

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 2520
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

SECRET
Security Information

10 DEC 1952 XAAZ-28567
16 DEC 52

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, IO Division

ON Nicolae Radescu SE

SUBJECT: Allegations of President of League of Free Rumanians
Against Viscianu and Cretzianu with Respect to the
Secret Funds. []

1. It has come to our attention that a letter signed by General Nicolae Radescu as President of the League of Free Rumanians has been addressed to the State Attorney, Bern, Switzerland, charging Constantin Viscianu and Alexandru Cretzianu with criminal action with respect to the "secret funds." On the basis of this letter, considered as new evidence, the Rumanian communist government has brought a criminal suit against Cretzianu although the Swiss courts have in previous instances ruled in Cretzianu's favor and rejected efforts to reopen a civil suit on this issue. A translation of the letter is attached.

2. Radescu states in his letter that the "public" funds were not legally transferred and that they should be "restored to all the Rumanian intellectual exiles." If the Swiss court decides on the basis of Radescu's statements that these are public funds, it will order them handed over to the Rumanian People's Republic and the exiles will receive nothing. The allegations made in Radescu's letter as to the dates of the transfer of the funds are the same as those made by the Rumanian communist government in the suit in May 1950.

3. Radescu has made these charges - both in exile newspapers controlled by his supporters and orally in the past - but this is the first time, to our knowledge, that he has attempted to present these charges in court, although the previous trials offered opportunity for such action. He has contended that the funds should be dispensed by a refugee group (his, preferably) for the support of indigent refugees. Cretzianu has maintained that his is the sole responsibility and that in order to obtain the greatest benefit for Rumania, the funds should be spent for publications and refugee activities that will keep Rumania's plight before the world. However, he has occasionally let certain refugees, including Radescu, have sums for their own use. Cretzianu believes that if the funds were used for charitable support purposes, they would soon be gone (part are blocked in Switzerland), the refugees would again be penniless and the country's cause no further advanced. Cretzianu has also invited an examination of the accounts by an impartial certified public accountant.

INDEX

CS COPY

SECRET

50

AM/IN	FI	
PS	DEST	
ABSTRACT	INDEX	

SECRET

4. Radescu's attitude on the fund and his "moral" indignation are believed to have been fanned and strengthened by his close followers and personal advisers. It is unlikely that Radescu himself prepared this letter; he may have signed it without being fully aware of the implications. In addition, it should be noted that this letter was forwarded to Switzerland at a time when the NCPE had assured us that the General's activities with respect to the League of Free Rumanians had been curtailed in the interest of refugee unity.

5. In view of Radescu's complicity, intentional or otherwise, in the affair of the letter and his disregard of NCPE's request for cooperation, his participation in a united Rumanian refugee organization no longer appears desirable. It is suggested, therefore, that no further efforts be made to obtain his consent to an honorary position. The Department of State is in agreement with this view. It is further requested that Radescu, ~~Constantin~~ ~~Vasilescu~~, ~~Alexandru~~ ~~Crutacu~~, ~~Paul~~ ~~Chillean~~, ~~Brutus~~ ~~Costa~~, ~~Mihai~~ ~~Faresanu~~ and ~~Grigore~~ ~~Calamau~~ be informed that the reason for his exclusion is his irresponsibility and his giving aid to the communist government of Rumania.

6. It is requested that this memorandum and attachment be forwarded to the NCPE.

[Chief, SE]

Attachment:

As stated above.

SE-5 [] (16 Dec. 1952)

Distribution:

Addressee - Orig. & 1

RI - 1

SE/EX/IR- 1

SE-5-2

[]