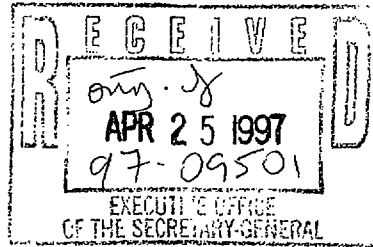


*The Permanent Representative of Italy  
to the United Nations  
2070*

*Albania  
Italy  
Central*



New York, 25 April 1997

*Excellency,*

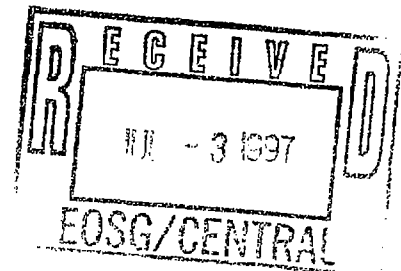
*I have the honour to submit the second report on the multinational protection force for Albania. This report is submitted pursuant to the requirement set out in paragraph 9 of Security Council Resolution 1101 (1997) of 28 March 1997, in which the Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary-General, to the Council. The first such report was conveyed to you on 10 April.*

*I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and the second report (see annex) circulated as a document of the Security Council.*

*Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

*Fulci*  
F. Paolo Fulci  
Ambassador

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H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan  
Secretary-General  
of the United Nations  
New York



## SECOND REPORT TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE OPERATION OF THE MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE IN ALBANIA.

### INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 March 1997 the Security Council adopted resolution 1101 (1997) whose paragraph 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 organisations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance".

2. In paragraph 9 of the resolution the Security Council requested the member States participating in the international protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, to the Council through the Secretary-General.

The first report was provided on 9 April 1997 (doc. S/1997/296) specifying inter alia the parameters and modalities of the operation on the basis of consultations between member States participating in the Force and the Government of Albania.

This second report summarises the first week of operations in Albania and relates the progresses made towards the objectives laid out in paragraph 2 of resolution 1101 (1997).

### MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE

#### Political guidance

3. The Steering Committee, constituted by the Political Directors of the contributing countries and the Commander of the operation, continues to follow the overall situation on the ground and the full compliance of the activities of the force with the Security Council mandate.

It meets on a weekly base. Up to now it has had meetings on 4, 9, 14 and 23 April.

4. The relevant international organisations participate in the Steering Committee meetings as observers informing about their ongoing activities with respect to the Albanian crisis.

In particular the United Nations was represented by the DHA-Department of Humanitarian Affairs while both the Presidency and Commission of the European Union were present. OSCE and WEU also attend as observers represented by their respective presidencies.

#### Cooperation with Albanian authorities

5. On the eve of the deployment of the Multinational Protection Force, Italian Defence Minister Beniamino Andreatta visited Tirana (12 April) and Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi visited Vlore and Tirana (13 April). Both visits confirmed the willingness of the Albanian Government to cooperate with the Multinational

Protection Force and humanitarian agencies for the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance.

6. The Steering Committee, through its Chairman Ambassador Amedeo de Franchis, and the Commander of the Operation, Admiral Guido Venturoni, Chief of the Italian Defence Staff, presented the mission of the Force to the Government of Albania in a special meeting of the Steering Committee in Rome on 14 April.

The Albanian Government was represented by Foreign Minister Arjan Starova, who accepted the parameters and modalities of the mission and expressed appreciation to the contributing Countries.

On that occasion the Albanian Government informed the Steering Committee that a comprehensive central commission had been established in Tirana, headed by the Secretary of State to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pavli Zeri, to serve as the inter-departmental point of coordination and contact.

#### Cooperation with International Organisations

7. In compliance with the mandate of the resolution 1101, the humanitarian assistance program to be implemented in the security framework to which the Force contribute is taking place. In particular the European Union (ECHO) is already delivering in port of Durres a first shipment of cereal under security conditions while the European Union/PHARE program for Albania is under evaluation in Brussels. UNICEF and the World Food Program are starting emergency programs for Albania.

8. A training program for the police is under consideration. A WEU evaluation mission has already visited Albania since 22 April while the European Union will decide its support in the light of the results of that mission.

9. Since the deployment of the Force a further visit to Tirana was paid on 11 April by the personal representative on Albania of the OSCE Chairman in office Franz Vranitzky, who, on the same day, also met in Venice the Italian Minister of Defence Beniamino Andreatta, the Commander of the Force, Admiral Guido Venturoni and the Chairman of the Steering Committee, Ambassador Amedeo de Franchis. Since 22 April Dr. Vranitzky's deputy, ambassador Herbert Grubmayr has started organising the OSCE presence in Albania also in the framework of the security measures agreed with the Force.

#### Force Deployment

10. The deployment of the Force started on 15 April well within the scheduled planning of the operation.

11. The force is planned to reach an overall size of 6,000 men, a level that meets the operational requirements for the mission. Eight countries have so far pledged troop contributions: Austria (120), Denmark (60), France (1,000), Greece (800), Italy (2,500), Romania (400), Spain (450) and Turkey (800).

12. Taking into account the prevailing conditions throughout the country and the fact that the Force acts under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the Force has been provided with Rules of Engagement in accordance with the mandate to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its personnel. These rules include: self-defence,

limited use of force, identification and warning before using force, proportionality in the use of force, need to prevent collateral damage, prohibition of retaliations and the right to position defence.

13. An agreement between the Government of the Republic of Albania and the Governments of the countries contributing to the Force on the Status of the Force was signed in Rome on 21 April. The provisions of the agreement apply to the personnel, property and assets of national elements and units of those Nations participating in the operation when acting in connection with the operation or with the relief of the civilian population.

#### Summary of operations

14. The first phase of the operation is focused on acquiring control over a limited number of key points of entry into the Country in order to permit the prompt transportation and stockpiling of aid.

The Force deployment will be as follows: in the North the Spanish; the French and Danish in Durres; Turks, Greeks, Austrians and Italians in the central area; in the South, Italians, Greeks and Romanians.

15. On 15 April the first Italian, French and Spanish contingents landed at the port of Durres and the Tirana airport.

At the same time with the deployment of the Force the delivery of humanitarian aid started. On 15 April a first World Food Program shipment consisting of 400 tons of food donated by the Italian Government reached the port of Durres on a Greek vessel. Further deliveries are currently incoming.

On 16 April Greek and Turkish contingents started to land.

On 17 April the personal representative on Albania of the OSCE Chairman in office Franz Vranitzky, met the Commander of the Force, General Forlani, in order to start close cooperation within the Country.

On 21 April Italian and Greek Forces moved into the port city of Vlore.

As of 23 April 4,649 units of the Force were reported in Albania (2,194 Italians, 1,050 French, 359 Spanish, 628 Greeks and 418 Turks).

On 23 April the Force Command was operational in Tirana.

#### CONCLUSIONS

16. Since the start of the operation the overall situation has been relatively quiet.

The beginning of the Force deployment positively affected the overall security situation in Albania. Tensions have decreased and less clashes are recorded. The local police is slowly regaining control, particularly in the central area (Durres and Tirana), some schools have reopened after several weeks of interruption, commercial activities are resuming. However some local incidents have been reported, with casualties among civilians.

The general attitude of the population towards the Force is positive. No signs of hostility have been noted.