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RFE EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT

Background Research

THE SOCIALIZATION OF RUMANIAN
AGRICULTURE IN THE LIGHT
OF NEW STATISTICS

Rumanian Unit
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THE SOCIALIZATION OF RUMANIAN AGRICULTURE IN THE LIGHT
OF NEW STATISTICS

The publication of recent RPR official statistics*) makes it possible to draw a more accurate picture of the recent development of the socialization of agriculture in Rumania, both in the main sectors (socialist and cooperative), and in each of the 16 regions of the country.

On the basis of these statistics Tables Nos. 1 and 2 covering the period from 1 January 1959 to 1 July 1960 have been worked out. Table No.3 (socialization by regions) covers the period from 31 December 1959 to 1 July 1960.

Table No.1 reveals a substantial increase in the first six months of 1959, namely 11.4 and 13.7 per cent respectively in the agricultural and arable areas, against 7.3 and 8.0 per cent in the corresponding six months of 1960. Moreover, the increase in the first six months of 1959 is more than double that achieved in the last six months of the year.

The high increase in the first six months of 1959 can be explained by

- (a) the addition to the socialist sector of the expropriated land from the "kulaks" in March 1959. (There is no data as to the exact size of the expropriated areas,)
- (b) the sustained collectivization drive urged by the Plenum of the CC of the RWP of November 1958 in the light of the tasks drawn on that occasion for 1959.

That the figures of the areas of the socialist sector for the end of the first half of 1959 include the lands taken from the "kulaks" is confirmed by the much lower increase in the second half of the year. This is even taking into account the fact that in the normal course of things the drive for collectivization is generally slackened because of the heavy and continuous harvesting work in which the entire peasantry is engaged from July to the end of October.

Another confirmation is the comparatively lower increase in the corresponding first half of 1960 during which, it is reasonably to assume that in the light of the decisions taken at the 3-5 December 1959 Plenum of the CC of the RWP, the drive for collectivization went on perhaps at a more vigorous rate than before. This lower rate of increase, however, should be seen against the fact that now 82 per cent of the country's arable land is under the socialist plow and that the regime has until 1965 to fulfill its

*) Statistical Bulletin for the second quarter of 1960 published by the RPR Central Directorate of Statistics.

promise of complete collectivization. - There is in a sense no great hurry.

A glimpse at Table No.1 shows in the first half of 1959 an increase in the socialist sector by nearly one and three-quarter million agricultural hectares (of which one and a third million are arable hectares), against only 664.6 thousand agricultural hectares (of which 559.5 thousand are arable hectares) in the second half of the year.

The increase during the whole of 1958 was only 961.0 thousand agricultural hectares (of which 733.6 thousand were arable hectares) compared with 2,344,300 agricultural hectares (of which 1,894,800 arable hectares) in 1959. This means that in 1959 the increase amounted to over 2.4 times more agricultural hectares, and about 2.6 times more arable hectares than in 1958.

The greatest part of the increase is represented in the cooperative sector (i.e. in collective farms and agricultural associations).

The state farms areas have in general increased little. An exception was during 1959 when the increase was unusually high, namely between 80 and 110 per cent higher than in 1958. This may be explained by the following:

- (a) a small part of the lands expropriated from the "kulaks" in March 1959 may have added to the state farm areas. Indeed, art. 2 of the Decree of expropriation ("Scinteia" 29 March 1959) states that the lands expropriated "will be transferred to collective farms, or to other agricultural socialist organizations".
- (b) by taking over to their direct management and administration land which has always belonged to them officially, but over which for various reasons they had not exercised control. (See Evaluation and Analysis Department News Background "Increase in Area Administered by Rumania's State Farms" 17 February 1960.)

One cannot draw any definite conclusions from the figures for separate sub-sectors (collective farms and/or agricultural associations) because, as it will be seen from the explanation given in the notes to Table No.1, many agricultural associations had been turned into collective farms during the period under reference.

The rent paying agricultural cooperatives are no longer a factor of any importance. The reason is given in note 3 to Table 1.

