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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary/Rumania

25X1A

DATE DISTR. 3 APR 50

SUBJECT Pailroad Line from Budapest to Bucharest

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- The railroad line from Budapest to the border station at Lökösháza, a distance of 225 kilometers, is now mostly single track. Double track extends from Budapest for about 14 kilometers, and there is another stretch of about 11 kiloneters between Szolnok and Szajol. Elsewhere the second track has been dismantled; indeed, west of Szolnok it appears that the dismantling must have taken place at least three or four years ago. The last 90 kilometers or so before Lökösháza were apparently never double-tracked.
- Many of the smaller stations have no sidings at all; others generally have one short siding each. Szolnok, Szajol, and Békéscsaba are the only stations with a considerable number of tracks (8 to 15 each), and there a few stations having three or four. The yards at Lökösháza have some eight or ten tracks. The sidings at Békéscsaba are said to be about 500 meters long.
- A bridge just west of Szajol is crossed at normal speed; but the bridge over the Körös near Gyoma is under repair, and here the train slows down to under five miles an hour.
- The usual speed is about 50 kilometers per hour, and the impression is that the roadbed is too weak to permit high speeds.
- 5。 About half the distance from the border to Bucharest has single track, but near Bucharest there is double track. At Curtice, 11 kilometers from the border, there are eight or ten sidings, 500 meters or more in length. About 50 kilometers west of Bucharest there is a large marshaling yard with some 15 tracks two or three kilometers long. Between Curtice and Bucharest express trains run at an average speed of 75 kilometers per hour.

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6. no evidence that any part of the line has been converted to broad gauge.

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