Council, the first such report to be made no later than 14 days after the adoption of this resolution, inter alia specifying the parameters and modalities of the operation on the basis of consultation between those Member States and the Government of Albania,

10. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.



RESOLUTION 1114 **OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Security Council

Recalling its resolution 1101 (1997) of 28 March 1997,

Recalling the statement of 13 March 1997 of its President on the situation in Albania (S/PRST/1997/14);

Taking note of the letter of 16 June 1997 from the permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations to the President of the Security Council (s/1997/464)

Taking note also of the sixth report to the Council on the operation of the Multinational Protection Force in Albania (s/1997/460)

Taking note of Decision 160 by the Permanent Council of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of 27 March 1997 (s/1997/259, annex II), including to provide the coordinating framework within which other international organisations can play their part in their respective area of competence

Expressing appreciation for the neutral and impartial way in which the council mandate has been carried out by the multinational protection force, in close cooperation with the Albanian authorities.

Supressing the importance of regional stability and, in this context, fully supporting the diplomatic efforts of the international community, particularly the OSCE and European Union, to find a peaceful solution to the crisis and assist in the electoral process in Albania, in cooperation with the Albanian authorities,

Taking note of the need over a short period of time, as underlined in the sixth report on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania, for a limited increase in the contingent originally planned, for the purpose of the protecting the OSCE mission, especially in view of the planned elections,

Reaffirming the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Albania,

Determining that the present situation in Albania constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region,

1. Condemns all acts of violence, and calls for their immediate end;
2. Welcomes the readiness of the countries contributing to the multinational protection force to maintain their military contingents in Albania for a limited time as part of the multinational protection force in the framework of the mandate provided by resolution 1101 (1997)
3. Further welcomes the intention of the countries contributing to the multinational protection force to continue, within the framework of the mandate provided by the resolution 1101(1997), to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organisations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance, and takes note of all the elements contained in the sixth report to the Council on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania, concerning, inter alia, the electoral monitoring mission of the OSCE-Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;
4. Authorizes the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to conduct the operation in a neutral and impartial way to achieve the objectives set out in paragraph 3 above and, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, further authorizes these Member States to ensure the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the multinational protection force.
5. Calls upon all those concerned in Albania to cooperate with the multinational protection force and with the missions of the international organisations.
6. Decides that the operation will be limited to a period of forty-five days from 28 June 1997, at which time the Council will assess the situation on the basis of the reports referred to in paragraph 9 below.
7. Decides that the cost of implementing this temporary operation will be borne by the participating Member States;
8. Encourages the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to cooperate closely with the Government of Albania, the United

Nations, the OSCE, the European Union and all international Organizations involved in rendering humanitarian assistance in Albania.

9. Requests the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports to the council through the Secretary- General, at least every two weeks, the first such report to be made no later than 14 days after the adoption of this resolution, inter alia specifying the parameters and modalities of the operation on the basis of consultations between those Member States and the Government of Albania.
10. Décides to remain actively seized of the matter.

APPENDIX I

OSCE/ODIHR AND OTHER ELECTION DOCUMENTS

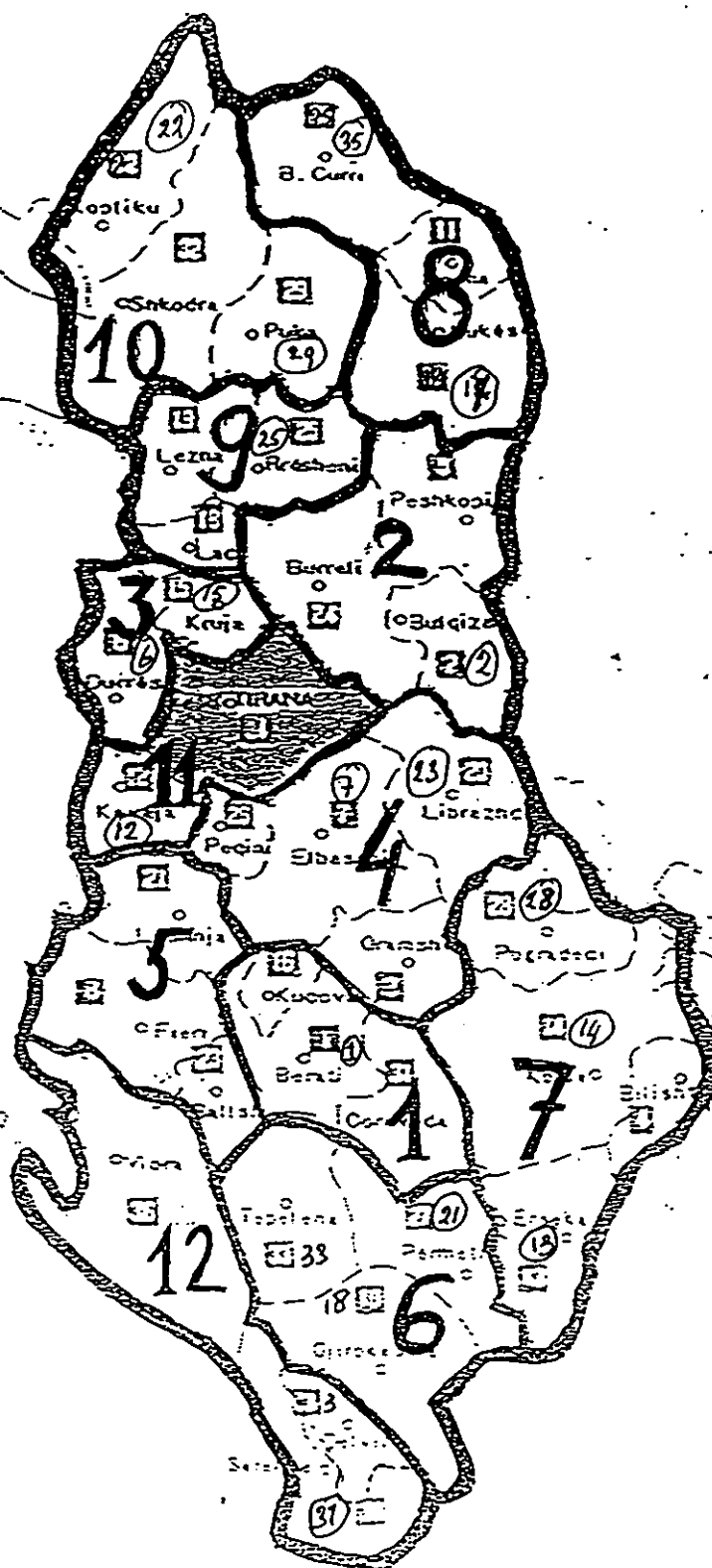
OSCE/ODIHR

**MISSION OF ELECTORAL OBSERVATION
IN ALBANIA**

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 1997

In co-operation with the Council of Europe and the European Union

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



List of district

- 1 BERATI
- 2 BULQIZA
- 3 DELVINA
- 4 DEVOLLI
- 5 DIDRA
- 6 DURRES
- 7 ELBASAN
- 8 FIER
- 9 GRAMSHI
- 10 GJROKASTER
- 11 HASI
- 12 KAVAJA
- 13 KOLONJA
- 14 KORCA
- 15 KRUJA
- 16 KUCOVA
- 17 KURES
- 18 LACI
- 19 LEZHA
- 20 LIBRAZHDI
- 21 LUSHNJA
- 22 MALESIA AND MADHE
- 23 MALLAKASTRA
- 24 MATI
- 25 MIRDITA
- 26 PEQINI
- 27 PERMETI
- 28 POGRADEC
- 29 PUKA
- 30 SARANDA
- 31 SKRAPARI
- 32 SKHODRA
- 33 TEPELENE
- 34 TIRANA
- 35 TROPOJA
- 36 VLORA

**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

Tirana, 01.06.1997

REGULATION FOR THE OBSERVERS

The Central Election Commission based on the Elections law of the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania, issues the following regulation:

ARTICLE 1

Domestic observers will be considered:

- a- representatives of the electoral subjects or grouping of the electoral subjects appointed to election commission at all levels.
- b- representative of the electoral subjects or grouping of electoral subjects, mobile, across the whole territory of the Republic of Albania, on the election day only.
- c- representatives of institutions, foundations, NGO-s, specialized in election field and in Human Rights issues.

ARTICLE 2

Foreign observers will be considered:

- a- representatives of the OSCE member countries, Parliamentary Assembly of the European Council, European Parliament and other institutions related to Human Rights issues.
- b- representatives of foreign parties and political movements, as well as individuals invited from parties and parties groupings.
- c- representatives authorized by domestic and foreign institutions specialized in election questions.

ARTICLE 3

Electoral subjects or groupings of electoral subjects and the competent organs should send to the Central Elections Commission:

- 11
- a- the lists domestic observers from electoral subjects or grouping of electoral subjects , which should be presented to the Central Elections Commission and Zones Elections Commissions, by 21.00 hrs. of June 20 1997.
 - b- the lists of domestic mobile observers of electoral subjects or grouping of electoral subjects, containing not more than 37 representatives, by 21.00 hrs. of June 25 1997.

This observers category, is supposed to make observations only on the elections day without interfering with the election process. Their mission ends with the time of the polling process. These observers will be provided with accreditation from the Central Elections Commission.

- c- the lists of domestic representatives of institutions, foundations, NGO-s specialized in election field and Human Rights issues, by 21.00 hrs. of June 20 1997.
- d- the lists of foreign observers, and respective confirmations by 21.00 hrs. of June 22 1997.

ARTICLE 4

Electoral subjects or groupings of the electoral subjects should send to the Zones Elections Commissions, the respective lists of observers to be present in the polling stations by 21.00 hrs of June 25 1997.

ARTICLE 5

Observers defined in the article 1, letter c and article 2 will be provided with accreditation from the Central Elections Commission. They have the right to move across the whole territory of the Republic of Albania, to follow and observe the activities during the electoral campaign and election day, to gather information and give publicly opinions always remaining impartial.

ARTICLE 6

The foreign observers receiving organs, should take all the necessary measures for their reception and ensure the completion of the observing mission.

ARTICLE 7

Observers, defined by the article 1 letter a, will be provided with the respective accreditation from:

- a- The Central Elections Commission in case they are attached to this commission.
- b- The Central Elections Commission in case they are attached to the Zones Election Commissions.

c- The Zone Elections Commission in case they are attached to the Polling Stations.

This category of observers, can participate in the voting process in accordance with the articles 44, 66, 73, 75, of the Election Law.

ARTICLE 8

While carrying out their assignment, all observers, are not allowed to hold any symbol or distinguishing mark of the respective party or grouping neither to run or to take part in elections propagandistic activities.

ARTICLE 9

Is recommended that observers have observing experience at least in one previous voting process.

ARTICLE 10

Persons accompanying foreign observers will be provided with a special authorization from the Central Election Commission.

ARTICLE 11

The institutions, organizations, foundations, associations, domestic or foreign individuals or groupings which wish to have their own observers, apart from the lists should present to the Central Elections Commission also:

a- the certificate of their legal registration.

b- The platform of their activity of observation, monitoring or electoral education.

SECRETARY
Thimjo KONDI

VICE SECRETARY
Prof. Dr. Fatos KLOSI

CHAIRMAN
Prof. Dr. Kristaq KUME

EMERGENCY

POST-OFFICE	13/14244/34209/22099 23099/32124
AMBULANCE	17
FIRE-BRIGADE	18
POLICE	19/23322/24445/24819 24819/245 29
ELECTRICAL EMERGENCY INFORMATION 14	264 92/226 16

