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BULGARIA

COMMUNIST PARTY
Personalities
Criminal Activities

Criminals Released From Prison Turn Communist

SOURCE ISTANBUL: A Bulgarian refugee former inhabitant of
LESOVO, district ELHOVO, who escaped to Tur-
key on 19 November 1951

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 1944 - 1945

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A young man (NU) from VALCHA POLIANA, belonging to the MAY-STOR family, killed his father previous to 1944, and received a 15-year prison sentence. With the advent of the Communists, the boy was released after he had explained that the reason for killing his father was, that the latter was a Fascist and wanted to deliver him, a "true" Communist, to the Fascist gendarmery. Although every one in the village knew that this was a distorted statement, the boy was rewarded by the Communist Party for his deed, and was nominated supply clerk of VALCHA POLIANA.

The tinker of BOLIAROVO village, HADJIEV Angel Petrov, acted as the leader of a gang of horse thieves in 1941. One night, while he was hiding two thieves, his house was raided by police. The two men escaped but HADJIEV was arrested. He was sentenced to a prison term at YAMBOL. In September 1944, he was released, after he had explained that the reason for his being in jail was that back in 1941 he had hidden two Communists who were fleeing from the Fascists. This story was believed by the Communists and HADJIEV joined the army as a captain although he had only four years of schooling and no military experience whatsoever. He was soon promoted major and transferred to SOFIA. After completing a course for "partisan officers" HADJIEV was promoted lieutenant-colonel. With his promotion, he thought it wise to divorce from his wife, Yanka, a native of his own village. The reason he gave to his relatives was that a simple peasant woman did not suit his high rank.

EVAL. COMMENT: UNCONFIRMED.