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RUMANIA.

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LABOR

PERSECUTION OF FOREIGNERS

Conditions Of Foreign Workers In Rumania.

SOURCE ROME : A foreign citizen expelled from Rumania.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Current period.

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Source, a foreign citizen recently expelled from Rumania, who is a white-washer by trade had worked in BUCHAREST in a cooperative and received a monthly salary of 357 Lei. For this salary he was obliged to work for 288 hours a month. In order to have the right of obtaining food and clothing ration cards, workers belonging to co-operatives must work more than 160 hours a month. Otherwise they are not entitled to these rations cards. Many white-washers belonging to the cooperatives were left without ration cards, as they were not able to perform as many as 160 working hours a month, due to delays in the supply of the necessary material.

Following decisions reached by the Communist authorities, all foreign staff was going to be dismissed in Rumania. This action was initiated on 1 May 1952. In order to avoid starvation part of these workers applied to be admitted for other work. As a result of their petition the Communist authorities granted only a small number of these foreign workers to be hired again, but only under the following conditions: that they would no longer be granted food and clothing ration cards, and that in case such a foreign worker had previously been employed as a specialized worker or technician, he would now continue to perform the same duties, while he would receive the pay of a simple laborer. The present pay for a simple laborer in Rumania amounts to eight or nine Lei a day.

EVAL. COMMENT: Confirmed.