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COUNTRY Romania Approved For Release 2004/01/28 : CIA-RDP82-00457R014900320010-5

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Romanian Border Guard Units in Carpinis, Jimbolia, Borda and Chocia

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT prior to December 1951

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DATE OBTAINED

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DATE PREPARED 14 October 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In May 1951, a Romanian border guard unit, of about company strength, was stationed in Carpinis (R 16/T 72). The unit was quartered in the Temporanza inn in the western section of the village. The troops were relieved about every 6 to 10 weeks. The soldiers stationed there in September 1951 came from Arad (R 16/U 16). This latter unit was armed only with infantry weapons and its mission was unknown. The soldiers wore olive-green uniforms with a high collar and patch pockets and with green service color, long trousers with shoes and wrapped leggings. Routine training was occasionally observed. A Militia detail of about 20 men was also stationed in Carpinis. They employed civilians for night patrols and curfew enforcement. The exits of the village, the main east-west road and the north-south lane were guarded day and night. A uniformed Romanian surveying group was in the village from late July to September 1951. They built a wooden observation tower, about 2 km northwest of the village, and at several places in the village, drove short round pegs, marked 34, 35, and 36. A labor service detail, wearing civilian clothing, was in Carpinis during the harvesting period. This detail consisted of Romanians considered unreliable, who were drafted to this unit. A small group of Romanian soldiers wearing black epaulets were in the village in October 1951.

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2. [redacted] in the fall of 1951, the Romanian soldiers rotated to Carpinis built for observation towers which had no searchlights or telephone lines and were manned by soldiers during the day. [redacted] a trench from Iecia Mica (R 16/T 72), north of Carpinis, ran through Carpinis and was still under construction in the fall of 1951. No construction of shelters or other field fortification was observed in the Carpinis district nor did any building materials arrive.

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3. During the period from August to early December 1951, five building excavations were observed on each side of the road between Birda (Y 18/Z 07) and Opatita (Y 18/Y 97). These excavations were later covered with shrubs and fascines. Starting about August 1951, 200 to 300 men of a Rumanian labor service battalion were stationed in Birda. They started unloading all kinds of building material, such as lumber, stones, crushed stones and cement at the railroad station. This material was trucked to the building sites. [REDACTED] unable to determine whether and how the material was used. Local residents believed that concrete shelters were under construction. No Rumanian or Soviet military units were in Birda prior to early December 1951.
4. Prior to early December 1951, Rumanian border guard units wearing olive-green uniforms and light-green service color were stationed in Jimbolia (Y 7/T 52). One unit of company strength was stationed south of the village in the former steam powered mill on the east side of the road to Nova Zrnja (Y 7/T 41) in Yugoslavia. Other border units of unknown strength were billeted in evacuated private houses on Strada Leviu Rebreanu and on Lenin Alley in the town. No Soviet units or details were in the town. On the border were small low wooden huts and adjoining observation towers spaced at regular intervals. Telephone lines connected the observation towers with the quarters in the town. A few civilians living in Jimbolia were willing to escort people across the border prior to 1948, but later they refused to take the risk. [REDACTED] it was almost impossible to cross the border illegally. Prior to 10 December 1951, [REDACTED] border guard soldiers continuously shipped trucks with barbed wire in the direction of the border. In the summer of 1951, a barbed-wire fence of at least a man's height was built along the border. No civilians were employed on this work.
5. In mid-August 1951, Rumanian border guard soldiers built a barbed-wire fence, about 2 meters high, on the border. The soldiers were billeted in private houses.

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