

RADIO FREE EUROPE *Research*

EAST EUROPE

Rumania/3
10 January 1968

SITUATION REPORT

- * Establishment of Communal Party Committees Begins
- * Law on Factory, Commercial and Service Trademarks
- * Economic News
- * Miscellaneous

Establishment of Communal Party Committees Begins

As part of the administrative-territorial reorganization of Rumania, decided at the 5-6 October 1967 Plenum, the establishment of Party committees in the new territorial units, the counties and communes was envisaged. An article entitled "The Party -- the Leading Force" which appeared in Lupta de Clasa has now announced that about 300 Party committees have already been established in the larger communes.

These committees which control the activity of the basic Party organizations in the communes, are, according to the article, supposed to implement the Party policy in the villages. The article emphasized the need for collective leadership and assigned the Party organizations the task of supervising the implementation of this principle in all sectors of economic and state life. The establishment of new forms of collective management in enterprises (leading committees) in industrial centrals (administrative councils), and in the counties (county people's councils) amplify the tasks of the Party, it said. The increased competences of local Party organs in the management of economic and social-cultural life will enhance the role of the Party organizations in the units in which they operate. The political-ideological qualification of Party members, the development of a critical and self-critical spirit, the strengthening of revolutionary vigilance and increased combativeness and firmness will eliminate the danger of any Party member's succumbing to alien ideology.

The article concluded by saying that in the building of "socialism," the Rumanian CP -- in the interest of the Rumanian people takes into consideration the international framework in which this process is taking place, the existence of the "world socialist system." The article placed the main emphasis, however, on Rumania's efforts, to which, it said, should be added the advantages of the country's active participation in the international division of labor on the basis of the principles of sovereignty, equality and non-interference in internal affairs.

Law on Factory, Commercial and Service Trademarks

Addressing the Grand National Assembly on December 28, Foreign Trade Minister Gheorghe Cioara stressed the importance of a law, adopted at the session, on factory, commercial and service trademarks for the present and long-term requirements of the development of Rumania's economy. He said that the use of commercial and factory trademarks in world trade enables the customers to identify the quality of a particular product among a series of similar ones and at the same time serves to stimulate the manufacturers to preserve the good name of their own trademark by producing only high-quality goods. In Rumanian foreign trade, Cioara said, factory and commercial trademarks will play an important role, because foreign customers will prefer only products they already know, whose quality is guaranteed by their trademark. Only by offering, at competitive prices, first-rate products bearing the trademark will Rumania's foreign trade be able to develop further.

The most important provisions of the new law are as follows:

- the compulsory use of factory trademarks for all products for the domestic market;
- a collective trademark may be used jointly by several enterprises with similar production lines;
- registration of all trademarks at the General Directorate of Metrology, Standards and Inventions, prior to their use;
- the solution of disputes arising over trademarks will be entrusted to a commission which will function under the General Directorate of Metrology, Standards and Invention.

The law on factory, commercial and service trademarks harmonizes domestic legislation with the existing international agreements. At the same time, it solves the question of trademarks registered nationally up to 1945.

Economic News

Rumanian Made Renault Cars. According to Agerpres of January 5, the first Rumanian-made Renault-8 Majeur car (43 HP, 135 km/h) will be turned out by the new automobile works in Colibasi at the beginning of the second half of the year 1968 instead of at the end of the year, as initially planned. The Colibasi plant which will produce 40,000 passenger and 10,000 utility cars annually, covers an area of 70 hectares, of which 100,000 square meters are taken up by the main assembling unit.

New Details on Economic Agreement with Cuba. Marking the ninth anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution, Scanteia of January 3 praised Rumanian-Cuban relations. The article also revealed some new details on the Rumanian-Cuban agreement signed in November 1967 (see Rumanian Situation Report, Radio Free Europe Research, 29 November 1967); it stated namely, that it had been agreed

10 January 1968

that cooperation should cover the prospecting and exploitation of manganese ore deposits and the chemical preparation of manganese dioxide, the high-grade use of byproducts obtained through sugar-cane processing, and other fields.