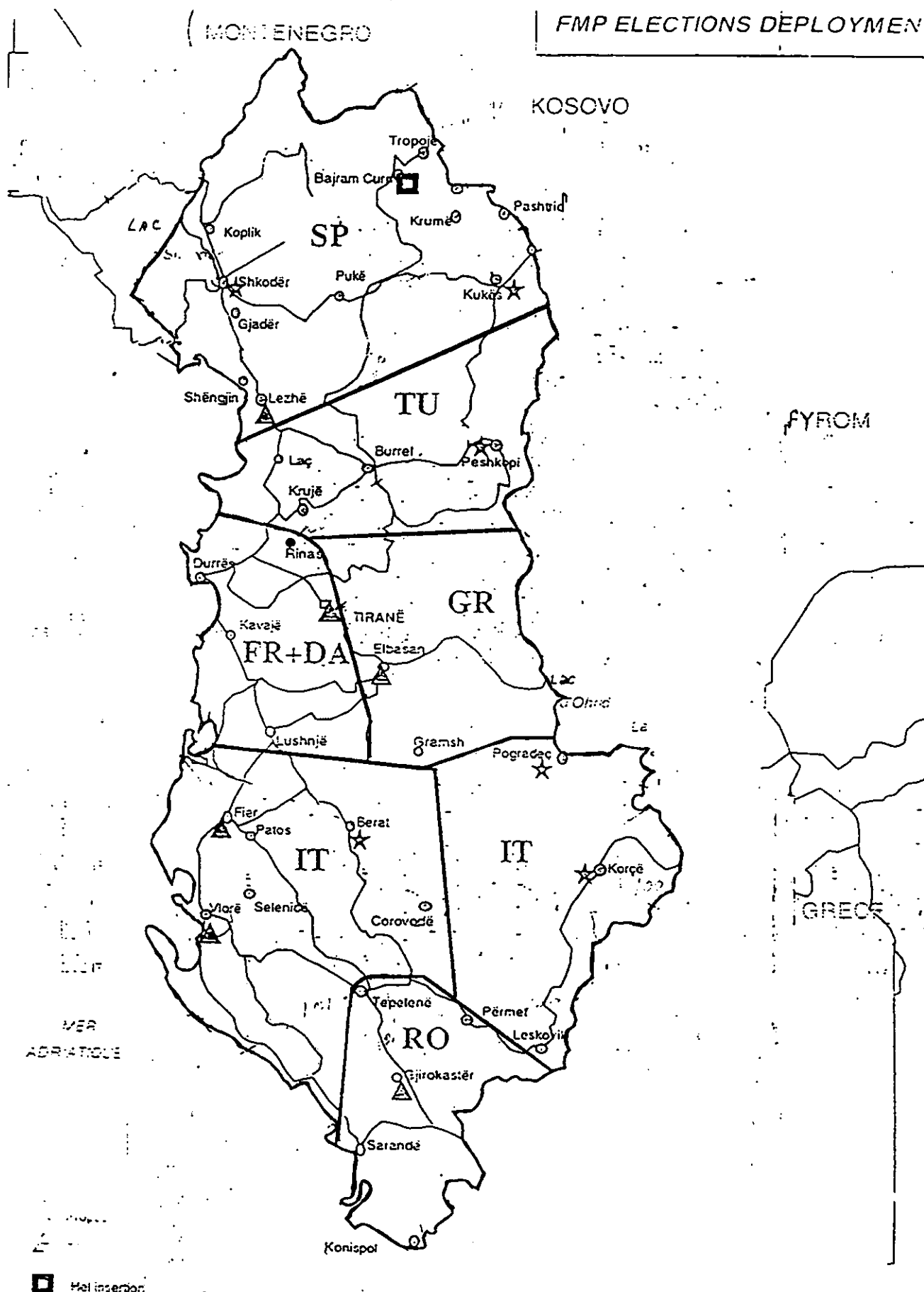
PHYSICIANS

Gjergj THEODHOSI	240 82
Mihal TASE	336 44
Viktor QERESHNIKU	326 45

FMP TELEPHONE NUMBERS

TIRANA	TIRANA 'RINAS'	187' PAR.RST (ITA)	042-64853
	TIRANA 'RINAS'	HELIKOPTERS (ITA)	042-64854
	TIRANA 'RINAS'	INF. Bn (TU)	042-64875
	TIRANA 'SAUK'	FMP HQ (ITA)	042-64842 (COS)
	TIRANA 'SAUK'	FMP PIO (ITA)	042-64845
	TIRANA 'SAUK'	FMP Host Nation	042-64849
	TIRANA 'SAUK'	FMP HQ (ADMIN)	042-64846
	TIRANA 'Don Bosko'	FMP CIMIC	042-64852
DURRES	DURRES	2° R.I.M.A. Command (FR)	042-23831
ELBASAN	ELBASAN	INF Bn (GREECE)	0545-5807-5078
GJIROKASTER	GJIROKASTER	INF Bn (ROMANIA)	0726-3558
LEZHE	SHENGJIN	INF (SP)	038 202 3430 (mobile telephone)
VLORE	VLORE	'Friuli Bde HQ' (ITA)	063-3126
		'San Marco' INF Marines (ITA)	063-23145
		18° Reg (ITA)	042-23831

FMP ELECTIONS DEPLOYMENT



6 June 1997

LAW
ON ELECTIONS FOR THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

(Dated 4 February 1992, with later amendments,
the latest of which took effect 16 May 1997.)

On the basis of Articles 16 and 17 of law no. 7491, dated 29 April 1991, "On the Main Constitutional Provisions", the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania resolves:

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Elections for People's Assembly deputies will take place in the territory of the Republic of Albania on the basis of a general, direct, free and secret vote.

Article 2

All Albania citizens who have reached the age of 18 as of the date of the elections have the right to vote.

The right to vote and to be elected as deputies in the People's Assembly belong to all persons who have reached the age of 18 as of the date of the elections, have Albanian citizenship, have had permanent residence in the Republic of Albania for a period of time no less than six months and meet the requirements of law no. 8001, dated 22 September 1995, "On genocide and crimes against humanity committed in Albania during the communist rule for political, ideological or religious motifs", amended by law no 8215, dated 13 May 1997, as well as law no 8043, dated 30 November 1995, "On the control of the figure of officials and other persons related to the protection of the democratic state", amended by law no. 8220, dated 13 May 1997.

Article 3

Citizens who by a court decision have been deprived of the capability to act, and those citizens who are in detention or serving a sentence in jail, are deprived of their electoral rights.

Article 4

The right to vote is exercised on the basis of voters' lists. Voters vote at the polling station in the voters' list of which their names are registered.

The right to vote must be exercised personally by the voter and can only be exercised once, by casting one's vote for only one of the candidates presented in the single-member zone and for only one of the electoral subjects that participate in the election for the supplementary mandates on a national basis.

Article 5

A People's Assembly deputy cannot at the same time be appointed as a member of bodies of local government.

CHAPTER II**ELECTORAL SYSTEM****Article 6**

The People's Assembly consists of 155 deputies, 115 deputies are directly elected in single-member zones, whereas the other 40 supplementary mandates are awarded to candidates on the nation-wide lists, according to votes obtained during the first round of voting, as provided by Article 11.

Article 7

A candidate is declared a deputy in the People's Assembly for a single-member zone if he wins more than half of the valid votes in the zone.

Article 8

If in the first round of voting none of the candidates nominated gets more than 50% of the valid votes, then a week later a second round of voting is held in the respective zone.

The two candidates who won the greatest number of votes in the first round, run in the second round.

In case three or more candidates obtain the same number of votes in the first round, the two candidates who will participate in the second round are chosen by lot; in case one candidate has obtained the highest number of votes and after him two or more candidates obtain the same number of votes in the first round, the second candidate is chosen by lot. If an electoral subject withdraws its candidate in the second round of voting, he is substituted by

the candidate who won the greatest number of votes among the remaining candidates in the first round.

The candidates for the second round of voting are announced by the zone electoral commission.

Article 9

In the second round of voting, the candidate who obtains the largest number of votes is elected deputy in the People's Assembly. If the candidates obtain an equal number of votes, then the deputy is chosen by lot.

Article-10

Subjects that have fielded joint candidates in a zone shall, at the same time they submit the candidates, send to the zone electoral commission the ratio according to which votes won nation-wide should be distributed. A copy of this document is sent to the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 11

Only the subjects that have obtain no less than 2% of the votes nation-wide, benefit from the distribution of the 40 supplementary mandates.

After the count of valid votes that each subject has obtained nation-wide during the first round, the following procedure is carried out:

- a) The number of valid votes obtained by each of the two parties with the highest number of votes, is divided by the sum of their valid votes and the fraction is multiplied by 10. Each of these parties shall initially obtain as many seats as the full number that is obtained from the above-mentioned operation. The remaining seats up to 10 are given to the political subject with the highest decimal number. In case this number is equal, lots shall be drawn.
- b) The number of valid votes for every other subject meeting the condition in the first paragraph, is divided by the sum of valid votes they have obtained and the fraction is multiplied by 30. Each of these subjects shall initially obtain as many seats as the full number that is obtained from the above-mentioned operation. The remaining seats up to 30 are given to the subjects with the highest decimal number. In case this number is equal, lots shall be drawn.
- c) Winners of seats from the party lists are determined by the order on the list. If the number of candidates on the list is smaller than the number of seats obtained, the winner shall be the candidate put forward by the subject in the single-member zones who, among all the candidates of this subject that have not won, has obtained the highest number of votes. If there are two such candidates, the winner is selected by lot.

CHAPTER III

ELECTORAL SUBJECTS

Article 12

Any Albania citizen who has the right to be elected on the basis of this law, can be a candidate for People's Assembly deputy as a representative of a party or a group of parties, or as an independent candidate.

No candidate can run in more than one single-member zone.

Any candidate in a single-member zone can simultaneously run as a candidate on the list of his respective subject. A candidate who wins in a single-member zone is a deputy of that zone and his name is deleted from the nation-wide list of his subject.

Article 13

A candidate for deputy in the People's Assembly must register with the zone electoral commission no later than 20 days before election day. To effect the registration, the following documents are submitted:

a) a written application from the respective electoral subject, requesting the registration of the candidate nominated for deputy; the application must contain the first name, father's first name, last name, birthday and residence of the candidate (2 copies);

b) a statement from the candidate accepting to run as candidate in the specific single-member zone (2 copies);

c) copy of the decision by the State Commission on the basis of Article 9 of law no 8043, dated 30 November 1995, "On the control of the figure of officials and other persons related to the protection of the democratic state", amended by law no. 8220, dated 13 May 1997;

ç) a list signed by no less than 400 voters of the respective zone, who support the candidate in that zone.

Article 14

The specified list with the voters' signatures must contain the name and symbol of the electoral subject nominating the candidate, or indicate that the candidate is independent, if this is the case. The list must also contain the first name, father's first name, last name, address, the number of the identification card or the number of the birth certificate with a photo and the signature of the voter, who must be a resident in the zone where the candidate is nominated.

A voter has no right to sign more than one list. The lists are deposited with the Central Electoral Commission and can be inspected with its appropriate authorisation.

If the zone electoral commission notices irregularities in the application and documents submitted for the registration of candidates, it requests that the electoral subjects make the necessary corrections within two days. Should this not happen, the electoral commission takes the appropriate decision.

Article 15

Only electoral subjects that run candidates in no less than 25 electoral zones and in no less than 10 districts of the country, have the right to submit lists for supplementary mandates.

These lists can contain up to 100 names. When groups of electoral subjects meet the above-mentioned condition, then each of the political parties of this group can present a separate electoral list. The list shall have attached a copy of the decision by the State Commission on the basis of Article 9 of law no 8043, dated 30 November 1995, "On the control of the figure of officials and other persons related to the protection of the democratic state", amended by law no. 8220, dated 13 May 1997, as well as the candidate's statement accepting to run as a candidate.

The list with the signature and stamp of the respective electoral subjects is submitted to the Central Electoral Commission no later than 20 days before election day.

Article 16

When the conditions of the law are fulfilled, the zone electoral commissions are obliged to register all candidates for deputy in the People's Assembly and to announce their names no later than 17 days before election day, giving the name of the subject that nominated the candidate. They send a copy of the certification to all candidates of electoral subjects.

Article 17

For each candidate for deputy, the zone electoral commission keeps an official registration record according to an established form. A copy of this record, with the declaration of the candidate accepting to run as candidate in that zone and a copy of the announcement of the candidates in this zone, should be sent to the Central Electoral Commission no later than 2 days from the announcement.

Article 18

Electoral subject have the right to replace candidates proposed by them and make changes in the party list they submitted no later than 17 days before election day. Otherwise, they are not allowed to make changes. If a candidate for deputy in a single-member zone dies after this period has expired, a separate election will be held in that zone no later than 9 weeks after election day. The date for this election is determined by the President of the Republic.

Article 19

If members of the armed forces, judges and prosecutors run as candidates, they should resign and be released from duty.

CHAPTER IV

VOTERS' LISTS

Article 20

The elections for People's Assembly deputies take place on the bases of voters' lists.

In the voters' lists are included all citizens who have the right to vote. When the body empowered (by this law) to compile the voters' lists, registers voters with temporary residence in its territory, it is obliged to inform the respective body of the district of the voters' permanent residence, so that they do not register in two places of residence.

Each citizen is registered in only one voters' list.

Article 21

The voters' lists are compiled for each polling station.

In the voters' lists is included the first name, father's first name, and the last name of the voter, his date of birth and the registration number.

In the cities and the rural communes the voters' lists are compiled under the responsibility of the mayor or the head of the commune, and the secretary of the respective council. After they are signed by the above-mentioned persons, the voters' lists are sent to the respective prefecture. After having controlled the lists, the prefect solves any kind of conflict that may occur in connection with them. He is obliged to submit to the State Secretariat for Local Government the number of voters for each electoral zone no later than two days after the announcement of the voters' lists.

The voters' lists are announced by the body that has compiled them no later than 17 days before election day.

The voters' lists remain permanently in the offices of civic status.

The Council of Ministers issues the necessary legal acts on the exact and timely compilation of the lists, as well as on procedures for their protection and administration.

Article 22

Lists of voters who serve and live in military units and detachments are compiled and announced no later than 17 days before election day, in co-operation with the respective commanders, by the bodies mentioned in Article 21 in the territory of which the military unit or detachment is located.

All other military personnel are registered in the voters' lists of their place of residence.

Article 23

Albanian citizens who live permanently outside the country, and who intend to stay in the territory of the Republic of Albania until election day, are registered on the voters' lists of their former residence, provided that they request this. For these persons, participation in the election is marked in their international passport.

Article 24

In hospitals, sanatoriums and other health and rehabilitation institutions, in re-education camps and pre-detention places, voters' lists are compiled by the directors of these institutions, on the basis of the voters' identification documents. The directors are required to inform the competent body of local government in these voters' residence, so that corrections can be made in the voters' lists in which they were originally registered.

Article 25

When a voter is nominated as a member of an electoral commission or as an observer in a zone or polling station, and because of this has to go away from his residence after voters' lists have been announced and before election day, the competent body, upon written request from the electoral subject, issues him a certificate to vote in the place where he will go, and writes the word "moved" on the voters' list. This voter is registered in the supplementary voters' list of the polling station located in the place where he goes, by presenting the voting certificate together with his identification card or any other document that replaces this.

Article 26

If a citizen has died, is registered twice, is not registered, does not have the right to vote or is a resident outside the territory of the Republic of Albania, the body that has announced the voters' lists, at the request of the interested person, can take a decision to make changes in these lists no later than 24 hours before election day.

Article 27

Each voter has the right to request in writing the correction of errors or omissions in voters' list such as lack of registration, removal from the list, changes in the first name, father's first name or last name of the voter, registration of persons who have lost the right to vote, etc. The request is made to the body that announced the lists, which is obliged to review it within 2 days and issue the appropriate motivated decision.

The decision can be appealed to the district court, which within three days reviews the appeal in open judicial session and issues the appropriate decision. The court decision is announced immediately and is final, and is implemented by the polling station commission.

At the request of citizens, the zone electoral commission may intervene with the bodies

that have announced the voters' lists, in order to correct mistakes and shortcomings in these lists.

Any change made in the voters' lists is announced immediately.

Article 28

The bodies that have announce the voters' lists will make them available to electoral subjects upon request and the payment of e fee.