Table 2. Cooperativization by regions. The high increase of up to about 47 per cent of the cooperativizable area achieved in some regions (see the Cluj region) in the first half of 1959 compared with a much lower increase achieved in the second half of the year as well as in the first half of 1960, confirms what it is said in this respect in the analytical notes to Table 1.

It is worth noting that in the main the highest increases appear in the Transylvanian regions (Cluj 47 per cent, Hunedoara 30.5 per cent, Stalin 23.6 per cent) where the "kulaks" were rich. On the other hand the lowest increases appear in the regions with high percentage of collectivization (Timisoara and Galati).

The Timisoara region was cooperativized to a great extent in the period 1952-1956 when the majority of its population bordering the Yugoslav frontier, rich "kulaks" were deported by the regime to the "Baragan"; their lands were then formed into agricultural socialist units. When some years later the survivors were permitted to return "home", no land was given back to them.

The decrease by 0.2 per cent in the agricultural area of the Constanta region can be explained only by the transfer to the region, some time in 1959, of the Macin district from the Galati region. The district had a much lower percentage of collectivization than the region it was transferred to, hence the decrease.

Table 3. Socialization by regions. It is logical to say that, subject to the analytical comments on the other two tables, the evolution of socialization in the regime follows the same main characteristics as their cooperativization, in that the regional socialist sector represents the area of the regional cooperativized sector to which is added the regional state land (sector) which varies very little.

It might be added that at the Third RWP Congress some first regional Party secretaries gave for 1 June 1960 somewhat higher percentages of the socialization of their regions (Bucharest, Craiova, Oradea, Suceava, Timisoara) than those recorded by the RPR statistics for a month later. (See Evaluation and Analysis Background Research "A Round-Up for the First Half of 1960" 19 August 1960.)

TABLE NO.1

- 5 -

Showing the Evolution of Socialization
Increases During

(in thousands)

			1959		
			1 January	Increase during the first six months	1 July
STATE SECTOR (6)					
- Agricultural Area	3,791.3	(26.3)	271.3	(1.7)	4,062.6 (28.0)
- Arable Area	1,318.8	(13.5)	159.0	(1.7)	1,477.8 (15.2)
SOCIALIST SECTOR (1)					
- Families	1,868.3	(52.1)	-	-	n.d.
- Agricultural Area	8,234.2	(57.1)	1,699.7	(11.4)	9,933.9 (68.5)
- Arable Area	5,390.7	(55.3)	1,335.3	(13.7)	6,726.0 (67.0)
of which:					
(a) Unorganized State Land					
- agricultural	2,354.5	(16.3)	-	-	-
- arable	238.0	(2.5)	-	-	-
(a ₁) STATE FARMS					
- Families	487		27		514
- Agricultural Area	1,436.8	(10.0)	-	-	n.d.
- Arable Area	1,080.8	(11.0)	-	-	n.d.
(b) COLLECTIVE FARMS					
- Families	2,906		497 (2)		3,403
- Agricultural Area	461.4	(12.8)	284.4	(7.9)	745.8 (20.7)
- Arable Area	1,871.5	(13.0)	753.3	(5.2)	2,624.8 (18.2)
	1,688.8	(17.3)	-	-	n.d.
(c) RENT PAYING AGR. COOPERATIVES					
- Families	122		-23		99
- Agricultural Area	7.0	(0.2)	-	-	n.d.
- Arable Area	n.d.		-	-	26.7
	n.d.		-	-	-
(d) AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS					
- Families	12,848		-704 (4)		12,144
- Agricultural Area	1,399.7	(38.9)	310.7	(8.6)	1,710.4 (47.5)
- Arable Area	2,571.4	(17.8)	648.4	(4.5)	3,219.8 (22.4)
	2,383.1	(24.5)	-	-	n.d.