News on Foreign Trade. Agerpres of January 5 reported that in 1967 Rumania exported complete installations, machinery and equipment worth over 1.8 billion lei -- 600 million lei more than in 1966. Consequently the relative weight of products of the machine-building industry rose from 17.3 per cent in 1966 to 23 per cent in 1967. Agerpres added that in 1968, exports of products of this sector will increase to 2.1 billion lei, or 16 per cent more than in the previous year. It is estimated that exports of chemical products will amount to 650 million lei in 1968, which means an increase of 13 per cent over the level of the previous year. Foodstuffs at a value of 1.5 billion lei were exported in 1967, and are to exceed 1.6 billion lei in 1968. Overall trade will, according to Agerpres, increase by eight per cent this year (9 per cent for exports and seven per cent for imports).

Trade with Spain. The paper Banco Comercial Transatlantico, Barcelona, of January 8 reported that the exchange of goods between Rumania and Spain is supposed to amount to 16 million dollars in 1968. Trade between the two countries in 1966 was at the 10-million-dollar level. No figures are available for 1967.

More Buses Ordered from Israel. RFE Special/Zoller of January 3 reported that Rumania has ordered a further 100 buses from Israel, in addition to the 80 ordered last year, most of which have already been shipped to Rumania.

Rumanian Trade Officials to Turkey. According to RFE Special/Nesteroff of January 8, a foreign trade mission is expected to arrive in Turkey later this month to discuss ways and means of increasing trade between Rumania and Turkey. The last trade protocol, covering the period 1 April 1967-31 March 1968, was signed in February 1967. Trade between the two countries is still at a very low level; in 1966, it amounted to less than eight million dollars.

New Foreign Trade Enterprise Established. Radio Bucharest of January 6 reported the establishment of a new foreign trade enterprise, which will be in charge of exports and imports of consumer goods. The name of this enterprise, which will be directed by the Ministry of Foreign Trade, is "Mercur."

Miscellaneous

Ceausescu Receives Carlo Galuzzi. According to Radio Bucharest of January 6, Party and State leader Nicolae Ceausescu received Carlo Galuzzi, a member of the Italian Communist Party's Directorate and head of its Foreign Affairs Division. Also attending the meeting, which took place in Timisoara, were Premier Ion Gheorghe Maurer, Executive Committee member Paul Niculescu-Mizil and CC Secretary Mihai Dalea. No details were given. The Rumanian delegation, on its way back from Yugoslavia, probably again discussed the Budapest conference with the Italian guest.

10 January 1968

New Ambassador to Syria. Vasile Pogaceanu has been appointed ambassador to Syria, Radio Bucharest reported on January 5. Pogaceanu was ambassador to North Vietnam and Laos from 1961 to 1964.

New Bridge over the Danube. Scanteia of December 28 carried a report on the construction of a bridge crossing the Danube at Giurgeni-Vadu Oii. This is the first bridge for road traffic connecting Bucharest with Constanta and the Black Sea coast and will be of great importance for the development of tourism. According to the 1966-1970 five-year plan, the bridge, which will have a total span of 1,450 meters is to be commissioned by 1969.

Visa-free Travel Extended Through 1968. The Council of Ministers has decided to extend the measures on visa-free travel by foreign tourists to Rumania, in force during the 1967 "International Tourist Year," until the end of this year, reported Radio Bucharest of January 4.

Facilities for Citizens. Radio Bucharest of January 6 reported that citizens will no longer be requested to submit certificates "for certain legitimate rights:"

The new regulations, which were issued by the Committee on Problems of Local Administration, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, are fully in line with the new trend in Rumania's economy and administration, which is aimed at the elimination of bureaucracy and useless work.

The following kinds of certificates will no longer be requested:

- those on "material status" previously required for registration of pupils in schools, institutions of higher education, etc.
- those requested for the granting of free medication to the needy;
- for fuel bonuses to old people with no income;
- for the admission of old people to hospitals or homes for the aged;
- for granting state social aid to old people; etc.

Good-conduct testimonials for persons applying for "rehabilitation by judicial institutions" will also no longer be requested.

New Electric Power Link between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. Radio Moscow in Rumanian of January 3 reported that a new electric power link connecting the USSR with Bulgaria via Rumania is under construction. The first link between Bulgaria and the other Comecon countries was put into operation in June 1967, when the last section, linking the Rumanian town of Craiova with Boychinovtsi in Bulgaria was inaugurated.