CHAPTER V

ELECTORAL ZONES AND POLLING STATIONS

Article 29

For the elections of the deputies of the People's Assembly, 115 zones are created, with an approximately equal number of voters. Zones should be compact and with geographical continuity, and in setting them up, communes should not be broken up. The electoral zones, their borders and order are decided by the President of the Republic, upon proposal from the Council of Ministers, no later than 45 days before election day.

Article 30

Voting and counting of votes take place in polling stations, which are set up in the territory of each city, city quarter, and village.

Article 31

In the villages, a polling station is set up for every 100 to 1000 voters.

In cities and city quarters, a polling station is set up for every 800-1200 voters.

In cities and city quarters with less than 800 voters, a separate polling station is set up. If there is a surplus of more than 400 voters, a separate polling station is set up, whereas smaller surplus number of voters join the nearest polling station within the commune or municipality.

If a dwelling centre is farther than 3 km from the nearest polling station, a separate polling station is set up if there are at least 50 voters.

Article 32

Polling stations are set up no later than 30 days before the election day. They are set up by decision of the bodies that announced the voters' lists, in accordance with procedures for announcing voters' lists.

Article 33

In hospitals, sanatoriums, maternity wards, rest homes, and other similar institutions, in re-education camps and in pre-detention places, polling stations are set up if there are more than 15 voters.

In health institutions that have many wards, polling stations are set up in each ward if there are more than 15 voters in each one.

CHAPTER VI

ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS

Article 34

The following electoral commissions are established for directing the People's Assembly elections:

- a) the Central Electoral Commission (CEC);
- b) the Zone Electoral Commissions (ZEC);
- c) the Polling Station Commissions (PSC).

Electoral commissions are independent bodies that in their activity respond only before the law. Commission members' activity is considered a state one, not political. Commission members enjoy immunity during exercise of their activity. Political parties, in accordance with rules stipulated in this law, have the right to request the replacement of their representatives in the electoral commissions, but they do not have the right to order them to leave the commissions.

ZEC secretaries should be lawyers.

Article 35

The Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Albania is a permanent body that directs and supervises the electoral process in the Republic of Albania in accordance with the provisions of the electoral law of the Albanian State. It is composed of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Secretary and 14 members.

Political parties submit proposals on the composition of the CEC to the President of the Republic.

The CEC mandate is for a 7-year period. Its members have the right to be re-appointed.

Political parties with no representatives in the CEC have the right to send observers.

Article 35a

The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the permanent CEC, selected among the scientific university staff, are proposed, respectively, by the main position and opposition parties. The Deputy Chairman has equal juridical position as the Chairman. In case one of these parties does not propose any candidate for the position of Chairman or Deputy Chairman, this position is given to the second larger party within the position or opposition grouping.

The CEC Secretary is the Director of the Directorate of Elections and Referenda at the State Secretariat of Local Government.

Seats in the CEC are equally distributed between the political parties in the governmental and opposition coalitions. Within these divisions, seats in the CEC are distributed to representatives of political parties in proportion with their results in the elections for local government.

Article 35b

If a political party, part of the governmental or opposition coalitions, withdraws from this group, the seat or seats belonging to it in the CEC are re-distributed within the respective grouping in accordance with the criteria defined in Article 35a, paragraph 3. If this party has higher results in the elections for local government than any of the other parties of its group that have representatives in the CEC, then to the withdrawing party is guaranteed the CEC seat held by the party with the lowest result in the local elections.

After the end of elections for local government, the proportion of parties' representation in the CEC changes according to their results in these elections.

Changes in the CEC can be done no later than 15 days before election day.

Article 35c

If a political party, to which seats in the CEC have been allocated, does not present candidates to these seats, the seats are attributed to candidates proposed by other political parties according to the order defined on the basis of the criteria in Article 35a, paragraph 3, no later than 15 days before election day.

Article 36

The CEC carries out the following duties:

- a) It sees to the strict and equal implementation of this law during the election period in the entire territory of the Republic of Albania.
- b) It determines the methodology and inspects the activity of zone electoral commissions.
- c) It reviews complaints against irregular and illegal acts and activities of a ZEC.

ç) It registers and announces the participation in the election of parties, groups of parties and independent candidates, as well as their symbols and logos. After registration, no party or group of parties has the right to use the symbols of another party or group of parties.

d) It controls the registration of candidates for People's Assembly deputies in single-member zones.

dh) It sets the rules for the participation in the election of domestic and foreign observers and issues them the identification document.

e) When necessary, after the elections, it examines the voters' lists and reports to the competent body if it discovers that a person has voted more than once.

ë) It announces the results of the elections and registers the People's Assembly deputies.

g) It issues the certificate of election to deputies who are elected according to the nation-wide party lists.

Article 37

A ZEC is set up in every electoral zone, composed of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Secretary and a representative from each subject or electoral grouping that has presented a candidate in that zone. The Secretary is selected among the ZEC members. The President of the Republic appoints the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the ZEC.

Proposals on the ZEC composition are submitted to the CEC no later than 30 days before election day. The CEC approves the ZEC composition no later than 28 days before election day.

Article 38

The ZEC carries out the following duties:

a) It sees to the precise and equal implementation of this law during the election period in the entire territory of the zone.

b) It supervises the activity of the polling station commissions during the election period.

c) It supervises the setting up of polling stations in compliance with the law.

ç) It requests, as the case may be, that bodies that have announced the voters' lists, correct mistakes and omissions in the lists.

d) It registers and announces the candidates for deputies nominated in accordance with this law.

dh) It registers the representatives of the candidates for deputies from different parties, groups of parties, or independent candidates and supplies them with appropriate certificates.

e) It counts the votes on the basis of the polling station protocols and announces the results of the elections in the zone.

ë) It reviews complaints against illegal or irregular acts and activities of polling station commissions

f) It issues the certificate of election to the deputies who are elected.

g) It sends to the CEC the election records, as stipulated in this law.

Article 39

In each polling station is set up a Polling Station Commission composed of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Secretary and one representative from each subject or electoral grouping that has presented candidates in the respective zone. The ZEC decides on the composition of the PSC in accordance with the defined regulations on the ZEC.

Proposals on the PSC composition are submitted to the ZEC no later than 15 days before election day. The ZEC chairmanship announces the composition of the PSC no later than 10 days before election day.

Article 40

The PSC carries out the following duties:

- a) It ensures the free and peaceful conduct of elections in the polling station in accordance with regulations defined in this law.
- b) It sees to the strict implementation of voting procedures.
- c) It registers the voters who have come to vote with a voting certificate or with a court decision.
- d) It counts the votes that have been cast for each candidate and party list.
- dh) It prepares voting protocols, as defined in this law, and sends them to the ZEC.
- e) It records the complaints and request from commission members and voters, examines them and takes the appropriate decision.

Article 41

During the elections the instructions of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the PSC are binding for all citizens in the polling station. These instructions can be annulled only by a decision of the PSC.

Article 42

Electoral commission members can be relieved of their duties in these commissions by the body which approved the composition of the commission, upon request of the members themselves or with the proposal of the electoral subjects they represent.

Article 43

Members of the military, employees of public order institutions and the National Information Service (SHIK), as well as candidates for People's Assembly deputies cannot serve as members of electoral commissions.

Article 44

Electoral commissions' meetings are considered valid when more than half of the members are present. Decisions at these meetings are made by 2/3 majority vote of present members and are signed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman. Electoral commissions' meetings are public. Observers participating in these meetings can make remarks. At their request, remarks can be included in the official protocol of the commission's meeting.

Article 45

Electoral subjects with representation in electoral commissions have the right to submit a list with substitutes for their representatives. Substitution takes place if the actual representatives are unable to carry out their functions.

The replacement procedure is the following:

- a) In the case of the PSC, at the request of the respective subject and by decision of the ZEC.
- b) In the case of the ZEC, by decision of the CEC.

Article 46

Members of the ZEC are released from their jobs, in exchange of payment, from the day they are assigned this duty, whereas PSC members have the right to be released from their jobs, in exchange of payment, five days before election day and two days after election day. The above-mentioned persons are compensated from the state budget, at the amount determined by the CEC. For members of the CEC, the President of the Republic determines the compensation.

Article 47

All electoral commission members are considered, during the exercise of their duty, as "persons assigned with a state assignment", in the sense of the Penal Code.

Persons who against the electoral commission members, during the exercise of their duty, commit a crime that comes under the provisions of the Penal Code as a crime against state authority, are sentenced to imprisonment as defined in these provisions.

Electoral commission members are legally responsible for the implementation of the provisions of this law.

Article 48

While performing their assigned duties, members of the electoral commissions and observers are not allowed to wear any distinguishing sign or symbol of a party or group of parties to which they belong or to make or take part in election propaganda activities.

CHAPTER VII

COMPLAINTS AGAINST DECISIONS OF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS

Article 49

ZEC decisions can be appealed to the CEC within 3 days from their announcement. The CEC examines the complaints and takes the respective decision within 3 days.

Article 50

CEC decisions can be appealed to the Constitutional Court within 3 days from their announcement.

The Constitutional Court examines the complaint and within 3 days issues a final decision, which is made public immediately.

Decisions of the Constitutional Court on complaints regarding election results are made known to the Commission of Mandates of the People's Assembly.

CHAPTER VIII

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Article 51

The election campaign begins with the announcement of the election day and ends 24 hours before this day.

Article 52

During the election campaign, every electoral subject as well as citizens have the right to freely make propaganda through rallies, meetings, radio, TV, press and other media.

Any kind of propaganda violating the law or public order or which attacks candidates' personal dignity, is prohibited.

Publication of public opinion polls should be interrupted 8 days before election day.

Article 53

The electoral campaign in the State Radio Television is done through special programs. Parties, which in the last election for district councils obtained more than 0.50% of the votes, shall have in their disposal a total broadcasting time of 4 hours, half of which is allocated to governmental coalition parties and half to opposition parties. This time shall be distributed according to the percentage of the votes obtained in the above-mentioned elections, but no less than 15 minutes for each subject. All other political parties participating in the elections, shall have at their disposal only 10 minutes.

The electoral broadcasting programme and platform in disposal of the political parties' electoral campaign shall be subject to approval by the CEC. Every additional time that the State RTV may make available for electoral debate or for parties' electoral campaign is distributed according to proportions defined in the above paragraph.

For the second round, the time at the disposal of electoral subject, as stipulated in the above rule, shall be halved.

To strictly oversee the time limits, the Electronic Media Supervising Commission is established, which is responsible for all programmes, not only those related to the electoral campaign, but also news programmes and political information, etc. The commission is composed of a representative from each party with representation in the National Reconciliation Government. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman represent, respectively, the largest party of the position and the opposition. They direct the activity of the commission. The commission shall establish an office in the state TV building, enjoys the right to attend meetings of different departments and, for its activity, responds directly to the CEC.

The CEC organises broadcasting, on the Albanian RTV, on electoral education of the population, excluding political statements.

Article 54

Candidates, as well as electoral subjects, have the right to use various propagandistic materials such as slogans, announcements, pamphlets, etc., in which the name of the electoral subject that has prepared such materials should appear. Damaging such materials is prohibited until the end of the campaign.

Propaganda material can be posted in public places defined by the local government bodies, giving equal propaganda possibilities to each electoral subject.

Article 55

Election campaigning is prohibited in military units and detachments as well as in de-politicised institutions. The commanders of military units and detachments must permit the use of mass media during free time as well as participation in the electoral campaign within the territory of the electoral zone, but outside the military unit or detachments.

Article 56 - Repealed

Article 57

Local governments as well as any other state body have no right to distribute propagandistic electoral materials or take part in propaganda activities.

Article 58

The Council of Ministers allocates state funds to the electoral campaign of political parties.

The allocated sum from the state budget to the political parties that participate in the elections, is distributed according to the percentage of votes they will obtain in the elections. Political parties that obtain less than 2% of the votes nation-wide, are excluded from this rule.

The Council of Ministers allocates a certain cash advance to parties that in the last local government elections obtained more than 1% of the votes for the district councils. After the end of the elections, if parties that have received such an amount do not meet the conditions of the above paragraph, they are obliged to return the cash advance or the rest of this amount.

Article 59

It is prohibited to slander or offend a candidate for deputy or an electoral subject.

A newspaper or any other type of mass media that has published material violating the rights of a candidate for People's Assembly deputy or has in any way attacked his dignity, is obliged to publish free of charge a response in the next issue or broadcast, designating to it the same place, space and time as to the original material which caused the response.

Article 60

The disruption and interruption of legal electoral meetings and rallies is prohibited.

Article 61

Candidates for People's Assembly deputy keep their jobs when released from duty and receive their full pay during the election campaign, from the state if they work for it, and from the CEC in other cases.

Judges, prosecutors and members of the armed forces shall have no guarantee of returning to their previous positions.

Article 62

Candidates for deputy cannot be charged with crimes, arrested or held in detention, except when they commit an obviously serious crime.

CHAPTER IX

VOTING

Article 63

Voting for People's Assembly deputies takes place in places specified by the local government executive bodies. No electoral propaganda or party campaign is allowed in polling stations.

Buildings of political parties, other electoral subjects, or de-politicised state institutions, apart from schools, cannot be used as polling stations.

Article 64

Voting for People's Assembly deputies takes place on a day which is a holiday throughout the country.

Voting begins at 08.00 and ends at 21.00. If after 21.00 there are still people waiting to vote, the voting continues until all those present have voted.

On election day, the PSC starts work at 07.00 by checking the ballot box. After this, the ballot box is closed and sealed with the stamp of the polling station, which is kept safe.

The Chairman of the PSC, in the presence of the commission, stamps all the ballots, the number of which is recorded in the protocol, which is signed by all the present members of the commission.

After stamping, the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary, in the presence of the commission members, sign the ballots.

After completing all the above-mentioned procedures in the mentioned order, the Chairman of the PSC declares the voting open.

Article 65

Voters vote according to the order of their appearance at the polling station.

