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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DFB 63356

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Reporting Office PHILADELPHIA	Office of Origin PHILADELPHIA	Date 4/30/56	Investigative Period 4/5, 9, 17, 18/56
TITLE OF CASE IORDIAN CARAIVAN, was		Report made by ALBERT RUMDBAKEN	Typed By: LS
CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R			

Summary: CARAIVAN interviewed on 4/5, 9/56. Denied ever being member Rumanian Iron Guard. Explained he came to know many Iron Guard members through association with them in Buchenwald Concentration Camp and in connection with displaced persons activities. Denied knowledge of any Romanian Iron Guard activity in United States and explained he has practically no association with Rumanian groups in United States. CARAIVAN explained presently separated from wife who has initiated divorce proceedings.

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DETAILS:

at Philadelphia, Pa.

IORDIAN CARAIVAN was contacted at his residence, 5337 Greene Street, Philadelphia, on April 5, 1956, by SAs RICHARD W. HANSEN and ALBERT RUMDBAKEN. CARAIVAN explained that he was separated from his wife who has initiated divorce proceedings against him and has been rooming at the above address since the separation. His young daughter is residing with his wife. He explained that he believed his marital

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Class made:	5 - Bureau (105-27139) (REGISTERED MAIL)	This is an FBI investigative report prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.	
	1 - INS, Philadelphia (REGISTERED MAIL)		
	2 - Philadelphia (105-1795)		

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difficulties arose as a result of various factors. He pointed out that his wife was Polish while he was Rumanian; he was older than his wife; there were religious differences; his in-laws did not get along with him. His wife, ROMANA CARAIVAN, resides at 113 Maplewood Avenue which is near the address of the subject.

CARAIVAN stated that upon his arrival in the United States he was held for approximately two months by Immigration authorities at Ellis Island. He did not know the reason for this detention and had never been told why he was detained. He explained there was nothing in his background and nothing in his wife's background that might lead to such detention. CARAIVAN declared that he knew many members of the Rumanian Iron Guard and has known of the existence of that organization since approximately 1936 but had never belonged to the Rumanian Iron Guard. He pointed out that he came to know many members through associating with them while a prisoner of the Germans in the Buchenwald Concentration Camp and subsequently had dealings with other members in connection with his activities among and with displaced persons.

CARAIVAN stated that he knew of no activities of the Rumanian Iron Guard in the United States.

CARAIVAN volunteered to continue the interview at the Philadelphia Office of the FBI on April 9, 1956, because his quarters were inconvenient for such an interview. He voluntarily appeared at the Philadelphia Office on April 9, 1956, and was interviewed by SA ALBERT RUNDBAKEN.

CARAIVAN again declared that he knew nothing of any Rumanian Iron Guard activities in the United States. He added that he did not know whether there was an organization of Iron Guard members or former members in the United States and explained that he has had practically no contact with Rumanian groups or organizations since arriving in the United States. He pointed out that aside from his disinterest in becoming affiliated with Rumanian organizations, he has occupied his time with his employment and in studying to improve his economic status. In addition, his mind has been occupied also with his domestic problems. CARAIVAN explained that he was trained as an aeronautical engineer but he is

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currently doing almost manual labor in a factory, the Philadelphia Metal Stamping Company. He has been studying, on his own, the subject of electronics in the hope that he may secure a better position in that field. He also is arranging to study English.

The subject also pointed out that he has had no contact with anyone in Rumania since he came to the United States and has not even corresponded with members of his family. He has two sisters in Rumania but no other relatives, he added. Both of his parents are deceased.

CARAIVAN furnished some personal history as follows:

When deciding where to attend college he concluded his college education could be secured most reasonably in Germany. He received a B.S. Degree in June 1936, in Germany and had also nearly enough grades for a Masters Degree. He attended school in Germany only because he could secure the type of training he desired cheaper in that country than elsewhere. He subsequently returned to Rumania in December 1936, to complete his compulsory military training, as he had been deferred while a student. At about this time he first became acquainted with members of the Rumanian Iron Guard while in the Army. In 1936, he was back in Berlin studying and earning some money through translation work. He subsequently secured a position with the Bureau of Standards and did material testing research work. At about this time an uncle who had assisted in the financing of his education died and he experienced some difficulty in securing additional funds from a cousin who inherited the uncle's estate. As a result, his studies were protracted. CARAIVAN referred to himself as a "professional student."

In 1942, he was arrested by the Germans. He believed he was arrested along with many other Rumanians who were also in Germany because of the escape from Germany's custody of some of the leaders of the Rumanian Iron Guard. CARAIVAN denied any knowledge of the escape of the Iron Guard members and denied any participation in Rumanian Iron Guard activities. With respect to allegations that many young Rumanian Iron Guard members left Rumania and fled to Germany in 1942, CARAIVAN believed that not only Iron Guard members left Rumania, but many young men in an effort to avoid

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military service. The story had been circulated ANTONESCU was planning to establish a special battalion composed of individuals he did not want around which would be given such dangerous assignments that the entire battalion would undoubtedly be killed. Individuals leaving Rumania would probably be placed in the above battalion. With regard to the flight to Germany, subject pointed out that in 1942 Germany had occupied so much territory that an individual leaving Rumania could only enter Russian or German territory and chose the latter so that to say they had fled to Germany is not always entirely accurate as many actually left Rumania for territory then occupied by Germany.

