

MK  
April 21  
V-769/C

BULGARIA

COMMUNICATIONS (0500)  
Railways (0505)

VRATSA-OREHOVO RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION REPORTED DISCONTINUED.

SOURCE ISTANBUL: A 19-year-old Bulgarian escapee, a native of STRANDJA who was deported to VRATSA in 1950 and who stayed there until 1953.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 1954.

EVALUATION COMMENT: The Second Five-Year Plan does not foresee the construction of the mentioned railroad and no information is available in this office that this construction project has ever been started.

X X X

In 1951-1952, during his family's deportation to VRATSA, source worked as a cart-driver transporting sand and pebbles to the VRATSA-OREHOVO railroad construction. At the time levelling had been completed and preparations were being made to lay the sleepers as far as GOLIAMO PESHTENE, 45 kilometers from VRATSA. Source quit working at the railroad construction in June 1953 but in 1954 heard from a friend that the construction had been discontinued.

According to source, the line was originally scheduled to be opened for traffic some time in 1957.

End.