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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Bread Shortage in the Ruse and Silistra Areas	DATE DISTR.	18 February 1955
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

1. A great shortage of bread occurred in the Silistra and Ruse areas in October 1954. In Ruse bread was distributed by the O.F. (Fatherland Front) rayons; which meant that all persons attached to an O.F. rayon were compelled to buy their bread from a specified bakery. No person could buy bread from any bakery except the one specified for his family. At this time bread was rationed; one-half loaf (400 gr.) daily, per person.
2. In Silistra the bread was rationed also; allowing the same amount per person as in Ruse. However, the distribution was made from a list and each person's name had to be on the list or they received no allowance of bread at all.
3. The following incident occurred in Silistra at the height of the bread shortage:
 - . A large line formed in front of a bakery waiting for it to open so that they might receive their daily allowance of bread. Through the windows it was observed that the bread had already been made, however the doors remained closed and locked to the public. Seeing that they would be delayed from their work and therefore lose their wages, the many workers that had been waiting, broke in the door and windows and entered the bakery. Each person who entered gathered up as much bread as he could carry and started running toward home. It was just at this time that the militia arrived and caught some of the thieves and returned the bread to the bakery. None of the people were detained and many made good their escape into their homes.

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