TABLE NO.1

- 6 -

and Cooperativization and Comparative
the Period 1.1.1959 - 1.7.1960

1959		1960		
Increase during the year	1 January	1 April	1 July	Increase during the 1st six months
364.4 (2.3) 295.6 (2.9)	4,155.7 (28.6) 1,614.4 (16.4)	n.d. n.d.	n.d. n.d.	- -
750.0 (20.5) 2,344.3 (15.5) 1,894.8 (18.7)	2,618.3 (72.6) 10,578.5 (72.6) 7,285.5 (74.0)	n.d. n.d. n.d.	2,952.0 (82.0) 11,732.1 (79.9) 8,069.1 (82.0)	333.7 (9.4) 1,153.6 (7.3) 783.6 (8.0)
- - 38 282.4 (1.8) 232.7 (2.3)	2,436.5 (16.8) 300.9 (3.1) 525 1,719.2 (11.8) 1,313.5 (13.3)	- - 556 n.d. n.d.	- - n.d. n.d. n.d.	- - - - -
839 (2) 381.5 (10.6) 1,099.1 (7.4) 969.0 (9.7)	3,745 842.9 (23.4) 2,970.6 (20.3) 2,657.8 (27.0)	4,097 1,034.3 (28.7) 3,449.6 (23.8) 3,079.9 (31.8)	4,202 n.d. (5) 3,610.3 (24.9) 3,208.8 (32.7)	457 (2) - 629.7 (4.5) 551.0 (5.7)
-39 (3) negligible do do	83 8.3 (0.23) 27.5 (0.19) n.d.	56 5.3 (0.15) 14.6 (0.1) n.d.	48 n.d. 12.4 n.d.	-35 (3) negligible do do
-1.366 (4) 367.4 (10.1) 853.3 (5.7) 630.2 (6.4)	11.482 1,767.1 (49.0) 3,424.7 (23.5) 3,013.3 (30.6)	10,401 1,792.7 (49.8) 3,570.5 (24.6) 3,062.8 (31.2)	n.d. (5) n.d. (5) 3,837.5 (26.5) 3,238.1 (33.0)	-(4) - 412.8 (2.9) 224.8 (3.7)

TABLE NO. 2

Showing the Evolution of Agricultural
Breakdown

	Cooperativizable Areas (1.000 hectares)		1959			
			1 January		1 July	
	Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable
RPR Totals	10,631.5	8,433.1	4,442.9 41.8%	4,071.9 48.3%	5,871.3 56.3%	5,248.2 63.4%
Bacau	478.3	351.0	91.3 19.1%	86.4 24.6%	159.3 32.8%	149.3 42.3%
Baia Mare	500.0	324.0	91.4 18.3%	78.8 24.3%	160.6 33.2%	132.6 41.5%
Bucharest	1,270.0	1,200.0	702.6 55.3%	696.7 57.0%	865.3 69.3%	855.5 71.6%
Cluj	806.4	547.2	162.1 20.0%	129.7 23.7%	475.9 60.9%	374.8 70.7%
Constanta	600.1	585.5	580.1 97.0%	547.9 95.3%	577.7 96.8%	543.6 97.0%
Craiova	1,100.8	953.0	491.0 44.2%	467.0 49.0%	544.9 49.8%	516.9 56.0%
Galati	707.4	616.2	471.1 66.6%	456.0 74.0%	502.2 75.0%	471.4 80.0%
Hunedoara	360.8	192.6	105.7 29.3%	54.5 28.3%	188.7 52.4%	112.0 58.5%
Jassy	632.7	536.6	275.9 43.6%	268.3 50.0%	398.4 63.7%	381.1 71.3%
Oradea	573.4	495.1	167.8 29.3%	161.4 32.8%	270.4 48.2%	256.5 52.9%
Pitesti	655.1	497.1	140.2 21.4%	121.8 24.5%	227.2 35.3%	194.1 39.8%
Ploesti	578.1	420.9	159.2 27.5%	149.4 35.5%	224.7 39.9%	205.8 50.3%
Stalin	436.1	291.3	163.1 37.4%	113.9 39.1%	248.0 57.3%	180.0 62.4%
Suceava	577.8	432.9	154.1 28.4%	152.1 34.9%	258.8 45.0%	231.2 52.4%
Timisoara	839.7	675.8	512.2 61.0%	479.5 71.0%	527.1 64.8%	488.4 74.4%
Autonomous Magyar	499.1	300.0	155.2 33.1%	108.5 36.1%	242.1 49.1%	155.0 52.1%

TABLE NO. 2 (continued)

