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Paris, 26 October 1948
2 Rue Scribe

General C. Petre Lasar
Villefranche

General,

Although totally lacking in the elementary knowledge and principles of the office you occupy, unfortunately, I would be content not to consider your letter if I believed that it had been written in good faith. But since it was simple for me to discern that it is no more than the result of a combination of hidden motives very poorly camouflaged, and conceived for purpose which is no longer a mystery to anyone, it is necessary that I reply appropriately.

I was naive to have believed that the lecture you had received on the occasion of my first audience with His Majesty had been strong enough to impress you with the limitations of your office and of the attitude which you should adopt in the presence of the Sovereign, when it is neither permitted that you take part, nor intervene, except by invitation. I deceived myself. Your audacity is similar to that of the most detested man who ever preceded you; Urdareanu. (Washington Comment: General Rudescu here refers to Ernest Urdareanu, adjutant to Carol II and confidant of Madame Elena Lupescu. Urdareanu accompanied Carol and Lupescu into exile.) And it is well that you be forewarned that I am not the one who first thought of making the comparison between you and the above-mentioned person. The manner in which you carry out your functions leads one, possibly even some of those persons with whom you have concluded a well-known deal, to make the comparison.

The office of a Royal Adjutant, General, demands a great deal of reserve, great trust, and moreover great tact--qualities which you tend to ignore completely, in case you have them. That, because of a lack of them, some day you will have to give an accounting, is not important. What is important is the fact that in not observing them, you do a great harm to the Sovereign. If you would disturb yourself to study the activities of your predecessors at Court, you would find no other one than the person mentioned above who thought he could usurp the powers that you have taken unto yourself.

In fact, in what capacity do you permit yourself to give us, me and others like myself, lectures regarding the obligations and actions which belong to our domain? Cleansed in the service of Nation and Crown, the qualities of my services have been honest and bear the stamp of approval of our people, and it is not for you to attempt or to present them in any light other than that in which they were won. One's experience in the field of athletics does not qualify one to assume the role of a leader for certain former high statement, who for many years have fulfilled their obligations in praise and honesty known to all.

Forced by your letter to remind you, do not think that I will attempt to justify it; possibly sobered by realities, my hopes are that you will conduct your office within its limitations.

As for your misrepresentation of the "Union", your interpretation of it would be appropriate only at the physical culture school where you

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taught, or in a mind lacking good judgement. (Washington Comment: Reference is made here to the "Union of Free Rumanians" an organization recently created by General Radescu.) You and your friends, who you tried so hard to defend in your letter to Mr. Gafencu, can be at ease; the "Union" is not a political organ and does not aspire to be political. (Washington Comment: General Radescu here charges General Petre-Lazar with supporting the position of the Rumanian political parties as against himself in the present difficulties attending the formation of a Rumanian Committee.) It is that which I had the honor to report to His Majesty, who understood matters differently than you. Moreover, the role which you attempt to attribute to it neither interests anyone nor will it impede its progress.

In closing: In the future, I would not care to receive a personal letter from you--I can understand your addressing a communication from His Majesty; any opinions expressed by yourself or attitudes of yours will be tossed in the waste basket or will be returned to you. It would please me to know that I have been clear and that you have understood.

General N. Radescu