The PSC is obliged to certify the identity of voters participating in voting. For this purpose, it has the right to request that the voters present, according to circumstances, the identify card, the passport, the military certificate or a birth certificate with a photo.

Militaries are not permitted to appear at the polling station in lined units or armed. Only army men on duty are permitted to appear in uniform.

After the information on the identification document has been compared with the voters' list, the voter signs in the voters' list. After the number of the identification document has been written down, the voter takes the ballot and votes. After voting, the last page of the identification document is stamped. If it has been noticed that the ballot is not regular, the ballot is separated, marked and signed as invalid, and the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman replace it with another one.

Article 66

The voting room may have a certain numbers of booths in order to speed up the voting process. There should be no ballots in the booths of the voting room.

The commission desk is placed in such a way as to permit members of the commission and the observers representing electoral subjects to move around it. The ballot boxes are placed visible to all persons present.

No one, including members of the PSC, can enter the booth, except for cases when the voter is unable to follow the necessary voting procedure and requests assistance from a person he himself selects. The selected person has the right to accompany only one voter.

In these cases, permission is requested from the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the PSC and this is recorded in the voters' list.

Voting in the open or outside the booths is prohibited. In such a case, the vote is considered invalid and the ballot will be torn by the commission and is not cast into the ballot box, giving the voter a new possibility to vote. A protocol is prepared on torn ballots.

If there are still voters in the booth, no one is allowed to stand closer than 3 metres from the booth.

If necessary to keep order in the polling station and to ensure free and fair elections, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the PSC, by unanimous, recorded decision, may request the help of the police, which in this case is obliged to take only the measures requested. If no unanimity is possible and the commissions thinks that police presence is necessary, the decision is taken by 2/3 majority vote of all present members of the commission.

Armed persons are not allowed to enter the polling station.

Electoral subjects have the right to send to each polling station one observer, who is authorised by the ZEC.

Article 67

Voting is done with ballot models defined by the Council of Ministers. Ballots shall be of the same form, size, colour and paper quality. The zone electoral commissions are delivered 10% ballots more than the number of voters registered in the respective voters' lists on the day of their announcement.

Article 68

The ballot is clearly divided in two parts. On the left side are the single-member zone candidates, and on the right are the electoral subjects. On the left side, next to each candidate, is printed the sign of the subject, the first name, father's first name and last name of the candidate and also the name of the subject he represents. For independent candidates, "independent candidate" is written. The sign and the name of the subjects listed for the additional mandates, are put on the right side, in alphabetic order. In both parts of the ballot, electoral subjects are listed in alphabetic order.

On both sides of the ballot, at the beginning of each line that contains the

above-mentioned data, there is a separate area on which the voter makes remarks on the candidate or the electoral subject he is voting for. In this area the voter may put the sign (+), (x) or (-).

Article 69

During ballot counting and checking, as according to Article 64 of this law, if irregularities in colour, form, contents, etc. of the ballots delivered to the commission are noticed, the PSC considers them invalid and marks them with the word "unusable".

This rule applies also to ballots that before or during voting have been damaged, torn or filled in wrong.

The commission sets these ballots aside and their number is recorded in the final protocol:

Ballots found in the ballot box after voting is over, are considered invalid if they do not meet the requirement on shape, size, colour, paper quality and composition and do not bear the stamp and signatures according to Article 64. Their number is recorded in the final protocol and these ballots are kept separately.

Article 70

When there are serious violations of the voting process, the PSC can decide to suspend voting until the violations are corrected. The CEC is immediately notified of this decision.

Article 71

The ballots with the names of the candidates for deputies in the zone and the lists of nation-wide candidates are posted outside the voting room or in any other obvious place.

CHAPTER X

VOTING RESULTS

Article 72

Immediately after voting has ended, the PSC Chairman, in the presence of the commission and accredited observers:

- a) declares the voting closed;
- b) counts voters that have participated in the voting according to the lists, which must be signed by the PSC Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary and by any representative of the electoral subjects that may desire to do so.

The lists are placed in an envelope that is sealed with the stamp of the polling station. The envelope itself is signed by the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary of the

commission and by the representatives of the electoral subjects that may desire to do so. The envelope is sent to the ZEC from which is taken the respective certification.

c) He counts the unused ballots, which are treated in the same way as indicated above in the second paragraph of section "b".

These actions must be completed in the above-mentioned order, and recorded in the final protocol.

Article 73

Following the completion of the above-mentioned activities:

a) The ballot box is opened and a member of the commission, selected by lot, takes out one ballot and gives it to the chairman who in a loud voice declares whether the ballot is valid and which candidate and subject it is in favour of. The ballot is shown to all members of the commission as well as present observers. Only after the results have been recorded and the ballot has been placed at the specified place, the next ballot can be taken out of the box.

b) Ballots found in the ballot box are counted. Ballots found irregular are counted; ballots found regular but not valid are counted; and in the end, regular ballots, valid for each of the candidates or subjects are counted.

c) The number of votes is compared with the number of voters in the voters' list and counting is repeated, if necessary.

These actions are completed in the above-mentioned order and are recorded in the protocol.

Article 74

Regular ballots found in the ballot box are valid and are counted as votes to the candidates or subjects participating in elections for People's Assembly, only if voters have marked only one of the candidates or electoral subjects presented in the ballot.

In every other case, regular ballots are considered invalid, regular ballots. Ballots are considered as such even in the cases when the voter, although marking one of the candidates or subjects, has made additional marks on the ballot.

The PSC does vote evaluation. Disputable votes are initially examined and then evaluated. Any objection from commission members is recorded in the protocol and these ballots are kept separately.

Article 75

When voting, counting and evaluation of ballots is over, the PSC chairmanship compiles the respective protocol.

The protocol shall contain:

1. Zone and polling station number.
2. Starting and finishing time of voting.
3. Number of voters in the voter's list.
4. Number of voters in the supplementary list.
5. Number of voters according to notes on the voter's list.

6. Number of ballots delivered to the polling station.
7. Number of ballots destroyed before and during the voting process.
8. Number of unused ballots.
9. Number of ballots found in the ballot box.
10. Number of irregular ballots.
11. Number of regular ballots.
12. Number of regular ballots considered invalid.
13. Number of regular ballots considered valid for each of the candidates or electoral subjects.
14. Number of copies of the protocol prepared.
15. Different motivated remarks by commission members and specific observers and the decision taken in connection with them.

Data in items "3" to "14" is presented in figures and words.

The protocol is signed by the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary of the PSC and bears the appropriate stamp.

Each PSC member is obliged to sign the copies of the protocol. He has the right to include in the protocol all his remarks and next to his signature write the word "remarks". The absence of one member's signature in the protocol does not make it invalid. This rule also applies to the ZEC.

Each of the commission members that have signed the protocol has the right to take a copy of it.

The count being over, the PSC posts the results on an obvious place outside the polling station.

Article 76

The PSC submits to the ZEC the copies of the protocol with the voting results (at least in two copies, one of which is for the CEC), as well as the ballots, stamps, ballot boxes and every other material.

All these documents are delivered personally by the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary of the PSC accompanied by any representative of the electoral subjects no later than 24 hours from voting closure.

Article 77

The ZEC calculates the voting results based on the data from the PSC protocols and announces the results in the form of a protocol which should contain:

1. Number of zone and polling station.
2. Number of voters in voter's lists.
3. Number of voters in the supplementary lists.
4. Number of voters according to notes on the lists.
5. Number of ballots delivered to the PSC.
6. Number of ballots destroyed before and during the voting process.
7. Number of unused ballots.
8. Number of ballots found in the ballot box.
9. Number of irregular ballots.

10. Number of regular ballots.
 11. Number of regular ballots considered invalid.
 12. Number of regular ballots considered valid for each of the candidates or subjects.
 13. Number of copies of the protocol prepared.
 14. Different motivated remarks by commission members and specific observers and decisions taken in connection with them.
 15. The protocol with the voting results in one-member constituencies includes the first name, father's first name and last name of the winning candidate; if a second round is to take place, first name, father's first name and last name of the two first candidates are included.
- Data in items "2" to "13" is presented in figures and words.

As soon as calculation of voting results is over, the ZEC posts them on an obvious place outside the ZEC office.

Article 78

The ZEC delivers all protocols and other election materials to the CEC no later than 24 hours from receiving the results from all polling stations. Copies of the protocol with the voting results from the polling stations are sent back to the polling station.

The Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Secretary and any electoral subject representative who desires to do so, deliver the above-mentioned materials.

The CEC announces publicly the results from electoral zones no later than 72 hours from the final report of the ZEC.

The CEC also publishes a bulletin containing all voting results in the polling stations no later than 30 days from the official announcement of the results.

Article 79

The CEC announces the results no later than 10 days from the end of the second round and publishes them in the Official Gazette.

No later than 10 days from the end of the elections and solution of all possible conflicts, all materials of the CEC, as well as ballots and stamps collected by the prefectures are sent to the Peoples Assembly archive.

After the verification of the mandates by the Commission of Mandates and Immunity of the People's Assembly new legislature, its chairmanship, after hearing the opinion of this commission, decides on the deadline within which ballots are to be preserved, which should not be longer than 4 years.

CHAPTER XI

TERMINATION OF THE MANDATE OF A PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DEPUTY

Article 80

The mandate of the People's Assembly deputy is four years long, except when the assembly is dissolved before its mandate on the bases of the Main Constitutional Dispositions. It begins on the day of the first People's Assembly meeting and ends the day when the new assembly convenes. After the dissolution of the People's Assembly, until the meeting of the new People's Assembly, it can be re-called by a presidential decree with the proposal of the Council of Ministers.

The mandate of the People's Assembly deputy terminates prematurely in these cases:

- a) When the deputy resigns.
- b) When the deputy is declared guilty of having committed a crime by a final verdict of a court.
- c) When the deputy refuses to take the oath of the office as foreseen in the regulation of the People's Assembly.
- ç) When the deputy loses the right to be elected for one of the above-mentioned reasons of this law.
- d) When the deputy dies.

Article 81

When the mandate of a deputy terminated prematurely, the Commission of Mandates of the People's Assembly replaces the deputy whose mandate has terminated, choosing the following candidate among the candidates of the respective party list who have not benefitted from the distribution of supplementary mandates. If no such candidate exists, this mandate is given to the candidate presented by the electoral subjects in one of the single-member zones, who among all other candidates of this electoral subject in the zones who have not won in this zone and do not appear in the party list of the respective subject, has collected the largest number of votes. When two such candidates exist, then the lot is drawn.

When a deputy gets another job that is incompatible with his mandate, his replacement is done according to the first paragraph of this article.

CHAPTER XII
PENAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Article 82 - Repealed

Article 83 - Repealed

Article 84

Anyone who violates the provisions of this law must pay a fine of 10 000 to 50 000 leks, except for the cases when the violation is a penal offense.

Article 85

In cases of the violation of the provisions regarding the safekeeping and proper administration of ballots, voters' lists, ballot boxes and voting protocols, the fine increases to 50 000 to 100 000 leks, except for the cases when the violation is a penal offense.

Article 86

Persons performing duties on the basis of this law, who do not implement provisions of Articles 84 and 85, must pay a fine of 100 000 to 150 000 leks, except for the cases when the violation is a penal offence.

Article 87

Decisions regarding the payment of fines for administrative violations are made by the ZEC or the CEC.

Final decisions regarding the payment of fines must be carried out and cannot be appealed.

CHAPTER XIII

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 88

The CEC issues special instructions for the implementation of this law.

Article 89

For the purposes of this law, the following are considered as foreign observers:

Representatives of the OSCE member states, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and other organisations that are concerned with human rights issues.

Representatives of foreign political parties and movements as well as individuals invited by parties or groups of parties.

Representatives authorised by local and foreign organisations specialised in the field of elections

Article 90

The CEC issues necessary accreditation to election observers, reporters and representatives of the mass media.

Election observers have the right to move freely in the territory of the Republic of Albania, follow and observe the course of the activities carried out both during the election campaign and on election day. They have the right to ask, gather information and give their opinions publicly, always remaining impartial.

Article 91

Albanian citizens who live permanently outside the country or have lived abroad for more than a year and request to participate in voting, prove their identity with the international passport they bear. They have to issue a statement, declaring that they do not possess a valid identification card within the territory of the Republic of Albania.

Article 92

The Council of Ministers is appointed to provide the material and the financial means necessary to the organisational measures for the implementation of this law.

The CEC appoints a representative to the Directorate of Elections and Referenda at the State Secretariat of Local Government.

State administration institutions are obliged to take all preparative, administrative and

logistic measures necessary to the election process, in accordance with the CEC and ZEC requests.

Article 93

Law no. 7423, dated 13 November 1990, "On People's Assembly Elections", as well as any other provision incompatible with this law, are abrogated.

Article 93a

Dispositions of law no. 8218, dated 16 May 1997:

For the implementation of the dispositions of this law in the first elections after its entering into force, the proportion position-opposition shall be defined on the basis of the political standings before 9 March 1997. Also, the division of the electoral zones will remain the same as in the last elections for People's Assembly.

The CEC, whose composition and function has been defined in law no. 8144, dated 11 September 1996, "On the approval, with some additions and amendments, of the decree no. 1579, dated 13 August 1996, 'On the composition of the CEC of the Republic of Albania'," shall be re-created and continue functioning in accordance with the dispositions of this law.

Article 93b

Dispositions of law no. 8144, dated 11 September 1996, "On the approval, with some additions and amendments, of the decree no. 1579, dated 13 August 1996, 'On the composition of the CEC of the Republic of Albania'," which defined the modalities of the CEC composition, are abrogated.

Article 94

This law comes into force immediately.
(Law no. 8218, dated 16 May 1997, which entered into force on 16 May 1997 - Article 47.)

**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR**

REGULATION

No. 519, dated 1.06.1997

**MEASURES TAKEN BY THE POLICE AND ITS ACTIVITY DURING
ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN AND ELECTIONS DAYS.**

Following the law No. 7556 dated 04.02.1992, "On Elections for the People's Assembly in the Republic of Albania", changed by the law no. 8055, dated 01.02.1996, and the law no. 7895, dated 27.01.1995, changed by the law no. 8218 dated 16.05. 1997, and on the basis of the decision of the Council of Ministers No. 213 dated 25.05.1997, I issue this regulation.

