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Rumania
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Manescu to Bonn

As reported by Radio Bucharest on January 26, Foreign Minister Corneliu Manescu has accepted the invitation to visit the GFR extended in September 1966 by the West German Foreign Minister, and following an agreement reached with the present GFR Foreign Minister, Willy Brandt, the visit is to take place from January 30 to February 3. The visit was also announced on January 26 by the Foreign Office spokesman, who said that the first two days of the visit will be taken up by discussions in Bonn. Manescu will meet Chancellor Kiesinger and Foreign Minister Brandt.

The spokesman said that it was assumed that GFR-Rumanian diplomatic relations would be established during Manescu's visit. The problem received final treatment at a Cabinet meeting in Bonn on January 26. The spokesman said that the federal government had reason to assume that the move would not provoke recognition of the GDR by other countries. It may be recalled in this connection that contacts had been established recently with the representative of the Arab League in Bonn.

The Foreign Office spokesman indicated that the exchange of ambassadors between the GFR and Rumania would be accompanied by an exchange of letters or notes. These letters would presumably clarify the positions of the two countries on the German problem, including the Berlin issue.

UPI quoted informed sources on January 27 as saying that the formula to be reached would probably boil down to "an agreement to disagree," and that neither side would abandon its position on the thorny issues of West Germany's claim to sole representation of the German people (versus the recognition of two German states), the Oder-Neisse border, and GFR renunciation of nuclear weapons. It is believed, however, the report said, that the GFR Embassy in Bucharest would be permitted to handle consular affairs involving West

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Berlin residents.

UPI also said that it was hoped that Rumania will relax its attitude concerning the application for emigration of the approximately 15 per cent of the 380,000 ethnic Germans in Rumania who are said to want to move to West Germany. On the other side, Rumania expects an increase of cooperation with the GFR, including trade and cultural relations. This was made clear by the Mayor of Bucharest, Ion Cosma, in an interview granted in Cologne on January 24 (RFE Special from Bonn of January 25).

These are the points which were probably negotiated in Bucharest by Ministerial Director Hans Helmuth Reute between January 7 and 16 (SR of January 25). The agreement in principle on the big issues mentioned above, reached by the then Economics Minister Kurt Schmuecker last September was only renewed, in the sense of "respect for each other's position."

This is also the gist of the interview granted by Treasury Minister Schmuecker to the Koelnische Rundschau (RFE Special from Bonn of January 24). It should be recalled that the Rumanian government has never insisted on the so-called "three conditions" for the resumption of normal relations with the GFR put forward by East German propaganda media. (Noteworthy is the fact that some other Communist-ruled countries, including Hungary, have very recently abandoned these conditions, indicating that they may also be prepared to resume diplomatic relations with the GFR with no strings attached.)

On January 26, Scanteia carried an article entitled "In the service of peace and security in Europe." According to an Agerpres summary of the same day, it made the following points: The Bucharest summit conference of last July registered the new trend prevailing in Europe in favor of normalization of relations between countries with different social systems, the breakaway of the Western European countries from "American imperialism," and the development of cooperation in all fields. Rumania has shown, the Party daily said, a particularly dynamic attitude in this field, with numerous initiatives and a constructive approach to existing problems. The article mentioned in this connection the Rumanian-sponsored UN resolution on good neighborly relations, and said that the Bucharest summit conference had also contributed to the cause of peace in this area. It said that the continual development of friendly relations and multilateral cooperation with the socialist countries and the extension of relations with all countries, irrespective of their social order, were at the center of Rumania's foreign policy. Rumania would continue in the future to make its contribution to improving relations in Europe (the recent visits to Turkey, Greece, France and Denmark were mentioned here).

Regarding the GFR, the Scanteia article said that recent talks had taken place on the establishment of diplomatic relations. Economic, cultural and technical scientific cooperation with the GFR could serve the interests of European peace and security, challenging the opposition of imperialist circles, first and foremost "American imperialism," and "imperialist forces." A decisive condition of progress, however, is the proper evaluation of such

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realities as the existence of two German states and the inviolability of existing European borders. Scanteia said that "Rumania has political, economic and cultural and scientific links with the GDR, the first German socialist state, and we are related by ideological community, a common social order, common goals and the further development of comradely cooperation." The East German press continues to display apprehensions over the normalization of relations between the GFR and East European countries, possibly including Yugoslavia. Thus Neues Deutschland in its editorial of January 26 took issue with the above-mentioned interview of Kurt Schmuecker, in which the Treasury Minister had said that the GFR's moves toward Eastern Europe were convincing proof of its peaceful policy. The East German Party organ said that "this sort of protestation proves itself to be hypocritical, because the Kiesinger government says in the same breath that respect for its legal standpoint is a condition for the normalization of relations."

Working Conference on Designing

Agerpres of January 25 announced the opening of a conference on designing, which was attended, among others, by Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu, Prime Minister Ion Gheorghe Maurer, planning chief Maxim Bergheanu, Petre Blajovici, Mihai Ghere and Manea Manescu.

Petre Blajovici, who presented the conference report, stressed the greatly increased observance of the deadlines for commissioning new capacities. He called for a radical improvement in this field in order to achieve higher economic efficiency. Although the ensuring of technical and economic documentation for the projects included in the 1967 investment plan had proceeded more satisfactorily than in previous years, there were, Blajovici said, still some ministries and people's councils which had ensured only an unsatisfactory percentage of designs. These delays were caused by deficiencies in the activity of the designing organizations, and the unjustifiably long period elapsing between submission of the documentation by the designers and approval. Frequently, Blajovici noted, technical and economic surveys did not contain a thorough analysis of the requirements, or contained inaccurate estimations of investments. The tendency of postponing the start of work on a great number of new projects until the second half of the year had to be stopped, he warned.

Blajovici went on to say that measures must be taken to ensure that technical documentation is furnished already this year for work to be done in 1968. Blajovici said that at the end of 1966 39,000 draftsmen were working in the designing sector, 15,400 of them with higher qualifications. Enterprises had to work out themselves the economic documentation for less important operations (values up to ten million lei) to help increase the designing capacity. In conclusion the speaker said that the analysis of designing activity in Rumania demonstrated that there were enough material and human resources for the implementation of the investment program of the five-year plan.

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Miscellaneous

1) According to RFE Special/Endrst of January 20, the UN Development Program has approved the establishment in Bucharest of an industrial management training and development center, which will train supervisory and managerial personnel in modern management techniques. The executing UN agency for the five-year project is the International Labor Office in Geneva. The UN Developing Program will provide 1,882,500 dollars, while the Rumanian government's contribution in local currency will amount to 3,118,000 dollars.

2) Radio Bucharest of January 26 reported on a decision issued by the Council of Ministers which allows women with children under the age of seven to be assigned half-norm jobs, provided the activity of the enterprise so permits. According to Radio Bucharest, this measure was among the several recent decisions designed to support families with children.

3) The January 19 issue of the Cluj weekly Tribuna published the results of an inquiry on the situation of Rumanian philosophy. The contributions to the inquiry reveal the existence of serious difficulties in this field (lack of discussion, non-representative character of the newly founded Philosopher's Association, etc.)

4) In an article appearing in the January 15 issue of Romania Libera, the writer Octav Pancu-Iasi has advocated that Rumanian high schools be required to bear names with historical associations.