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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

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25X1

SUBJECT Aiud Prison

[Redacted]

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PLACE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE)

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1. Aiud prison is one of the largest and harshest in Rumania. No letters or packages from home are allowed political prisoners, except that they are occasionally allowed to write home for winter clothing. Ordinary criminal prisoners, however, are allowed to receive packages and perhaps letters. The privilege does not do them much good, however, for privileges are all taken away in case of punishment. Punishment consists of confinement in the "reserve," a box almost without air; forced labor; or labor on the famous Danube-Black Sea Canal. No prisoner is allowed to know any other prisoners, except cell mates. Their acquaintance cannot be prevented.
2. Political prisoners are isolated from the others. They are kept in cells, each of which measures six by four meters. There are two ranges of iron bunks, without straw, mattress, or pillow. Prisoners usually have to sleep two in a bunk or on the floor. At times, there are as many as forty prisoners in such a cell.
3. The prison day is not much worse than any other prison day in the Balkans. It begins at 5:30 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. Only a short time is allowed for dressing and washing. There is a soup made of flour or Indian corn for breakfast, without bread. For luncheon there is some kind of stew, made of beans or some other vegetable, with two hundred grams of bread. Once a week the prisoners receive "mamaliga" (grits) instead of bread. The meat ration otherwise is about fifty grams a week. The evening meal, at 5 p.m. is about the same as that at noon, though sometimes there are two or three pieces of potato. At 6 p.m. the guards lock up. Each cell has two men detailed to look out for its needs.

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