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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

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Dissemination of Communist Literature

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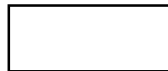
THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Rumanian Workers (Communist) Party has begun a thorough-going destruction of books and historical documents.
 2. Some of this began with the creation of the new Academy of the Rumanian Peoples Republic (RPR). In imitation of the Soviet Academy, this was to pursue scientific researches, while at the same time conducting political activity for the establishment of socialism in Rumania. Barbu Lazareanu, a Leftist, really a Communist, was made librarian of the academy.
 3. The Communists have now begun to "purify" existing libraries. Any denunciation, a mere supposition, is enough to get a book burned, without any real study of its contents. Among the books withdrawn from circulation are 762 works by the most esteemed Rumanian authors. Among them are Liviu Rebreanu, Bratescu, Voinessti, and Octavian Goga. German and Italian books are their translations have also been burned by thousands. Any book dealing with Bessarabia or the Bukovina was immediately burned, even though it dealt only with pure literature. The entire contents of the Casa Scoalelor, books on the national popular culture and religious works, have likewise been burned.
 4. In addition to municipal archives, which are sometimes very important, there are state archives at Bucharest, Cluj, and Craiova. These had been well organized and arranged by Professor Aurelian Sacerdoteanu, a distinguished specialist, a former faculty member of the Rumanian School at Fontenay-aux-Roses, in Paris. Rather surprisingly, he retains his office. The actual selection of material for destruction was done by a committee under Mihai Roller. It is not clear how completely the archives were destroyed.
 5. As librarian of the Academy, Barbu Lazareanu was put in charge of all the materials, which constitute a national treasure of the Rumanian people. These

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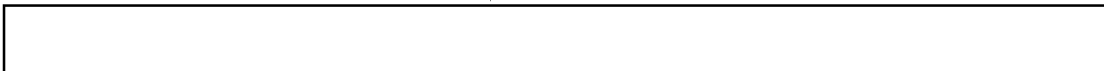


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treasures include maps, documents, photographs, the unique lexicographical file of the Rumanian language, which has already been published from the letter A to the letter G. These files were an invaluable source of geographical and linguistic information. Incidentally, they proved the Latin origin of the Rumanian language. They were burned because they did not please the Slavic committee that passed on them - Emil Petrovici (a Soviet tool in the Academy), Sever Pop, and Barbu Lazareanu himself..

6. To replace these bibliographical losses, literally millions of books and pamphlets have been issued by the Communist Party publishing house, Cartea Rusa, 42 Calea Victoiei, Bucharest. These have been distributed to towns and villages throughout Rumania. Cartea Rusa has issued 3,701,300 copies of 174 titles, translated from Russian into Rumanian. It has also issued 329,050 copies of translations into Hungarian, German, Serbian, and Turkish. It is also active in distributing books in the original Russian.
7. Every effort is made to encourage the study of Russian. Russian courses are given in peasants' cultural clubs, schools, sovkhoses, kolkhozes, cooperatives, and all kinds of social and cultural organizations. This work is in the hands of the Asociatia Romana Pentru Strangerea Legaturilor cu URSS (ARLUS). ARLUS now controls every cultural aspect of Rumanian life. In all, there are now 3,200 popular courses in Russian in Rumania. Those which have been most successful are in the Ceramica factories at Baru Mic and in factories at Pesteana, and Demsus, in the Hateg raion, or district.
8. The leaders in this work are:
 - a. Petre Constantinescu-Iasi, described as "the Hero of national Rumanian literature".
 - b. Mihai Roller, a Jew, who has paid special attention to Rumanian historical documents in the state archives. He has headed a special committee to look for historical evidence of relationship between Rumania and the USSR.
 - c. Barbu Lazareanu, a Jew, librarian of the Academy. His son is now counselor of the RPR Embassy in Paris, after being recalled as press attache in Washington.
 - d. Emil Petrovici, also a pro-Soviet member of the Academy.

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