Cooperativization from 1.1.1959 to 1.7.1960
by Regions

% increase in first half year		31 December		% increase in 2nd half year		1960			
						1 July		% increase in 1st half year	
Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable	Agric.	Arable	Agric.	Arable	Agric.	Arable
1,428.4 14.5%	1,276.3 15.1%	6,422.8 61.8%	5,671.1 68.9%	5.5	5.5	7,460.2 71.8%	6,456.8 78.5%	10.0	9.6
13.7	18.3	202.4 41.9%	186.7 53.9%	9.1	11.6	254.1 52.6%	223.5 63.5%	10.7	9.9
14.9	17.2	192.3 40.0%	156.4 49.0%	6.8	7.5	245.0 51.0%	195.8 61.4%	11.0	12.0
14.0	14.6	905.9 74.5%	894.1 76.9%	5.2	5.3	1,147.0 94.3%	1,106.4 95.2%	19.8	18.8
40.8	47.0	521.9 56.9%	405.8 76.7%	6.9	6.0	595.9 76.4%	454.7 86.0%	9.5	9.3
-0.2	1.7	634.6 98.5%	596.5 98.7%	1.7	1.7	636.7 98.8%	599.2 99.1%	0.3	0.4
5.6	7.0	578.8 53.3%	543.0 58.6%	3.5	2.6	640.7 59.0%	596.9 64.4%	5.7	5.8
8.4	6.0	481.2 77.4%	447.0 82.4%	2.4	2.4	507.3 81.6%	468.0 86.2%	4.2	3.8
23.1	30.2	215.3 59.3%	121.3 63.3%	7.4	4.8	278.3 77.3%	157.2 82.1%	17.5	18.8
20.1	21.3	429.0 68.9%	405.3 76.7%	5.2	5.4	506.4 81.3%	454.3 86.0%	12.4	9.3
18.9	20.1	286.6 52.0%	271.7 57.0%	3.8	4.1	321.1 58.2%	301.5 63.3%	5.8	6.3
13.9	15.3	293.3 45.3%	245.3 50.0%	10.0	10.2	391.0 60.4%	326.3 66.5%	15.1	16.5
12.4	14.8	257.0 45.9%	230.3 56.2%	6.0	5.9	297.9 53.2%	259.8 63.4%	9.1	7.2
11.1	23.5	266.8 61.1%	190.5 66.9%	4.1	4.2	294.2 67.7%	213.0 74.8%	6.3	7.9
16.6	17.5	290.6 50.3%	260.3 59.2%	5.5	6.8	332.4 57.7%	298.0 67.8%	7.2	8.6
3.8	3.4	547.2 66.0%	505.8 75.4%	1.2	1.0	638.4 77.0%	561.1 83.7%	11.0	8.3
16.0	16.0	319.9 64.4%	211.1 70.5%	15.3	18.4	373.8 75.3%	241.1 80.6%	10.9	10.1

TABLE NO.3

Country's areas on 1.1.1959:
 agricultural: 14,422.8 ha
 arable: 9,751.9 ha

Showing the Evolution of Agricultural
Breakdown

	Total Areas (1.000 hectares)		1959			
			1 January		31 December	
	Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable
RPR	14,422.8	9,751.9	8,234.2 57.1%	5,390.7 55.3%	10,578.5 72.7%	7,285.5 74.0%
Bacau	610.4	384.8	-	-	329.5 54.0%	219.3 57.0%
Baia Mare	635.4	345.3	-	-	347.3 54.7%	182.7 52.9%
Bucharest	1,581.2	1,442.1	-	-	1,270.7 80.4%	1,177.9 81.6%
Cluj	1,132.4	565.3	-	-	873.9 77.2%	442.2 78.2%
Constanta	1,116.1	901.8	-	-	1,106.2 99.1%	893.7 99.1%
Craiova	1,323.5	1,054.9	-	-	817.2 61.7%	671.6 63.7%
Galati	918.5	730.4	-	-	777.8 84.7%	634.7 86.9%
Hunedoara	486.5	198.9	-	-	341.9 70.3%	128.6 64.7%
Jassy	804.4	603.6	-	-	610.8 75.9%	480.6 79.6%
Oradea	812.1	536.8	-	-	547.4 67.4%	332.2 61.9%
Pitesti	814.6	545.2	-	-	460.1 56.5%	300.2 55.1%
Ploesti	741.2	469.7	-	-	438.1 59.1%	290.3 61.8%
Stalin	746.7	338.3	-	-	578.9 77.5%	200.0 72.1%
Suceava	738.6	490.0	-	-	453.3 61.4%	310.9 63.4%
Timisoara	1,350.9	912.9	-	-	1,068.8 79.1%	748.0 81.9%
Autonomous Magyar	732.5	320.1	-	-	555.9 75.9%	231.9 72.5%

