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BULGARIA

AGRICULTURE
Collectivization

PRIVATE PROPERTY
Expropriation

RESISTANCE AND CRITICISM
Economic

Elimination Of Kulaks And Peasants Resisting
Collectivization In TOLBUHIN Area

SOURCE ISTANBUL: Various interviews with three Turkish ethnic emigrants from Bulgaria.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 1947 to 1950.

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When the methodical elimination of the kulaks hit EZI BEY village, district TOLBUHIN, among the first who suffered was ICHERENSKI Mito, a 50-year-old rich landowner who resisted collectivization. He was arrested in 1948, and his lands were taken over by the local Communist Party authorities. Mito was sent to prison for his 'kulak behavior' and nothing has been known of his fate.

KOLEV Peyu, 45, also a rich landowner at the village, had a large farm and a number of tractors and harvesting machines. Because of his refusal to participate in the kolkhoz organization, his lands and tractors were confiscated and Peyu was made a village pauper.

60-year-old POPOV's Mito land was also taken over by the Communists and the owner was made to work in the village as a laborer.

In September 1950, in NASREDDIN village, a 60-year-old villager named (LNU) Suleyman was charged with hiding grain in his barn. He was immediately arrested and forced to walk in the streets of the village carrying a placard reading "Traitor of the Country." His property was confiscated and he was taken to the STALIN prison. It was learned later on that the charges brought against him had no foundation whatsoever.

At EMIRLER, a village on the Black Sea coast about 20 kilometers from the Rumanian border, KALINKOV Nikola and his brother Asen owned a 2,000-acre land, 200 horses, 300 oxen and thousands of sheep. Because of their resistance to join the kolkhoz their land and property was confiscated in 1947, and

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they were left with a small piece of land, which they cultivate themselves instead of participating in the village TKZS organization. Their uncle, KALINKOV Petri, stubbornly refused to enter the kolkhoz after the Communists took over his land and in desperation committed suicide by hanging himself in 1950. His fortune at the National Bank was also confiscated.

EVAL. COMMENT: Matters correspond with similar information, but the cited cases and persons are UNCONFIRMED.