ARTICLE 1

The in charged persons of the Ministry of Interior's units have to study the law "On the meetings right", the law "On Elections for the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania" and the Decision of the Council of Ministers in order to properly carry it out.

ARTICLE 2

The police officers are strictly prohibited to develop political propaganda or to participate in the electoral activities out of their respective duties. Each law violation "On the depolitisation of the state organs" has to be severely punished.

ARTICLE 3

In carrying out the law and the Decision of the Council of Ministers, the Chief of the Order Police and the officials of the Ministry of Interior units, prepare and compile the mass plans, where to be clearly specified the duties for each sector and which is to be approved by the Chiefs of the police stations. In checking how this mass plan is developed and carried out, are be named persons in charge of such duties.?????

ARTICLE 4

In compiling the mass plans and the duties on police and police officers it I to be beard in mind:

- The concrete criminal situations in the district, reflecting the tendencies of the criminal act.
- Strengthening of the preventive, discovery activity, and the arrest of penal acts.
- Strengthening of the Vital Installation Objects like banks, Radio-Television building, electric stations, water supply places, places where explosives are located etc.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN ALBANIA

PARTIS POLITIQUES EN ALBANIE

PARTITE POLITIKE NE SHQIPERI

Democratic Party(DP)/Parti Démocrate(PD)
Partia Demokratike(PD)

Socialist Party(SP)/Parti Socialiste(PS)
Partia Socialiste(SP)

Republican Party(RP)/Parti Républicain(PR)
Partia Republikane(PR)

Social-Democratic Party(SPD)Parti Social-Démocrate(PSD)
Partia Social-Demokrate(PSD)

Human Rights Union Party(HRUP)/Parti de l'Union Des Droits de L'Homme(PUDH)
Partia Unioni i te drejtave te njeriut(PUDNJ)

Agrarian Party(AP)/Parti Agrarien(PA)
Partia Agrare(PA)

Democratic Union Party(DUP)/Parti de l'Union Démocratique(PUD)
Partia e Unionit Demokratik(PUD)

National Unity Party(NUP)/Parti de l'Unité Nationale (PUN)
Partia e Unitetit Kombetar

Demo-Christian Party(DC)/Parti Démocrate-Chrétien(PDC)
Partia Demo-Kristiane(PDK)

Social-Democratic Union Party(SDUP)/Parti de l'Union Social-Démocratique(PUSD)
Partia e Unionit Social-Demokratik(PUSD)

Democratic Alliance Party(DAP)/Parti de l'Alliance Démocratique(PAD)
Partia Aleanca Demokratike(PAD)

National Front Party(NFP)/Parti du Front National(PFN)
Partia Ballit Kombetar(PBK)

National Conservative Party (NCP)/Parti National Conservateur(PNC)
Partia Nacional-Konservatore(PNK)

Legality Movement Party(LMP)/Parti du Mouvement de la Légalité(PML)
Partia e Levizjes se Legalitetit(PLL)

Demo-Christian Union Party(DCUP)/Parti de l'Union Démocrate-Chrétienne(PUDC)
Partia Unioni Demo-Kristian(PUDK)

ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES

Aims

You should aim to cover 10 polling stations during the day spending a minimum of 30 minutes in each station. It is not a competition to see which observers can visit the most stations – we are looking for quality rather than quantity.

You should select one **Primary polling station** and nine **Secondary stations**. The Primary station is the one you will visit first and last witnessing the opening, the voting, the closing and the count.

You should always work as a team, staying together at all times.

General Instructions

1. You should arrive at your first polling station by no later than 0645hrs. The Polling Station Commission (PSC) starts work at 0700hrs so you should witness the arrival of the ballot box and other materials together with members of the PSC.
2. You should wear your cap and arm band at all times. Your I.D. should be visible at all times and your first task is to introduce yourself to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and other members of the Commission. You should inform the Chairman that it is your intention to observe the opening of the poll and to remain in the polling station for some time after opening to observe the process of voting. Find yourself a chair and sit away from the PSC in a position which allows you to observe the whole process.
3. As an observer you should be courteous at all times remembering that you are looking at the process and that you should not intervene or interfere in any way whatsoever. Should you witness any irregularities then this should be recorded on the election form for that particular polling station. You may inform the PSC that you have made such a record but before doing so you will need to take account of the atmosphere within the station.

Prior to Opening the Polling Station

4. The "*Manual for Polling Station Commission Members*" enclosed in your pack sets out the preparations needed before voting commences and these include checking the ballot box; sealing it; recording the number of ballots received; stamping and signing of ballots and determining those ballots which are unusable.

The Opening and the Voting Process

5. As soon as the procedures described in paragraph 4 have been completed, and providing it is 0800hrs, the Chairman of the PSC declares the voting opened. You may find that the PSC members will cast their votes first. The

voting procedures up to and including the close of voting are described in the "Manual for PSC Members". At the end of the Manual is a flow-chart describing the voting procedure.

6. It is recommended that you remain at the **Primary polling station** for thirty minutes after the first voter votes. You should not advise the PSC that you will be returning.
7. You should then travel to your second polling station and you should cover **four secondary stations** during the morning. Upon arriving the procedures described in paragraphs Nod. 2 and 3 above should be followed.
8. It is recommended that the election observation form is completed before you leave the station. It is easy to forget important details if you delay completion. Remember you should stay for a minimum of 30 minutes at secondary stations. Upon leaving the station thank the Chairman and the other members of the Commission and say if time allows you will return some time before close of polling.
9. You should complete the visit to the fourth secondary station in time for you to meet your zone coordinator at approximately 12 noon. The five polling station observation forms completed by you should be delivered at that time. You should then break for lunch.
10. After lunch you should visit the remaining **five secondary stations** allowing enough time for you to arrive at your **Primary station** by no later than 8pm.

Close of Poll and Count

11. You should witness the closing of the **Primary polling station** and complete your election form as appropriate. The PSC will then organise the counting of the votes, a procedure you should watch carefully. Again, it's worth pointing out that you are there to observe and no matter how great the temptation you should not intervene or interfere in the counting process in any way.
12. After the filling of the evaluation for counting form (you will find this at the end of the booklet), using the photocopy of the protocol sheet provided to you, transcribe the results of your **Primary polling station**. Then go to the nearest polling station still working and try to observe its counting process complete the second evaluation form and transcribe the results in the protocol photocopy. If you do not find any PSC still operating at least do the transcription of the result.
12. Your final task is to deliver all remaining forms to the zone coordinator who will arrange for rapid transportation to the Tirana computer centre. You should write your team number, the names of your team members and I.D. numbers on the outside of the envelope.

To: OSCE Staff

From: Aanund Hylland

June 10, 1997

THE ALBANIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS OF 1997: ALLOCATION OF THE 40 SUPPLEMENTARY SEATS

1. Introduction

As you may have heard, the Constitutional Court of Albania has invalidated some of the provisions of the electoral law for the distribution of the supplementary seats.

Below, I describe the system as it was envisioned in the law, and as it becomes after the Constitutional Court decision. I also explain, mainly by means of an example, the method used for proportional distribution of seats.

A more detailed analysis of the legal aspects of the Court decision is given in a memorandum by Matthew Mark Horn, JD, to which I refer.

2. Provisions not affected by the Court decision

In addition to the 115 seats of the single-member zones (constituencies), 40 seats are distributed on the basis of votes cast for nation-wide lists put up by electoral subjects (political parties); see Article 6 of the electoral law.

In the first round of voting, the ballot is divided into two parts. On the left hand side are listed the candidates in the respective zone, and on the right-hand side are listed the parties that run nation-wide lists (Art. 68). The voter may vote for one candidate *and* one list (Art. 4, second paragraph). The voter is permitted to leave one of the sides of the ballot blank, thus voting only for a candidate or only for a list.

Only parties that run candidates in at least 25 of the 115 single-member zones and in at least 10 of the 36 districts (rrethi) of the country, have the right to submit lists. A list can contain up to 100 names (Art. 15). A person who is a candidate for a party in a single-member zone, can also be put on that party's list (Art. 12, third paragraph).

The distribution of the 40 supplementary seats is based on the votes cast on the right-hand side of the ballot during the first round of voting. (The second round of voting concerns only zone candidates.)

Only parties that have obtained at least 2% of the nation-wide vote, take part in the distribution of the supplementary seats (Art. 11, first paragraph). The remaining parties are simply ignored before the calculation starts. Below, the 2% limit is referred to as the *threshold*.

Distribution is carried out according to the so-called *method of the largest remainder*, which is described in Section 5 below.

When the seats have been allocated to the parties, persons to fill the seats must be

selected. For each party, this is done according to the order on the party's list (Art. 11, paragraph c). At this stage, candidates who have won a seat in a single-member zone, are ignored (Art. 12, third paragraph). If the list becomes exhausted before all the party's supplementary seats have been filled, one turns to the party's losing candidates in the zones and selects the ones who got the highest number of votes.

3. The system as envisioned in the law

According to Article 11, paragraphs a and b, 10 of the 40 seats are accorded to the two largest parties, while the remaining 30 seats are accorded to the other parties that meet the threshold. There was to be a separate, proportional distribution within each of these two groups of parties.

Concerning the distribution of the 40 seats, this system tends to discriminate against the two largest parties.

To illustrate this, we can look at the second largest party. If it has almost as many votes as the largest party, it gets 5 seats (half of the 10). This is the best it can hope for, but it may get even fewer than 5 seats. It is not unlikely that the second largest party gets 25 or 30% of the vote, or even more. Out of 40 seats, 25% is 10 seats and 30% is 12. Thus, the second largest party is likely to get half or less of the seats it would have been entitled to had the 40 seats been distributed proportionally.

Similarly, the largest party is disadvantaged when the 40 seats are seen in isolation. The largest party is, however, likely to get considerably more than its proportional share of the 115 seats elected in the single-member zones. Therefore, this party will probably be favoured rather than disadvantaged by the system as a whole. This does not apply to the second largest party.

4. The Court decision

The arguments put forward by the parties before the Constitutional Court, as well as the Court's reasoning and findings, are outlined in the above-mentioned memorandum by Matthew Mark Horn, JD.

The conclusion is that the 40 supplementary seats shall be proportionally distributed, in one unified operation, among all parties meeting the threshold. That is, the Court abolished the division of the seats into two groups of 10 and 30, but kept the rest of the system.

5. The method of the largest remainder

If seats are distributed among parties in exact proportion to their votes, each party is likely to end up with a number of seats which is not an integer, which is impossible. One needs a method for rounding off, so that each party gets a whole number of seats.

There are a few well-known methods that can be used for this purpose. One of these is the method of the largest remainder, which is used in this year's Albanian elections, and which is also used in several other countries. It should be noted that since 40 seats are distributed in one unified operation, it would not have made a big difference if some other of the well-known methods had been used. Alternative methods are not discussed here.

The method of the largest remainder is explained by means of an example. From an Albanian point of view, the votes in the table below shall be considered as purely fictitious. (Actually, they are the votes for the major parties in the 1994 elections for the German *Bundestag*. Many more votes are cast in Germany than in Albania.) The number of seats is the real one, namely 40.

I	II	III	IV	V	VI
A	17 141 319	15.100	15		15
B	16 089 491	14.174	14		14
C	3 427 128	3.019	3		3
D	3 423 091	3.016	3		3
E	3 257 864	2.870	2	1	3
F	2 067 391	1.821	1	1	2
	45 406 284	40.000	38	2	40

In Column I, the name of the parties are given. Only the parties that meet the threshold, that is, only the parties that have got at least 2% of the nation-wide vote, are included in the table. These are hereafter called the *eligible* parties.

In each of columns II - IV, the bottom line contains the sum of the numbers above it.

Column II contains the votes of the parties. The bottom line is the sum of the votes for the eligible parties. This is likely to be somewhat less than the total number of votes cast in the whole country (on the right-hand side of the ballot in the first round of voting), since some votes will probably be cast for parties that fall short of the threshold.

Column III contains the result of distributing the seats in exact proportion to the parties' votes, ignoring the fact that seats come in whole numbers. For each party, its vote is divided by the total number of votes cast for all eligible parties, and this fraction is multiplied by 40. For example, for party B we get

$$(16,089,491 / 45,406,284) * 40 = 14.174.$$

Column IV contains, for each party, the integer part (the whole number part) of the number in column III. The party is initially awarded this number of seats.

Since the numbers in column III are generally not integers, the sum in column IV will in all likelihood be lower than the total number of seats to be awarded. In the example, there are $40 - 38 = 2$ seats still to be allocated. These are given one each to the parties with the highest numbers after the decimal point in column III (the largest remainders). In the example, we look for the two largest remainders. These are found for parties E (0.870) and F (0.821). Thus, each of these parties is allocated one additional seat. This is indicated in column V. Column VI is the sum of columns IV and V and gives the final distribution of the seats.

In the example, one could have achieved the same result by rounding the numbers in column III according to ordinary rules; that is, decimal parts greater than 0.5 are rounded up, while those smaller than 0.5 are stricken. This procedure cannot, however, be used in general, since it may lead to too few or too many seats being allocated. Examples which show this can easily be produced, but are not included here.

It should also be noted that from a mathematical point of view, the method of the largest

remainder has some strange properties that could be considered arguments against using the method. In practice, this is not an important issue. In any case, this is not the time and place for discussing which method should be used. The issue has been settled by the appropriate Albanian authorities, namely the Parliament and the Constitutional Court.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the consequence of the decision of the Constitutional Court is that the 40 supplementary seats are distributed proportionally among all parties that meet the 2% threshold, based on their nation-wide votes.

