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 Munich, March 19, 1962 (Research and Evaluation - Stankovic) -- Not only in Albania but also in other countries neighboring Yugoslavia the papers write non-objectively and tendentiously against their neighbors. This was stated by Dobrivoje Vidic, head of the Yugoslav delegation which recently participated in the Sofia meeting of the Committee for Balkan Understanding and Cooperation.

In a statement given to the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug (published in the Yugoslav daily papers on March 17), Vidic attacked "the long-standing provocative policy of the Albanian Government" but also "some other manifestations which cannot be said to have been inspired by the desire for good neighborly relations". Vidic, whose official title is the Chairman of the Commission for International Relations of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia, insisted in his statement that a "real atom-free zone in the Balkans" can be created only if "the policy of coexistence is strictly carried out". Without this "the slogan of the Balkan free zone will remain only an empty propaganda slogan". He added that everybody "in one's own home" should make the utmost efforts to achieve inter-Balkan cooperation. He noted with satisfaction that the Bulgarians have shown great interests in Yugoslav ideas. In this connection Vidic said:

"The meetings with the representatives of the Bulgarian public, especially the rally organized at the end of our work -- which our press has also reported -- showed how the Bulgarian public is interested in the implementation of the policy of peaceful coexistence and the friendly feelings they cherish toward the efforts made by the Yugoslav Government and public in this direction. I spoke about this at the rally."

#### Albanians Against Vidic

On March 18 the Albanian Party organ "Zeri i Popullit" claimed that it is because of "Yugoslav pressure" that the Albanians were excluded from the Sofia meeting. The Albanian paper alleged that the head of the Bulgarian delegation at the meeting, Sava Ganovski, told the Albanian Ambassador in Sofia that "Yugoslavia threatened to stay away from the meeting if Albania receives an invitation."

(Mue)

"Zeri i Popullit" especially attacked Dobrivoje Vidic, who is alleged to have stated during the October 1956 Revolution in Hungary: "Wait and you'll see the same thing happen in Albania and Bulgaria". Of course, it cannot be checked whether Vidic really made such a statement or not, but the Albanian hatred for Vidic can be understood only if one knows what role Vidic really played after the Hungarian Revolution in November 1956. Vidic, then State Undersecretary in the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry, was the man whom Tito sent to Budapest to arrange with Janos Kadar the problem of Imre Nagy's political asylum in the Yugoslav Embassy. As is well known, Vidic was personally assured by Kadar that nothing would happen to Nagy and his friends. Consequently, Vidic advised Imre Nagy and his friends to leave the Yugoslav Embassy. After they did, they were kidnapped by the Russians. Later Vidic protested not only to the Hungarians but also to the Soviets, but in vain.

Obviously this unhappy episode from Vidic's life in connection with the kidnapping of Imre Nagy and his friends, is now taken by the Albanians as a pretext for the claim that Vidic was "a counter-revolutionary", as well.

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