TABLE NO.3

Country's areas on 1.1.1960:

agricultural: 14,545.6 ha

arable: 9,840.4 ha

Socialization from 31 December 1959 to 1 July 1960⁽¹⁾

by Regions

1959		1960			
Increase during the year (%)		1 July		% increase during first half year	
Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable	Agricult.	Arable
15.6	18.7	79.9%	82.0%	7.2	8.0
-	-	62.5%	66.6%	8.5	9.6
-	-	62.9%	64.3%	8.2	11.4
-	-	93.7%	95.6%	15.2	14.7
-	-	83.7%	86.9%	6.5	8.7
-	-	99.3%	99.4%	0.2	0.3
-	-	66.4%	68.8%	4.7	5.1
-	-	87.5%	89.8%	2.8	2.9
-	-	83.2%	82.7%	12.9	18.0
-	-	85.6%	87.7%	9.7	8.1
-	-	71.6%	67.4%	4.2	5.5
-	-	68.5%	69.9%	12.0	14.8
-	-	64.6%	68.1%	5.5	6.3
-	-	81.2%	78.8%	3.7	6.7
-	-	67.0%	71.1%	5.6	7.7
-	-	85.9%	88.0%	6.8	6.1
-	-	83.2%	81.8%	7.3	9.3

Explanation of Reference Numbers in the Tables

Table No.1

- (1) The socialist sector comprises the state area (or sector), (of which the state farms is the organized part), the collective farms, rent paying agricultural cooperatives, and the agricultural and zootechnical associations.

The percentages of both the socialist sector and the state sector are related to the total areas (agricultural and arable) of the country.

The RPR statistics refer to "cooperative sector" i.e. the areas of the socialist sector minus the state land (including state farms).

- (2) The number does not represent the exact increase which might have taken place during the year, because of the small collective farms might have been merged to form larger units. No data is available on such amalgamation.
- (3) The rent paying agricultural cooperatives which had been launched by the regime in July 1956 proved a failure. As can be seen the RPR Government gave up forming new ones. The decrease in number is no doubt due to their being turned gradually into collective farms.
- (4) The figure represents only the balance at the end of the year. The increase must have been higher because, according to RPR media, numbers of agricultural associations are being turned into collective farms. At the Third RWP Congress (20 June 1960) Gh.Gheorghiu-Dej said that in 1959 and the first five months of 1960 2,156 agricultural associations with an area of 1,026,000 hectares were turned into collective farms.
- (5) There is no breakdown available for the families represented in either of the sub-sectors (collective farms and agricultural associations). But "Lupta de Clasa" No.7 (July) 1960 reported that the socialist sector represented at that time "over 82 per cent" peasant families. Since the people working in the state farms are considered as employees (i.e., wage earners), the regime mentions only the percentage of the families represented in the cooperative sector, i.e. in the collective farms and the associations.
- (6) The state sector varies very little, if at all, in such a short period of time. For instance, during 1959 the monthly average increase in the sector was 0.2 per cent in agricultural area, and very little higher (0.23 per cent) in arable area. Such increases are published occasionally, and in general after the reclaimed land over a certain period had been officially recorded.

Table No.2

- (1) All percentages of the cooperativization of the regions are related to cooperativizable areas (agricultural or arable) of the region concerned.

By cooperativizable area is meant the total areas of the region minus the state sector in that region.

Table No.3

- (1) All percentages of the socialization of the regions are related to the total areas (agricultural or arable) of the region concerned.

End