

2200

L

G

20 June

VI-1144

RUMANIAPERSECUTIONDeportationThe Pitiful State Of Evacuees Transferred To New Zones.SOURCE ROME: A foreign refugee from RumaniaDATE OF OBSERVATION: November 1951

Our source worked in the Baragan and Calarasi regions in November 1951 driving a truck and trailer transporting building materials from stations to various districts in the Baragan plain, where new villages were being built for the population transferred from the Banat.

About 7,200 families were sent to 12 new villages in the Baragan and Calarasi regions. The names of the villages are as follows:

VASILESCU VASIA, situated about 20 km from the town of CALARASI;

ROSETI DRAGALINA situated on the estate previously owned by General DRAGALINA,

FETESTI, situated near the FETESTI commune; the above villages were all named after the nearby communes.

MAGURENI NOUI, situated near the MAGURENI commune, which is near GURA IALOMITEI

LUNCA DUNARII:

LUNCA-CHEORGHENI situated near the CIOARA railway station;

CIULNITA NOUA situated near the CIULNITA railroad station;

SLOBOZIA NOUA situated near SLOBOZIA;

TANDAREI situated near TANDAREI.

New villages are also being built for evacuees in the Braila region near the Danube Delta, and a concentration camp for political prisoners is situated in the same area. The deportees were transferred from the Banat border zone in August 1951 and taken from the station out to open fields, where they were given some boards to build tents. They were obliged to use their blankets as protection against cold and rain. After a while they were given wooden poles and straw to cover the roof, and they made bricks from earth and built their own houses. Doors and windows were allotted in November 1951, then the poor evacuees were obliged to break down the walls as the doors and windows did not fit. They had to pay for all "building" materials they had received and if they had no money, they had to work in State factories where the cost of the building materials was deducted from their wages. Most of these evacuees had no agricultural implements, seeds or cattle, and said they had

RUMANIA

(1)

been promised they would find houses, agricultural equipment and cattle at their new residence. Some of these people were of Serbian origin, but all were Rumanian citizens. Their identity cards had been taken from them by Militia and they were not allowed to go farther away than 4 kilometers from their village. As these peasants were almost starving they used to go to neighboring villages despite this restriction begging for food from the farmers.

They were continually supervised by Militia which was very harsh to everybody. These people were desperate. Many children and adults died of starvation. Tragic scenes occurred as desperate women wanted to throw themselves under trains and trucks, and were prevented to do so. The dead were buried in a field without a priest or a Cross on their graves. A number of people went mad from desperation.

Militiamen raped women and girls when they first arrived. Our source reported the following incident which occurred while he transported doors and windows from the CIOARA station to one of these camps. When reaching the camp, he went to Militia headquarters to learn where to unload his truck and was surprised to find the militiamen all drunk in the company of two women and two girls who were crying. He asked a militiaman who the women were, and was told they had taken them from a nearby village to have some fun, as they also had a right to a little fun every now and again.

Following similar incidents, the village men would kill any Militiaman or Communist they happened to meet, throwing their bodies into distant ditches by the main road.

No militiaman dared to enter a village at dusk as he knew what his fate would be. Four armed militiamen patrolled the villages during the day.

EVAL. COMMENT: consistent with similar reports.

See Items 3107/52, 2284/52, 141/52, 326/52, 335/52.