

Bulgarian Delegation Leaves

The three visiting Bulgarian leaders who had been in the RPR since January 13 on a little publicized trip which was termed by the media of both countries as a "friendship" visit, returned January 21 to Sofia. No declaration, communiqué or even speech was made by anyone concerned during the entire course of the visit and the only official function held in conjunction with it was a dinner given by the Bulgarian ambassador to Bucharest for the three men on the eve of their departure.

Scrap Iron Campaign

The biannual scrap iron campaign was launched over the weekend with radio talks exhorting listeners to contribute with all their means to make the present campaign a success.

International

The head of the visiting Austrian Voest Steelworks delegation stated, in an interview with an Agerpress reporter, that contacts had been established with Rumanian industry at various technical and economic levels, that installations for steel factories would be delivered to the RPR along with technical documentation of Austrian steelmaking methods, reputed to be the world's most advanced. In return, the Voest delegate said that his plant would buy Rumanian products. The delegation left the RPR over the weekend.

The new trade protocol signed with Turkey (see Rumanian Situation Report for January 20) is the first between the two countries since war's end.

A trade delegation headed by Ana Toma, CC member and deputy trade minister, has gone to Paris to work out a long-term trade agreement with France. The 1960 total volume of exchange between the two countries amounted only to about \$ 24 million, a rather surprisingly low figure in view of the closeness of traditional ties, economic as well as cultural, between the two countries and it is thought that the agreement now under discussion will increase this amount substantially. The number of various French economic delegations recently touring the RPR would appear to lend substance to this theory.

23 JANUARY 1961

In an interview with Agerpress, Guinean President Sekou Toure stated that he was in favor of establishing relations with the RPR and spoke about the many ties binding the two countries, particularly in the ideological field. He also compared Guinea to Cuba, stating that both countries were fighting against "oppression".