

ITEM No. 3469/56

AH
11 April
AA Ref.No. R-34

RUMANIA

REGIME RESPONSE TO WESTERN BROADCASTS

PROPAGANDA 2600
Anti-Western 2601 a

RUMANIAN RADIO AND PRESS CONTINUE TO TALK ABOUT
BALLOONS.

SOURCE AUDIENCE ANALYSIS SECTION: 1. - Radio Cluj, March 25, 1956
2. - Radio Brasov, March 26, 1956
3. - Radio Bucharest, March 27, 1956.

AUDIENCE ANALYSIS SECTION COMMENT: After a complete silence of three weeks, Rumanian regime media again reproduce and comment on balloons as a result of the exchange of a series of Soviet diplomatic notes with Western Germany and the US.

EVALUATION COMMENT: Similar steps are expected after the Austrian intervention on behalf of the balloon action.

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1. - Radio Brasov, in its broadcast of February 25, reproduces the note of protest handed by the Soviet Government to the American Charge d'Affaires in Moscow, on March 24, concerning the launching of American balloons in the air space of the Soviet-Union.

2. - Radio Cluj, in its broadcast of February 26, deals with the notes on balloons exchanged between the Government of Western Germany and the Soviet-Union concerning the dispatch of balloons from the territory of Western Germany. - (Radio Brasov reiterated the same information in its broadcast of March 27.) -

3. - Radio Bucharest broadcast for North-America carried a political commentary entitled: - "Where is the truth ?" - which stated that in reply to Soviet proposals, the US has always opposed international exhibitions showing American balloons captured in the USSR on ground that such exhibitions would serve only Soviet propaganda. The US tries to show that the release of balloons is a current practice in international relations and affirms that also the Soviet-Union has released balloons into the air space of other countries and that Soviet balloons have flown over the US.

A recent Soviet note denied such allegations and proposed simultaneously exhibitions of balloons captured in the USSR as well as of Soviet balloons which might be at the disposal of the US. - If the US

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authorities have nothing to conceal, they will have no objection, but a refusal would be a confirmation for the world's public opinion of the illegal actions undertaken by the US, with a view of aggravating the international situation. - (An "Agerpress" communique treating the same problem, was reproduced in paper "Munca" of March 28). -

End.