In August 1944, CARAIVAN was taken from Buchenwald to Vienna. At this time HONORSIMA was taken from a concentration camp to head up a sort of Rumanian Government in exile in Vienna. Displaced persons such as CARAIVAN were in the charge of the Rumanian Government set up. The Americans upon occupying the country in 1945 put many individuals in connection with the above Rumanian Government in exile in stockades until they could be properly screened, however, CARAIVAN was not one of these. The subject stayed in Vienna approximately six weeks and then traveled to Berlin in an effort to locate some of his belongings. He remained in Berlin about six weeks and found that his possessions were at that time in the Russian zone. He worked awhile in Berlin and eventually returned to Salzburg where he remained until he came to the United States.

While in Salzburg, CARAIVAN was president of the Rumanian Committee of Salzburg which had as its purpose the care of displaced persons. CARAIVAN worked closely with the displaced persons section of the American Government. At the time he appeared to be the only Rumanian who spoke the German language well and seemed the logical one to head the above committee. In connection with his position with the committee he talked to many people in Displaced Person Camps about their repatriation to Rumania. He desired that they have full and complete knowledge of all of the factors involved in connection with their repatriation and he believes that some may have claimed he attempted to prevent their repatriation.

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Later in 1946, CARAIVAN began the study of philology in Salzburg and organized an International Student Organization, the purpose of which was to secure information on various places for the students to emigrate. University problems were also considered. The organization had no political interests or connections. When a repatriation commission came to Salzburg in an effort to induce the return or repatriation of Rumanians, CARAIVAN at the request of O-2 contacted this commission to determine their desires and how they were operating. The Army desired that CARAIVAN determine the repatriation commission did not unduly influence the displaced persons it contacted. At that time the Austrians were desirous of the quick repatriation of the numerous displaced persons in the country. With the approval of Army authorities CARAIVAN in connection with the Rumanian Committee of Social Assistance made up identity cards for the displaced Rumanian citizens. CARAIVAN displayed a letter dated April 1, 1948, from N. G. NCARANIL, former Minister for Air and Sea for Rumania, which acknowledged that the Rumanian Committee for Social Assistance accepted CARAIVAN as a benevolent correspondent and authorized him to contact the American occupation authorities and local authorities in his district as well as international organizations, such as IRO, League of Nations, YMCA and Red Cross, in connection with his assistance to displaced persons. According to CARAIVAN, the Rumanian Committee of Social Assistance or Committee of Assistance for Rumanians was made up of former Rumanian diplomats and maintained a headquarters in Paris and later in New York. CARAIVAN pointed out that he was an unofficial head of the organization in Salzburg.

In denying membership in the Rumanian Iron Guard, CARAIVAN pointed out that he was well aware of the existence of the organization, knew many members and helped many members in connection with his displaced persons activities. He explained that during the period he would have most likely become acquainted with the group he was not residing in Rumania but was in Germany studying and working. He explained that he was not residing in Rumania when the Iron Guard was most active. He acknowledged that he knew MIRCEA DUMITRU when he was a student in Berlin and also met in Buchenwald. He saw IONIA GOROBARRU in Vienna in 1944. He realized these individuals were among the loyal followers of HCRA SIMA but came by this knowledge through reading of them in the newspapers.

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In 1938, he met VIOREL TRIFA in Berlin where TRIFA was a good theological student. He did not know him well and merely met him casually. He subsequently saw him in Philadelphia when he was canonized. CARAIVAN thought that perhaps TRIFA's rise in the church were very fast considering his lack of theological experience. He knew that he had been accused of membership in the Rumanian Iron Guard and of being responsible for the death of several individuals, however, he did not know if these allegations were founded in fact.

CARAIVAN declared he knew (Mrs. and (Mrs.) SAMUEL MANUILA and believes that Mrs. MANUILA works with the World Church Service in assisting displaced persons. He is not aware of any assistance the MANUILAs may have been to him in connection with his entry into the United States.

CARAIVAN acknowledged knowing EUSTAFIE INSTANTINIC and a Major MARTAI, both of whom he had contact with when they were affiliated with the Rumanian Government in exile, and he was working with displaced persons. He denied having any other connection with these individuals or doing work in their behalf. He did state that he made a trip to Syria and Corinthia on one occasion in connection with his work with displaced persons.

In connection with VIRGIL POFA, CARAIVAN pointed out that he met him at Ellis Island and that POFA had told him he had been a member of the Rumanian Iron Guard. He had also met POFA at Buchenwald. He understood POFA had held some position in the Antonesque Government of Rumania. However, POFA told CARAIVAN at Ellis Island that he had absolutely nothing to keep from the American authorities and had told them anything they desired to know. He did not know why POFA's entry into the United States was refused.

CARAIVAN was unable to explain the purpose for the Rumanian Iron Guard other than to state it was a nationalistic organization. He stated that in the event additional information was desired, he would be willing to be reinterviewed. He also stated he would voluntarily furnish any information he thought might be of interest to the FBI, that might be recalled by him in the future.

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In this connection, he furnished several copies of the publication "Mesul Patriei" which had been furnished him by a Rumanian who has resided in the United States a number of years. Both CARAVAN and this individual noted the publication contains propaganda promoting the repatriation of Rumanians.

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