

POOR QUALITY DOCUMENT
SEE 201 FOLDER FOR HARDCOPY

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

SECRET

the nazi policy of massacring a number of Jews, of denying them of their rights, and humbling them in Rumanian society, forcing them to work, etc. A program of terror was directed against all those who believed in democracy, they appointed "commissars" to all the branches of industry and commerce, homes could be violated at any time by the "Legionnaire police", many people were imprisoned, etc. etc.

The attempt to kill Antonescu, who learned of it in time and took refuge at the Presidency, by the Legionnaires was crushed by the army to which ^{Antonescu} he appealed. The Germans, seeing that the army was anti-Guard, and having a need for it, stood by during the three day rebellion, and when it failed, they evacuated Iron Guard chiefs to Germany in army vehicles, and German uniforms.

There could not have been more proof that the Legionnaires were blind stooges of the Germans. It is those Legionnaires who were supported by the Germans, condemned by Rumanian authorities and justice, and who today are on this side of the Iron Curtain. The total number which fled to Germany was approximately 400, and later others followed after the coup d'etat of 23 August when the Rumanians turned their arms against the Germans.

Iron Guardists in Germany from January 1941 - May 1945

Once in Germany, the guardists were divided into two groups.

Those important chiefs, Nicola Sima and 12 others (Jacinsky, Gr. Manoliescu, Prof. Ing. Protopopescu, C. Georgescu, Papenace, Garneata, etc.) were comfortably installed at Fuerstenwald, an SS recreation camp.

The others under the leadership of E. Patrascu, at Rostock, from which many were put to work at the Heinkel plane plant. At first there were 62 persons in this group, and by July 1941 the total grew to 380.

Gen. Antonescu, seeing that the Germans were not going to return the Iron Guard chiefs until they had what they wanted from Rumania,

SECRET

SECRET

- 5 -

received a promise from Hitler in the summer of 1942 that Ecraia Sima would be scrapped. Seeing that he had fallen into disgrace with the Nazis, Sima sent a memorandum to Hitler in which he obliged ^{himself} ~~him~~ to accept any German wish if they return him to power in Rumania (Aug. 1942). From the 12 persons who were with Sima, 7 of them declared themselves to be ^{opposed} ~~opposed~~ to the treasonous memorandum. Among these seven were Pananace and Garneata. In November, Hitler turned down the memorandum and sent Sima an ultimatum to turn over the command of the Iron Guard. Sima thus cornered, attempted to flee to Italy to get help from Mussolini, was arrested by the Gestapo, and was returned to Germany and imprisoned.

The group at Rostock split when ten Legionnaire leaders rose up against Sima and his right-hand man Patrascu. They were beaten and tortured, which caused others to side with them in protest. This group was nicknamed the "Mexicans" by the others and the tag to this day has stuck to the anti-Simaist group. It should be mentioned that following the removal of Codreanu, there was a struggle for the leadership of the Guard, and thus to totalitarian groups, the "gunner" faction won over the more ^{restrained} ~~quiet~~ members, and even the "hierarchy". Following the loss at Stalingrad, the Germans needed Antonescu's help all the more and moved to please him by locking up the Iron Guardists at Dachau and Buchenwald. About 100 of them continued to work at Heinkel. The formal break between the two groups came when seven anti-Simaists at Dachau refused to sign a telegram congratulating Sima on his birthday. Sixty-eight refused at Buchenwald and six at Heinkel, Rostock. The Germans, tired of the quarreling, locked up the remainder at Buchenwald, and separated the Simaists and the anti-Simaists. Following the coup d'etat of 23 August 1944 when the King ordered the country to fight for the Allies, the Guard once again showed that it was in the service of foreigners when it accepted to form a "National Government" under Sima, and to form a "National Army" from among the Legionnaires.

SECRET