It should be noted that the 40 seats are distributed proportionally *in themselves*. They are *not* allocated in such a way as to compensate for any disproportionate distribution resulting from the elections in the single-member zones. Thus the present Albanian electoral system is very different from, for example, the system used for parliamentary elections in Germany. In the latter system, the supplementary seats are allocated in a compensatory way. That is, they are distributed among the parties that meet the threshold requirement so that these parties get a representation *in Parliament as a whole* which, as far as possible, is proportional to their nation-wide vote. (In the 1992 parliamentary elections, Albania used a system which, in principle, was equal to the German one, but this was changed ahead of the 1996 elections.)

Neither before nor after the Constitutional Court decision does the existence of the 40 supplementary seats imply that the present Albanian electoral system is a proportional one, not even approximately so. It is for the most part a majority-vote system.

**Albania's Elections - Memorandum of Understanding/title
Between The Government of the Republic of Albania
And OSCE Presence in Albania
Tirana, 29 May 1997**

With reference to the OSCE Permanent Council Decision 160 dated 27 March 1997 which, inter-alia, reads:

Recalling Permanent Council Decision No. 158, the Permanent Council further decides to establish an OSCE presence in Albania in cooperation with the Albanian authorities and to provide the coordinating framework within which other international organizations can play their part in their respective areas of competence, in support of a coherent international strategy, and in facilitating improvements in the protection of human rights and basic elements of civil society.

In cooperation with other International organizations, such as Council of Europe, the OSCE will provide advice and assistance in the following fields:

- Democratization, the media and human rights
- Election preparation and monitoring.

Furthermore, the OSCE will explore the possibilities, including monitoring the collection of weapons. The time frame for the OSCE presence will be reviewed by the Permanent Council after holding of elections. And after consultations with the Albanian authorities, the following undertaking has been reached:

1. The OSCE representatives in Albania, and premises used by the OSCE, OSCE archives and other OSCE property, enjoy the same privileges and immunities as are enjoyed by a diplomatic mission under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961. In addition, the Provisions concerning the Legal Capacity of the OSCE Institutions and Privileges and Immunities, as adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council on 1 December 1993 shall apply.
2. OSCE personnel enjoy privileges and immunities as are enjoyed by diplomatic agents under the Vienna Convention, as well as privileges and immunities set forth in the decision of the OSCE Ministerial Council of 1993. The senior OSCE representatives shall enjoy privileges and immunities, exemption and facilities as are accorded to ambassadors who are head of missions. Members of their families forming part of their households shall also enjoy the privileges and immunities provided for in the Vienna Convention.
3. OSCE personnel shall respect local laws insofar as they are compatible with the mandate and tasks of the OSCE, and OSCE personnel shall refrain from activities not compatible with the mandate and tasks of OSCE.
4. OSCE personnel will operate in the whole territory of the Republic of Albania. OSCE will

establish headquarters in Tirana, and it may, upon the decision of the OSCE and in consultation with the Albanian Government, establish additional offices in other localities.

5. OSCE personnel will number as appropriately decided by the OSCE. The OSCE will inform Albanian authorities on the appointment, arrival, and final departure of its personnel.

6. Albania shall take the necessary measures to ensure the full protection and security of OSCE personnel, as well as of the OSCE promises and faculties.

7. In view of their status as diplomatic agents, OSCE personnel are immune from personal arrest or detention. If OSCE personnel are mistakenly arrested or detained, the senior OSCE representative concerned shall be informed without delay and the concerned OSCE representative shall be released immediately.

8. Drivers licenses issued to OSCE personnel by their respective nationalities are recognized and accepted as valid without any local administrative procedures or the payment of any fee or tax. Motor vehicles operated by the OSCE are not subject to local licensing or registration requirements and the use of OSCE vehicles shall be accepted without any further requirements. Vehicles operated by the OSCE shall carry adequate third-party liability insurance.

9. The OSCE and OSCE personnel are permitted to display the OSCE flag and OSCE emblem on premises used by the OSCE, means of transport, of individual clothing. OSCE personnel are not allowed to carry arms.

10. OSCE personnel enjoy, together with OSCE vehicles, aircraft or other equipment, unimpeded freedom of movement and unimpeded access as may be required to carry out the OSCE assignment throughout Albania.

11. The OSCE has the right to import goods as may be required to carry its assignment free of customs duties, taxes and restrictions. Any necessary customs clearance will be carried out urgently and with priority.

12. The OSCE and OSCE personnel may use airports, roads and ports without payment of duties, dues, tolls, or charges. However, the OSCE shall not claim exemption from reasonable charges for services requested and received by it, but movements and access shall not be impeded pending payment for such services.

13. In exercising its right of unrestricted communication, the OSCE may use its own radio and other means, utilize communication channels, means and services as are required to ensure full ability to communicate. The OSCE may, pursuant to the laws and regulations of Albania, use of the electromagnetic spectrum for OSCE operations and commits itself, in cooperation with the relevant authorities of Albania, to ensure the proper and correct use of the electromagnetic spectrum.

14. The Albanian authorities will use their efforts in finding accommodation and office premises for the OSCE at reasonable cost and to provide the OSCE with assistance in obtaining at the lowest possible rates the necessary utilities and public services, such as water, electricity and telephone as well as other resources necessary to facilitate the OSCE assignment in Albania.

15. Procurement by the OSCE of local supplies, goods and services may be made without payment of taxes of any kind. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other competent authorities of Albania will approve any required documentation without delay.

16. The OSCE may hire local personnel who shall remain subject to local laws and regulations. However, local personnel hired by the OSCE shall:

- be immune from legal arrests in respect to all acts performed by them in their official capacity as employees of the OSCE;
- be exempt from national service and/or military service obligations during the time of their employment by the OSCE;
- be exempt from taxation on the salaries and emoluments paid to them by the OSCE.

17. Disputes with regard to the interpretation or the application of the above understanding shall be settled between the senior OSCE representative in Albania and the authorized representative of the Government of Albania by diplomatic means.

18. This memorandum of understanding will become effective on signature and will remain in effect for the duration of the OSCE presence.

Done in Tirana, on 29 May 1997, in two copies, in Albanian and English languages, both texts having the same value. In case of divergence, the English text will prevail.

For the OSCE Presence


Amb. Herbert Grubmayrbr
Resident Deputy of the Personal Representative
of the Chairman of the Office



Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

DATE: June 24, 1997

TO: OSCE Observers

FROM: General Anthony Welch, Election Coordinator 

SUBJECT: OSCE Code of Conduct during the Election Observation Process

In reading the Law on Elections for the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania and Albanian Governmental Decrees (from the various institutions), you will notice that the laws allow election observers to participate in the election process by allowing observers to make statements publicly and to make written comments on the protocol sheets, and other such conduct that is in conflict with the OSCE Code of Conduct for Observers.

It is mandatory that you read the OSCE Code of Conduct for Observers, as the above activities are **PROHIBITED**. The OSCE Code of Conduct expressly prohibits any type of activity that may be construed as "participating" in the electoral process. The OSCE Code of Conduct is the standard that must be complied with at all times.



ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

On the Counting and Tabulation Process Monday 23 June 1997

The Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania (CEC) has issued its instruction manual for Polling Site Commission (PSC) members. These instructions help to clarify the counting and tabulation process established in the "Law on Elections to the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania." According to these instructions, the steps in this process are as follows:

1. The place where counting is to be performed is cleared of all objects except for the ballot box, copies of the official protocol of results, and tally sheets. Only those members of the PSC tasked with tallying votes are to have pens.
2. Two members (or more) of the PSC, working independently of each other, will be tasked with tallying votes for the candidates within the constituency (zone). Each will have a tally sheet with one line each for the individual candidates, valid ballots, and invalid ballots.
3. Two (or more) additional members of the PSC, working independently of each other, will be tasked with tallying votes for each electoral subject (political party or bloc). Each will have a tally sheet with one line each for the distinct electoral subjects, valid ballots, and invalid ballots.
4. One member of the PSC will be selected by lot to remove ballots, one at a time, from the ballot box and hand them to the Chairman of the PSC.
5. Once counting commences, the Chairman of the PSC will announce whether each ballot is of standard form, if it is a valid ballot, for which candidate the ballot is cast, and for which electoral subject the ballot is cast.
6. A member of the PSC, distinct from those persons mentioned above, will be tasked with the special duty of verifying that the Chairman has read the ballots correctly.
7. Counting commences., ie the assigned member removes a ballot from the box and hands it to the Chairman . . .
8. Once the contents of the ballot are announced and verified, the ballot is shown to all PSC members and all observers present in the polling site.
9. Those tasked with filling in the tally sheets, record the results from the ballot.
10. Two stacks are started, one for valid ballots, the other for invalid ballots.
11. The next ballot is taken out of the ballot box and so on.



ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

Referendum on Return of Monarchy to Albania Tuesday 24 June 1997

On 29 June 1997, a referendum on the return of a Constitutional Monarchy to Albania will be held simultaneously with the parliamentary elections. The referendum will be administered through the election commission structure, although preparations for the referendum – such as printing of ballot papers – are being undertaken by the Ministry on Local Government. On election day, voters will be given two ballot papers, one green ballot upon which they mark their candidate and electoral subject of choice, and a white ballot which will ask voters whether or not they support a return of the Constitutional Monarchy to Albania. Separate ballot boxes will be provided for the referendum. Results of the referendum will need to be recorded on a special protocol. To date, specific instructions have not been released dealing with the impact that the administration of the referendum will have on existing procedures and the order in which tasks must be completed by the PSCs, the handling of referendum ballot papers, nor the counting and tabulation of referendum results. The ballot box containing the referendum ballots will need to be opened at the beginning of the counting process for single-mandate constituency (zone) and party list votes in order to separate out any parliamentary ballots that may have been inadvertently deposited in the wrong ballot box. It is also possible that voters will cast their parliamentary ballots and "pocket" their referendum ones, creating problems in reconciling the number of signatures on the voters' list and the number of referendum ballots cast.



ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

Ballot Security Measures Incorporated Into Processing of Voters Monday 23 June 1997

Invisible ink will be used during Sunday's elections to deter and/or identify attempts by voters to cast a ballot at more than one polling site. According to instructions approved by the CEC on 19 June 1997, when voters arrive at the polling station, their identity will be verified and their left thumb will be checked for traces of invisible ink. If no traces on the special ink are found, the voter will then sign his or her name to the voters' list, the voter's identification number will be recorded in the list, and their left thumb will be sprayed with invisible ink. The voter will then be issued a ballot and can proceed to the secrecy booth to cast his or her vote.



ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

On CEC Regulations for Observers Monday 23 June 1997

On 6 June 1997, the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania, issued regulations on the status of observers. These regulations serve to clarify and expound upon the rights of international and domestic observers as outlined in the "Law on Elections of the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania. According to these regulations:

1. Domestic observers are defined as representatives of electoral subjects, ie. political parties or blocs, who have been appointed as members of election commissions at all levels; representatives appointed by electoral subjects to serve as observers on election day; representations of foundations, institutions, and other NGOs specializing in the fields of elections and human rights.
2. Foreign observers are classified as representatives of the OSCE, Parliamentary Assembly of the European Council, the European Parliament, and other institutions related to human rights issues; representatives of foreign political parties and movements and individuals invited by political parties and movements; representatives authorized by domestic and foreign institutions specializing in the field of elections.
3. In order to be accredited, electoral subjects and other entities wishing to field observers must submit to the CEC: the list of representatives of electoral subjects not later than 20 June 1997 (this must be provided to the ZECs also); the list of persons to serve on behalf of electoral subject as monitors on election day not later than 21 June 1997; the lists of persons to serve on behalf of NGOs as monitors on election day not later than 20 June 1997; and the list of foreign observers by 22 June 1997.
4. In addition, electoral subjects should provide the ZECs with their lists of observers to be present in each polling station by 25 June 1997.
5. Accredited observers have the right to move throughout the territory of the Republic of Albania; to follow and monitor the course of activities throughout the election campaign and on election day; to gather information and state opinions. They are required to remain impartial at all times. They are also prohibited from displaying any sort of political symbols and engaging in campaign activities while performing their duties as observers.
6. Observers attached to the CEC and the ZECs will receive their credentials from the CEC, while those assigned to PSCs will be accredited by the ZECs.
7. Article 9 of the regulation stipulates that "it is recommended that observers have prior observation experience in at least one previous election cycle."
8. Persons accompanying international observers (eg. translators), will be provided with special authorization from the CEC.
9. Any entities or persons wishing to forward observers which do not clearly fall within the categories established above, must provide to the CEC the certificate of their legal registration and their mandate for election observation or electoral education

APPENDIX J

OSCE-ODIHR FINAL OBSERVATION REPORT

ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (OSCE)

**CATHERINE LALUMIERE
OSCE SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR THE ALBANIAN
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

**SIR RUSSELL JOHNSTON
HEAD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION**

**JAVIER RUPEREZ
PRESIDENT OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

**FINAL REPORT
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN ALBANIA
29 JUNE - 6 JULY 1997**

This final report was foreseen in the Political Contract of 9 May 1997, signed by the main political parties. Based on the findings of international observers, we are confident to say that, in our judgement, these elections can be deemed as acceptable given the prevailing circumstances. They should constitute the foundation for a strong, democratic system that the Albanians want and deserve.

During the first and second round, irregularities were observed which were, in a few cases, serious ones. A final technical assessment containing a more detailed analysis of the whole electoral process and recommendations will be released by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE after the final round has been completed. It is up to the Albania judicial system to process complaints in accordance with the domestic legislation.

Pre-election Period

The pre-election period was marred by a number of problems, mainly stemming from the overall situation in the country. The security conditions, in particular, made normal technical preparations and observations difficult in the extreme. The presence of the Multinational Protection Force helped to improve the security situation, thereby allowing the elections to take place.

These problems were mainly of a procedural nature, relating to the inability to strictly observe the timetable set forth in the Electoral Process. As a result, the necessary flow of information to the electorate was uneven throughout the country. In some cases, voters were not sufficiently informed to be able to objectively select among the candidates.

This, coupled with the serious hindrance in campaigning, particularly in the South, brought about by the security situation, made normal preparations for the elections extremely difficult.

