

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Purge in the Albanian Government;
Anti-Hoxha Conspiracy Uncovered

PLACE ACQUIRED

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1. The Albanian Minister of Transport, Niazi Islami committed suicide during March 1950.* It was also during this month that Minister Abedin Shehu was expelled from the Albanian Communist Party, and several other unnamed members of the Party "purged."*
2. Some 500 persons have reportedly been arrested on charges of having been implicated in a conspiracy against General Enver Hoxha. Among those who were arrested are army officers and intellectuals, as well as the deputy-commander of the People's Security Police at Sarande.

Comments: FBIS #49, of 13 March 1950, reported the expulsion of Niazi Islami, Abedin Shehu and others from the Central Committee of the Albanian Communist Party. FBIS #44, 6 March 1950, gave the story of Islami's alleged suicide as reported in the Yugoslav newspaper Politika of 4 March 1950.

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