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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania  
SUBJECT Rationing in Rumania

DATE DISTR. // Oct 1952

NO OF PAGES 5

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

25X1

DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

DATE OF INFORMATION

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25X1

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25X1

1. In Rumania the ration cards for all rationed articles were issued by the People's Councils (Sfaturi Populare). These cards were only issued through the enterprise or installation at which a person was employed. A representative of the enterprise drew the ration cards for all employees after first presenting the necessary documentation.

2. [Redacted] The representatives of the Security Service (Secret Police) and of the Communist Party could receive ration cards without giving a detailed list of persons for whom the ration cards were requested. They did this on the basis of a request from Security or Party headquarters (these cards were usually of category "B"). People who owned over one hectare of arable land, even if they were government employees, were not given ration cards. This also applied to former members of the bourgeois classes, people with any private store or shop, and farmers with more than one hectare of land and not kolkhoz members. The unemployed were also generally without ration cards. Military officers and NCO's who lived on separate rations with their families had no right to ration cards (although their dependents had ration cards), because they could eat with their unit.

25X1

3. Private stores still operating, such as haberdasheries and beer halls, could not exceed the prices at the free state stores if they did, they were penalized. At the beginning of 1950 the "Deposit Shops" (magazine de consignatie) were inaugurated in Rumania. These were state-owned agencies which acted as intermediaries between private persons desiring to sell or buy different articles. These agencies made a profit for the government. The seller had to furnish detailed data on the articles for sale, especially on cameras, machinery, and radio sets. Officially it was stated that these shops were established in order to protect the citizens from blackmarketeers and thieves. [Redacted] they were established primarily in order to allow the government to make a profit from articles which people, especially emigrants to Israel, were forced to sell before leaving the country.

25X1

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25X1

SECRET

-2-

4. In 1951 the following ration cards were in force in Rumania:
  - (a) Food ration cards
  - (b) Clothing ration cards
  - (c) Fuel (firewood and coal) ration cards
  - (d) Kerosene (lighting) ration cards.
5. The food ration cards were issued every three months; the other three, annually. The food ration cards were divided into the following categories:
  - (a) D1 - For wives and other dependents (except children);
  - (b) D2 - For children up to 14 years of age. After 14, they obtained their cards from school or their place of employment. Pregnant women (after sixth month), were also entitled to this card, in addition to the D1 card;
  - (c) C - For light work employees (both white collar and industrial);
  - (d) B - For heavy work employees (such as night workers, highly responsible intellectual workers, telephone and radio operators and all Party activators);
  - (e) B1 - For very heavy workers (eg, train drivers, vessel mechanics, textile factory workers and kolkhoz workers);
  - (f) A - For exceptionally heavy workers (eg, miners, civilian flying personnel, stokers of seagoing vessels).
6. The clothing ration cards were divided into the following categories:
  - (a) D - For wives and children of laborers;
  - (b) C; (c) B; (d) B1; (e) A - Same as for food ration cards.
7. The fuel ration cards were divided into the following categories:
  - (a) C - Unmarried laborers (1000 kg of wood or coal per year);
  - (b) B - Married men occupying two rooms (2000 kg per year);
  - (c) B1 - Married men with one or two children, occupying three rooms (3000 kg per year);
  - (d) A - Married men with four children or more, occupying five rooms (3500-4000 kg per year).
8. The price of firewood was 2000 lei for 1000 kg and it was available only at government rationing stores. The kerosene ration cards were available only to laborers. In case both the husband and wife were laborers, each had one card. Students above a certain age (age unknown) were also entitled to one ration card. The ration of kerosene was three liters per month. The price of kerosene, which was only available at government ration stores, was between 10-20 lei per liter.

SECRET

25X1

25X1

SECRET

-3-

9. Approximate rations for food articles were by categories and were as follows:

(a) Bread (brown) in grams per day:

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|-----------------|---|
| (1) D1 - 250 gr | The price of bread was 14 lei/kg at state ration stores. At state free stores white bread (the only kind available) cost 140 lei/kg and was available only once or twice a week. Bread was not available on the black market. |
| (2) D2 - 300 gr |   |
| (3) C - 350 gr  |   |
| (4) B - 500 gr  |   |
| (5) B1 - 750 gr |   |
| (6) A - 1000 gr |   |

(b) Sugar (beet extraction) in grams per month:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| (1) D1 - 750 gr  | The price of ground sugar was 58 lei/kg at state rationing stores; 64 lei/kg for whole sugar. The rationed sugar, however, was often reduced to one month's ration for a three month period. Sugar was also available about twice a year at the state free stores at 200 lei/kg. None was available on the black market. |
| (2) D2 - 800 gr  |  |
| (3) C - 1000 gr  |  |
| (4) B - 1250 gr  |  |
| (5) B1 - 1500 gr |  |
| (6) A - 1750 gr  |  |

(c) The sunflower oil ration was the same as for sugar. The price at state ration stores was approximately 120 lei/kg. This ration was sometimes reduced to one month's amount for a three month period. On the black market sunflower oil cost 300-400 lei/l.

