

ITEM No.8565/53

COMMUNICATIONS (0500)  
Waterways, Ships (0507)  
TRADE (3300)  
Foreign (3305)

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21 August  
VII/877

BULGARIA

M.S. "Nikola Vaptzarov" in RAVENNA.

SOURCE TRIESTE : Confidential source

DATE OF OBSERVATION : End July 1953.

EVAL. COMMENT : The reported data about the motor-ship "Nikola Vaptzarov" is confirmed here /see Item No 13775/51./ However, no information is available here on the rest of the reported details.

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The Bulgarian motorboat "Nikola Vaptzarov" arrived in RAVENNA on 30 July 1953, with a cargo of 2,000 tons of corn /in bulk,/ to be delivered to the Agricultural Consortium of RAVENNA. The corn was loaded in BURGAS into the motorboat's three holds, as follows :

hold No 1	350 tons
hold No 2	950 tons
hold No 3	700 tons

total            2,000 tons.

This is part of a 5,000 tons lot which was sold by the State enterprise "Hranexport" to Italy. The balance of 3,000 tons will be shipped from BURGAS to RAVENNA in the next few days, but no definite information as to which ship will carry the cargo is available so far. The freight rate was established in BURGAS, but is not indicated on the bill of loading, nor on the manifest /the purchase was made for goods to be delivered cif RAVENNA and not fob BURGAS, as is generally done for deals with /more/

Bulgaria. The conditions for delivery in RAVENNA are "under ship's tackle."

The motorship "Nikola Vaptzarov" is in communications with the Marittima Ravennate," S.p.A. maritime agents and shipowners in RAVENNA.

This unit was built on order of the Navigation Maritime Bulgare, in ANVERS, during 1949. It is a very modern motorboat with 12 miles speed per hour, three spacious cargo holds, 12 passenger cabins and two salons.

The "Nikola Vaptzarov" is in service on the Black Sea - Albania route, with casual landings in ALEXANDRIA, Port Said and other Levante ports / Cyprus, Palestine, Soria, Turkey./

The unloading operations will be completed by Wednesday, 5 July 1953, or the following day. There is no cargo to be picked up in RAVENNA or any Italian port for the return journey. There will be only the 17 members of the "Hristo Smirnenski" crew /which is at present in drydock at the SAN ROCCO Cantiere of TRIESTE,/ who are to be repatriated following orders of the shipowners. With these 17 men on board the "Nikola Vaptzarov" will sail for DURAZZO, where the 17 sailors will board the "Rodina," the dispatch of which to BRINDISI was revoked - and will pick up its return cargo to the Black Sea in DURAZZO and VALONA. What cargo the "Vaptzarov" will fetch in Albania is unknown.

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