However, the Albanian authorities responsible for the administration of the elections, particularly

the Central Electoral Commission, displayed a high degree of commitment and responsibility in seeking to overcome the very real problems facing them.

In particular, the following significant difficulties were observed:

- The Electoral Commissions, both in the electoral zones and in the polling stations, became operational at a very late stage in most areas.
- The voters' lists were not completed on time. In several polling stations, no voters' lists at all were available for the first round.
- The list of candidates was established at a very late stage in several electoral zones, and was forwarded to the Central Electoral Commission at the very last moment.
- The late printing of the ballot papers and the distribution of election materials also caused serious delays, resulting in several polling stations not receiving them in time for the first round.
- The opening and closing hours of the polling stations were changed only the day before the first round by a ruling of the Constitutional Court. This change had been held up for some times, seemingly for political reasons.

Media

The State TV and Radio followed the election law and the media guidelines issued by the Central Electoral Commission on 31 May 1997. The monitoring presented to the OSCE by the Osservatorio di Pavia, an Italian media research institute, indicated an overall fair coverage of the campaign by the State TV in terms of airtime. There have, however, been reports that indicate footage of rallies by one party were taken from last year where crowds were significantly larger.

Compared to the State TV, the influence of print media on public opinion is relatively limited. It remains split into the two major political camps. The largest dailies are still either political party publications or nominally independent papers that demonstrate strong political bias. It has to be noted, however, that in the aftermath of the recent political crisis, the independent print media became more diversified. However, technical difficulties and distribution problems prevented circulation to a large part of the population.

Coverage of the campaign in many parts of the country was limited by crime-related thefts of reporters' cars and equipment.

First Round

Although great difficulties in the weeks before the election caused many observers to doubt the ability of the Albanian authorities to conduct a successful election, a large turnout of voters (73%) demonstrated that Albania, in close cooperation with the OSCE, was able to organize the voting day

in a reasonably orderly fashion. On the same day, a referendum on the question of Constitutional Monarchy took place. This referendum, which the OSCE had recommended should be held on a separate date, did not fall within the OSCE's mandate.

Despite the logistical difficulties reported above, a vast majority of the 4 500 polling stations were in operation on election day, although in some cases opening late. Diaspora voters were allowed to return home to cast their ballots.

Over 500 short-term observers, including 112 parliamentarians from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the North Atlantic Assembly and various national parliaments, were deployed in more than 250 teams, covering a high percentage of the voting population. They were able to visit polling stations, witness the counting of ballots and freely interview voters. The cooperation of the polling stations commissions with observers was on the whole excellent. Although observers' findings will be draw some conclusions at this stage:

- The vast majority of the observation reports indicate that the voting procedures were being followed in a good or very good manner.
- In areas where there were difficulties, the majority of the problems were ballots not stamped or signed, family voting and ballot box seals not properly affixed. These cannot be considered as serious violations. It was only in a small percentage of cases that the difficulties could be described as acute.
- The quality of the security at the polling stations was generally described as good. However, there were incidents, including the seemingly election-related murder of one polling station official, which is to be condemned.
- The counting and tabulation process was very slow and problematic. There were instances of manipulation and intimidation at the Zonal Electoral Commission level; these serious irregularities, although of no implication on the overall results, are to be deplored and eventually, corrected through the normal judicial procedures. The Central Electoral Commission was hampered in its work by the, in some instances, deliberately slow transmission of result protocols from the zones. Serious lack of transparency and missed deadlines made the timely preparation for the second round difficult.

Second Round

On 6 July, a second round took place in 32 zones. In addition, one zone held a first round election. This followed a week of some tension, including a serious shooting incident during a rally. One person was killed and a number of people injured.

The second round was monitored by over 150 short-term observers, including parliamentarians from the Council of Europe and the Italian Parliament, who covered all the contested zones. Over 600 polling stations were visited during the day and many were returned to in the evening for

observation of the vote count.

The hours of polling went calmly with a voter turnout below that of the previous week. A number of minor incidents were reported but generally there was no deterioration in the situation reported during the first round. Again, we have to condemn the killing of two election officials during this round. Overall, observers indicated that there were no serious technical violations of the voting process.

Conclusions

We believe, therefore, that we can say that the elections can be deemed as acceptable, given the prevailing circumstances, because:

- of the large participation of voters, in particular during the first round
- voters were generally able to cast their ballot without fear of intimidation
- the conduct of the electoral commissions appears to have been, apart from a relatively small number of incidents, correct and impartial. Domestic and international observers were, for the most part, granted access to all stages of the voting and counting without interference or intimidation.

The results of these elections should be the foundation for a strong, democratic system, which Albanians want and deserve. It is, however, essential that all Albania political parties observe the commitments they have made to respect the results of the elections. We recall that the international community expects a major effort towards national reconciliation after the elections. Without such reconciliation, there will be no basis for defining the terms of international aid, and the continued support of the international community.

We should like to commend the OSCE, and in particular the efforts of Dr. Franz Vranitzky, the Multinational Protection Force, as well as the Council of Europe and the European Union for the tremendous contribution they have made to the international effort to help build democracy in Albania.

Catherine Lalumiere
OSCE Special Coordinator for the Albanian Parliamentary Elections
Member of the European Parliament

Sir Russell Johnston
Head of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Delegation

Javier Ruperez
President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

APPENDIX K

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND OTHER FORMS
USED FOR THIS PROJECT**



MEMORANDUM

TO:
FROM: Richard W. Soudriette, President of IFES
DATE: June 17, 1997
RE: Albanian Election Observer Mission

VIA FACSIMILE:

I am pleased to inform you that you have been selected as a member of the official United States delegation. The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) has been designated by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to assemble the U.S. Election Observation Team to observe the elections in Albania on June 29, 1997.

You are to be in the first group of sixty-two observers which will monitor the first round of the election which is being held on Sunday, June 29. Your group will depart the United States between June 21-23 and return on July 2-3. A second group of thirty-eight observers may be sent in early July to observe the runoff election scheduled for Sunday, July 6.

As you know, this will not be an easy assignment. Accommodations may be in tents. Also, because of the recent turmoil in Albania, you should know there is risk involved. Security is being provided through the OSCE and the Italian-led Multinational Protection Force (MPF). Enclosed is a copy of observer information and a liability waiver. Please read the materials carefully and return the documents that are required. Should you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Gwenn Hofmann or Alexander Knapp, who are charged with observer logistics coordination for this mission. Each can be reached at (202) 828-8507 (office) or (202) 452-0804 (fax).

If for some reason you are unable to participate in this delegation, please contact IFES immediately so that an alternate can be contacted to take your place.

The International Foundation for Election Systems is mindful of the trauma that Albania has experienced in trying to establish democracy. We are pleased to be working in partnership with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on this important endeavor. On behalf of IFES, I would like to express my appreciation to you for your willingness to assist in the effort to support democracy in Albania.



International Foundation for Election Systems

1101 15th STREET, N.W. • THIRD FLOOR • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 • (202) 828-8507 • FAX (202) 452-0804

**ASSUMPTION OF AND CONSENT TO PERSONAL RISKS
AND
RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

The international travel and the duties, responsibilities and activities which I am to assume and carry out in Albania I do so knowingly and willfully and with my own informed judgment and advice and counsel of my own attorney.

I know that I will undertake them on behalf of and under the direction and control of, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe ("OSCE"), under the terms and conditions of a Special Service Agreement ("SSA") between the OSCE and a grant from The Agency for International Development ("AID"), an agency of the United States Government, and the International Foundation for Election Systems ("IFES") and not under the direction and control of IFES.

I know that IFES has either no or inadequate assets with which to satisfy any judgments against it in respect of any claim arising from these matters and that this is true, as well, of its officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives.

I know Albania is a country which has experienced, and may continue to experience war, civil insurrection, terrorism, random acts of violence, deaths and injury from military ordnance, and that these acts pose significant risks to my life, liberty, body/limb, health (including, but not limited to my mental health) and or property.

While the carrying out of those duties and activities may be of benefit to OSCE but only incidentally to IFES, I acknowledge that my participation in them is also of benefit to me and freely of my own volition. If I wished, I could refuse these duties and responsibilities and not engage in these activities. However, with this actual knowledge, I:

- (1) knowingly and willfully agree to travel to and report to the OSCE in Albania, thereby assuming and consenting to all risks to my life, liberty, body/limb, health (including mental health) and/or property, in order to undertake duties and activities there, the outlines of which are known to me, and

Assumption of and Consent to Personal
Risks and Release of Liability
Page 2

- (2) on behalf of myself and my heirs, executors and administrators, do remise, release, and forever discharge IFES and all of its officers, directors, employees, and agents and representatives (including its consultants and advisers), acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, whether in contract or tort and whether in law or equity, on account of my death, or loss of liberty, or injury to my person and/or my mental health, or loss of and/or injury to my person and/or my mental health, or loss of and/or injury to my property, which may occur from any cause related to my duties and including my activities, travel, activities and duties in Albania.

I have read, and I understand this Release and its implications. Any questions which I had about this Assumption of and Consent to Personal Risks and Release of Liability (the "Assumption and Release") and its terms and conditions have been answered to my satisfaction.

I agree that any interpretation of, or any dispute relations whatsoever under this Release, including arbitration or litigation in any court of competent jurisdiction, will be governed exclusively by the laws of the District of Columbia, United States of America.

By my signature below, I evidence my agreement with the terms and conditions set forth in this Assumption and Release.

Signature _____
Print Name _____
Address _____

Date _____

WITNESSETH:

Signed _____
Printed Name _____
Address _____



International Foundation for Election Systems

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IFES EMERGENCY CONTACT SHEET

Please complete the following form and return it to the Program Officer in charge of your mission prior to your departure. This information will be treated confidentially, will only be used in the event of an emergency, and this form will be destroyed on your safe return. You are not required to provide anything other than your name and health insurance information. However, the additional information may be critical in the event of a medical emergency. Please staple a copy of the first page of your passport to this form.

Name: _____

Health Insurance: _____

Personal Physician: _____

Physician's Phone: _____

Current Medications: _____

Allergies: _____

Medical problems which may require attention, if any:

CONTACT PERSON IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ (Office)

_____ (Home)

Fax: _____



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**INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR
ELECTION SYSTEMS
CODE OF ETHICS**

The following general principles apply to volunteer trainers/observers of the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES). Where a situation is not covered by the standards set forth below, volunteer trainers/observers shall apply these principles in determining whether their conduct is proper. In certain cases arising under this Code of Ethics, circumstances may exist which dictate that IFES' Board of Directors grant an exception to the general policy. Unless such exception has been granted, however, all volunteer trainers/observers shall conduct themselves in accordance with these principles.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall not use their positions with IFES for private gain. It is prohibited for a volunteer trainer/observer of IFES to seek or conduct an IFES mission for his/her own private purposes or for the private purposes of another.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall not engage in financial transactions using non-public IFES information nor allow the improper use of non-public information to further their own private interests or those of another, whether through advice or recommendation, or by knowing unauthorized disclosure.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall not use confidential or proprietary information gained in the course of service on behalf of IFES for private gain.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall act impartially in carrying out their functions on behalf of IFES and, in carrying out those functions, shall not give preferential treatment to further any private interest.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall refrain from engaging in activities that conflict with their duties as volunteer trainers/observers.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall not accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence their actions as volunteer trainers/observers of IFES.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall make no unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind IFES.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers who plan to conduct private business while traveling on, or in conjunction with, an IFES mission must disclose such plans to IFES' President and Executive Vice President in advance of the trip. If a trip is taken for the dual purpose of IFES and private business, transportation, meal and lodging expenses shall be fairly apportioned between the two business ends conducted so that only those expenses attributable to IFES business are paid for from IFES funds.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall protect and conserve IFES property and funds and shall not use such property or funds for other than authorized activities.

No IFES volunteer trainer/observer may accept claim payment or accept funds from IFES for any expense for which he/she has received reimbursement from any other source.

No IFES volunteer trainer/observer may use any funds furnished to defray ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in connection with an IFES mission for any purpose other than the purpose for which such funds are furnished.

Any allowance for expenses for an IFES mission not actually used for food, lodging, transportation, and related expenses incurred in connection with that mission shall be returned to IFES promptly upon return from the mission.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating these ethical standards. Whether particular circumstances create an appearance that these standards have been violated shall be determined from the perspective of a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts.

IFES volunteer trainers/observers shall disclose to IFES' President, Executive Vice President and General Counsel any circumstance that could be construed as a conflict of interest and should ensure that such conflict does not compromise the interest of IFES.

A violation of this Code of Ethics may be cause for appropriate corrective action by the President.

I have read and will comply with the Code of Ethics as stated above.