(d) The meat ration (about the same for beef and pork) was the same, regardless of work categories. The meat ration was 1000 gr per week for the head of the family if he were in the field of labor; 500 gr per week for each dependent. The price of pork at state ration stores was 120 lei/kg; beef was 80 lei/kg. The weekly meat ration was sometimes available only once during a one month period. No meat was available at state free stores or on the black market.

(e) Farinaceous articles (eg, macaroni, spaghetti etc) were rationed under the same provisions as those for sugar. The price, at state ration stores, was 60 lei/kg, but these articles were not always available in the required quantity; at the state free stores these foods cost up to 200 lei/kg. None were available on the black market.

(f) Soap (laundry only) was rationed in the same amounts as sugar. Toilet soap, which was not rationed, cost 60-180 lei/100 gr at state free stores. Only laundry soap was available on the black market.

10. The above six articles were on the ration card, but other articles which were in short supply were also rationed. When these latter articles were purchased the quantity was entered in the ration card. The following articles were also rationed, although available in small quantities at state free stores:

- (a) Potatoes - 25 kg per person (regardless of category) per year.  
Price: 20 lei/kg; 40 lei/kg at state free stores;

SECRET

25X1

25X1

25X1

SECRET

- (b) ... 10 kg per person per year. Price: 40 lei/kg; 20 lei/kg at state free stores;
- (c) ... 20 kg per person per year;
- (d) Beans - 15 kg per person per year. Price: 30-40 lei/kg at state ration stores.

The above four articles were sold, as a rule, once a year, generally just before winter.

Clothing Ration Cards

11. Clothing ration cards were divided into the following categories:

- (a) D - which contained 70 points per year;
- (b) C - which contained 80 points per year;
- (c) B, B1 and A contained 100 points per year.

The D cards were for the same category of people as B1 and D2 food ration cards (see above). The C, B, B1, and A clothing ration cards corresponded with the same categories of food ration cards. Ready-made suits ("Chorghiu Dej") took 80 points each. An overcoat required 10 points. The price of an overcoat at state ration stores was 9000-9900 lei, 24,000 lei at state free stores. The price of a suit at state ration stores was 8000 lei, 16,000 lei at state free stores. Only used clothing articles were available on the black market. Shoes (same for all categories) were allotted two special points per year on the ration card. One pair of heavy work shoes (3000 lei) took both points. One pair of low cut shoes (1500-1800 lei) took one point which made the remaining point useless. A pair of low cut shoes at state free stores cost 5000 lei. Only used shoes were available on the black market. Socks and stockings (same for all categories) were given four special points per year. A pair of hose required one point each, but in addition to this special point, four points from the basic (100, 80, or 70) clothing points were also taken out. The price of socks varied from 40 to 60 lei per pair at state ration stores, and 120 to 200 lei at state free stores. Three special points per year were available for three handkerchiefs. Four points from the basic clothing points were also taken out for each handkerchief. Price of handkerchiefs each at state ration stores; 60-100 lei each at state free stores. On the "D" ration cards 6 m of fabric was allotted for buying ready-made shirts during one year. On "C" and "B" cards, 10 m. On "A" cards, 10 m.

When buying ready-made shirts the cost of the fabric was subtracted from the card. The cost of the shirts was deducted from the ration stores. The yearly allowance was given in two installments only; half the allowance after six months, the second half after six months. The cost of furnishings was also rationed; the cost of furnishings (up to 1500 lei) was deducted from the allowance.

12. Use of motor vehicles was permitted only by special authorization. Motor vehicles were not available on the black

25X1

SECRET

25X1

25X1

SECRET

-5-

13. Articles available at government free stores were as follows:
- (a) Men's hats - 1200 to 2000 lei. Hats were sometimes available on the black market. There were no hats for women, since fashions were discontinued;
  - (b) Neckties - 200-500 lei;
  - (c) Shirts - 1500-2000 lei;
  - (d) Coffee (ersatz only) - 60-100 lei for 100 gr; it was made of oats or chickery;
  - (e) Coffee (real, whole) - 16,000 lei/kg (very seldom available);
  - (f) Rice - 600 lei/kg (very seldom available);
  - (g) Chocolate (ersatz) - 300 lei/100 gr;
  - (h) Cakes - 40-60 lei (70-100 gr each);
  - (i) Cigarettes ("Nationale" brand) - between 24 lei and 120 lei  
;"Republicane" brand) 20 cigarette pack;
  - (j) Tobacco - 40 lei per 20 gr pack;
  - (k) Matches - five lei per box (very hard to find);
  - (l) Wine - 120 to 350 lei/kg;
  - (m) Brandy (plum) - 400 to 600 lei per kg;
  - (n) Cognac and rum (manufactured in the country) - 1200 lei/kg;
  - (o) Beer - 40 lei per bottle.

Beverages were not rationed and were generally available only at state free stores.

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