

ITEM No 2742

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25 February 1952  
XI-144

BULGARIA

PRISONS & CAMPS

Inmates:

Persons In BURGAS Prison In 1949.

SOURCE ATHENS: A Bulgarian mechanic who escaped to Greece in November 1951.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 1949

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A Bulgarian mechanic, now in the free world, who in 1949 served a prison sentence in the BURGAS jail for deserting from the Trudovaks, mentions having met among the inmates there the former deputy KUKLEV (fnu), secretary of the Peasants Party in the district. KUKLEV was in prison for spreading anti-Communist propaganda. Another inmate was DIMITROFF Strati, accused of having assisted in the escape from Bulgaria of the Peasant Party leader Dr. G.M. DIMITROFF, who is now in the U.S. DIMITROFF's Strati brother, who was also involved in the affair, managed to flee the country just before being arrested.

A considerable percentage of the political prisoners in the BURGAS jail in 1949 were serving sentences for attempted escape from the country. Among those whom the source met during his incarceration were the politicians ZOGRAFOV (fnu) and CHRISTOV G.; DEMEVSKEI (fnu), a candidate deputy of the BELLA SIATINA area; GENEV Mito, an agricultural organizer from BURGAS; Colonel STAVRITCHEV (fnu), a former Commander of the 27th Regiment; KANEV Ivan, a former Commander of the M. TRNOVO frontier sector, and one CHERVANKOV (fnu), secretary of the Aid Distribution Organization, a Bulgarian of British origin.

EVAL. COMMENT: Except KANEV, the other cited persons are UNCONFIRMED.