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RUMANIA

PERSECUTIONS
Religion

During the last ten days, many arrests were made by political police officers among the Rumanian Catholic clergy. A number of Catholic vicars have been moved to domiciles situated far from their churches.

Among the arrested priests, there is the Reverend HAUSOTTER Emil, Catholic vicar of TARGU JIU, who once had already been arrested in January 1951; the Reverend GUNCIU Josif from SINALA, who also had already spent some time in prison and was set free in March 1951, the Reverend MENCES Ieronim from PREDEAL, previously arrested twice for a short time (first in June 1950, then in March 1951,) the Catholic vicars in TELISUL DE SUS, SFANTU GHEORGHE, etc.

The arrests are connected with the government's intention of eliminating all Catholic priests, who refused to join the schismatic movement sponsored by the Ministry of Religious Cults. The arrested priests are accused of having refused to take an oath of loyalty to the People's Republic, and to accept the salaries offered them by the Communist government. The very small group of schismatic Catholic priests in Rumania has recently been increased by the adherence of KRASOVSKI (fnu), vicar at CAMPINA.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: July 1951

EVAL. COMMENT:

Source : reliable;
Information: probably true, partly confirmed by other sources.