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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT "Reactionary" Bulgarian Officers Arrested

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Three officers and two NCOs of the 34th Infantry, stationed at Vitos (Sofia Army Center) were arrested 4 Mar-54. They are accused of belonging to a "reactionary" organization, with its center at Presnik/Sig/ northwest of Sofia. The arrested officers are: Captain Stefan Tsenenov, Captain Dimiso Zarev, and Captain Todor Abatjev. The arrested NCOs are Manol Abatjev and Sava Vitchev, exact ranks unknown. Two other officers were arrested the next day but their names have not been ascertained.
2. These men were denounced by a woman named Mara Astarova. The inquiry is in the hands of a Soviet political commissar, Vlado Ratiniev. The two localities where the arrests were made have been isolated. People in them are now living in a state of terror. It is reported that an arms depot belonging to the clandestine organization of which these men were members has been found. In it were thirty-two German rifles, twenty-one grenades, eight Bulgar "Nagant" pistols, and ammunition. Five other persons, not in the military service have been arrested. Their names are not known.

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