Date

Signature

Printed Name

APPENDIX L

PHOTOGRAPHS



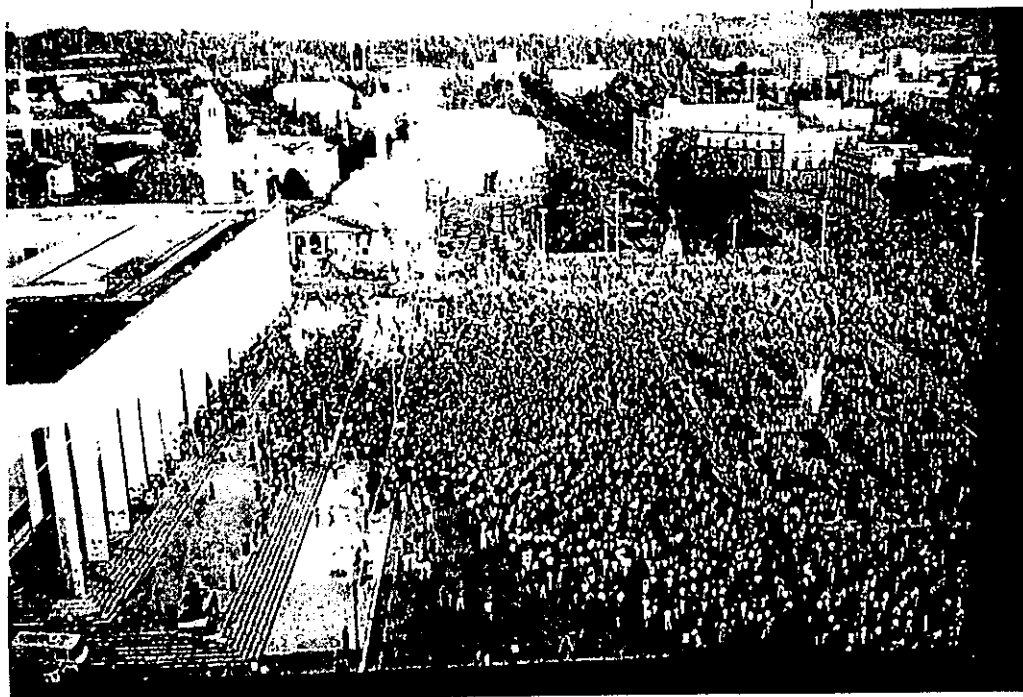
IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June/July 1997

Top left: Observers arrive at Tirana Airport
Top: OSCE Observer registration
Left: U.S. Embassy security personnel instruct delegates at IFES briefing session



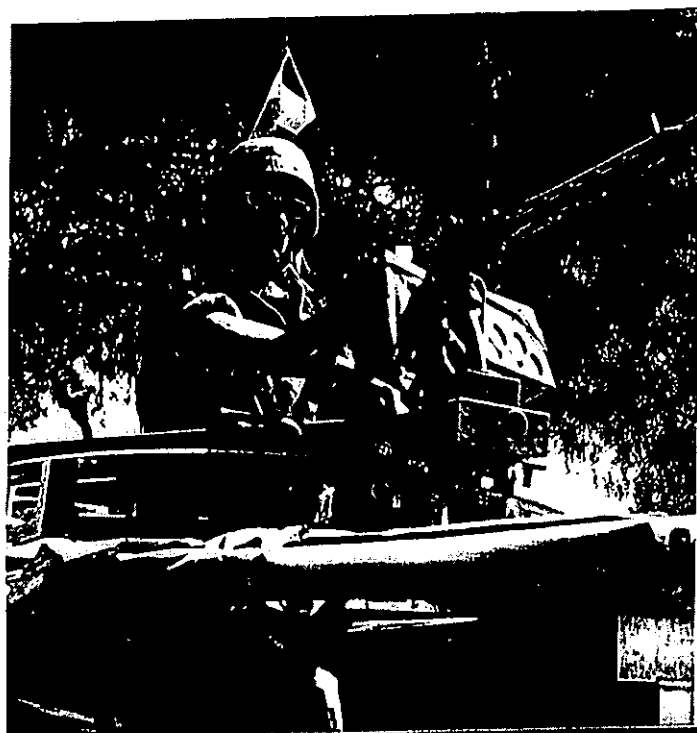
IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 26, 1997

Top left: OSCE Briefing for Election Observers
Top: OSCE Briefing for Election Observers
Left: Connie Kaplan demonstrates polling place
 procedures at OSCE Briefing



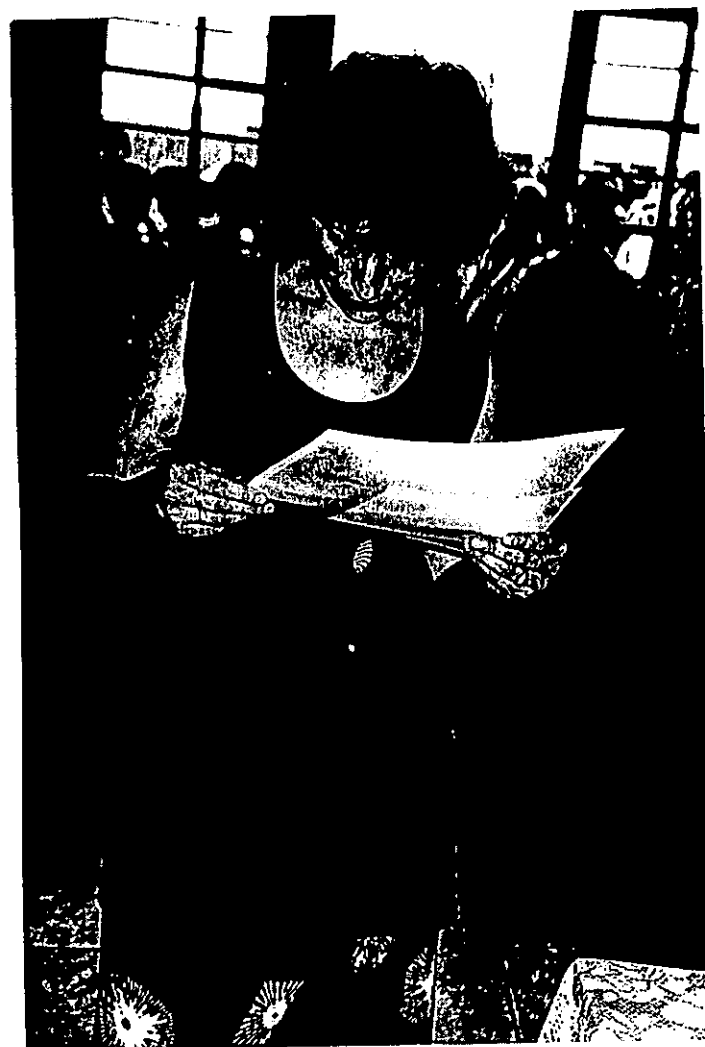
IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 27, 1997

Top left: Democratic Party Rally in Tirana
Top: Democratic Party Rally in Durrës
Left: Socialist Party Rally in Tirana



IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 27, 1997

- Top left:* Italian FMP soldier keeps the peace
Top: FMP Forces queue up for deployment
Left: U.S. Observer Marge Meyer departs Tirana
 with her driver, team member and translator



IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 29, 1997

Top: Voters queue up outside polling station
Left: Citizen studies her ballot before voting

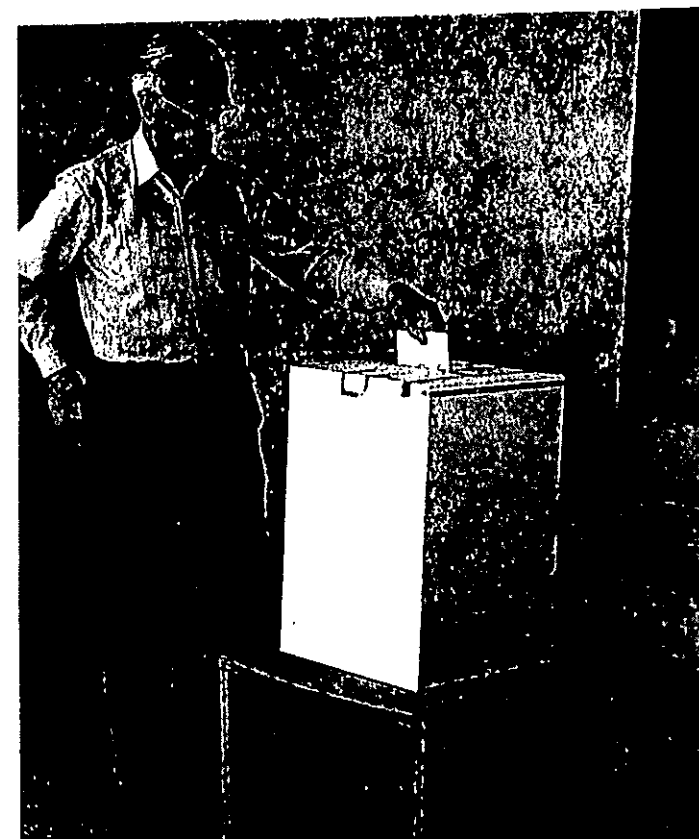


IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 29, 1997

Top left: Voter presents his identification

Top: Voter signs in on voter lists

Left: Voter has his left thumb checked by
 black light device



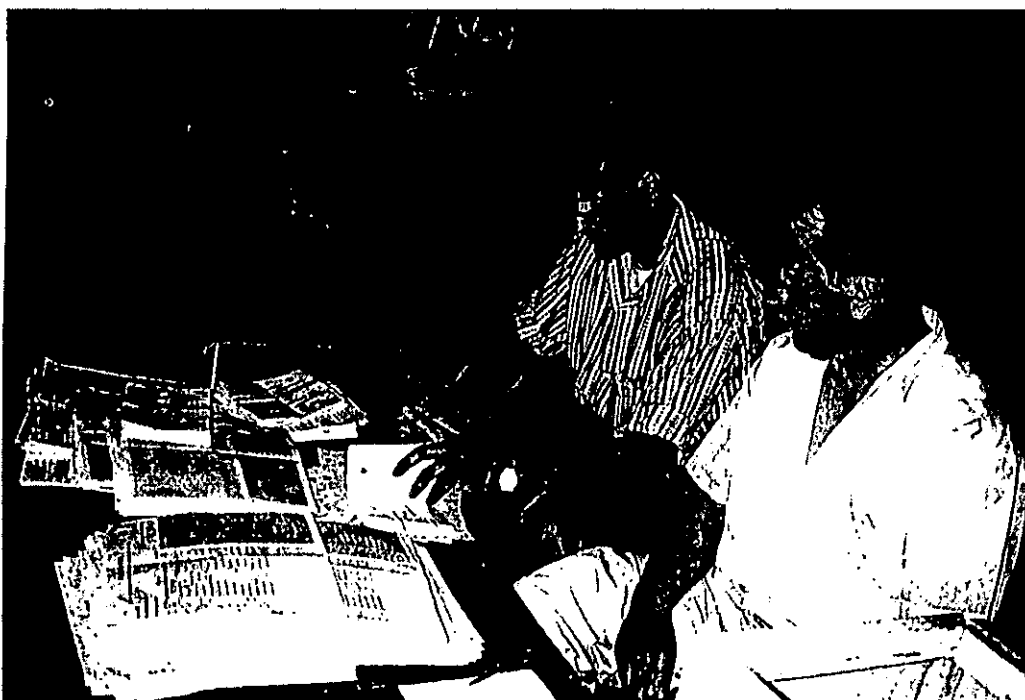
IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 29, 1997

- Top left:* Voter receives his ballot
Top: Voter deposits ballot in the ballot box
Left: Voter has her left thumb sprayed with invisible ink



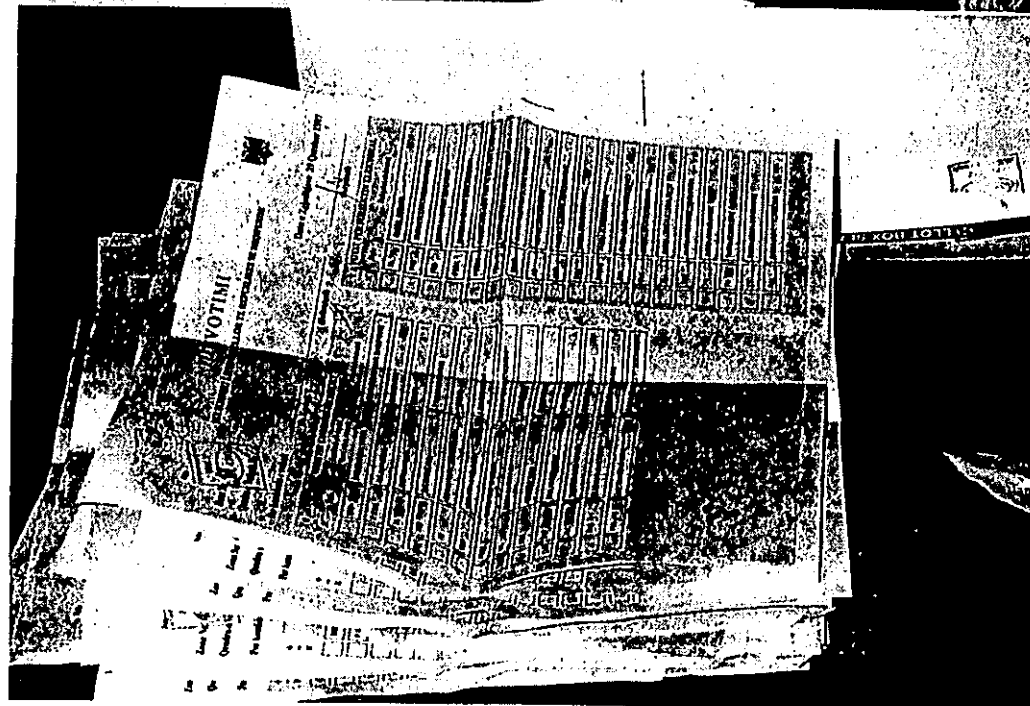
IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
July 6, 1997

- Top left:* Polling Station and Zone Election
Commissioners discuss voter list problem
- Left:* Domestic & U.S. State department Observers
at a polling station in Durres
- Top:* PSC workers sign ballots prior to polls opening



IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 29, 1997

- Top left:* PSC Chairman announces ballot choice
Top: Chairman breaks seal on ballot box
Left: Chairman counts monarchy referendum ballots



IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June 29, 1997

- Top left:* Commissioners & observers discuss
 discrepancies in vote count
Top: A commissioner tallies the vote
Left: Stack of invalid ballots



IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June/July 1997

Top left: Observers arrive at Tirana Airport
Top: Mission Coordinator Paul DeGregorio
 & U.S. Ambassador Marisa Lino
Left: DeGregorio at polling station in Tirana



IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June/July 1997

Top left: Albanian citizen outside polling station
Top: Future voter
Left: Albanian citizen and grandson outside
 polling station





IFES
U.S. OBSERVER MISSION-ALBANIA
 June/July 1997

Top left: The Adriatic Sea-Durres
Top: Young entrepreneur-Kruje
Left: View from the Hotel Linza-Tirana



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