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BULGARIA

POLICE & SECURITY
Personalities

STATE APPARATUS
Government

COMMUNIST PARTY
Personalities

Police In ZLATOGRAĐ

SOURCE ATHENS: A Bulgarian refugee, formerly a reserve officer in the border army, who escaped to Greece on 15 January 1952.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: January 1952

In Bulgaria the provincial police chief is the most powerful man in the province. He controls not only the police and security bodies in his area but all the administrative employees of the municipalities and communities lying within it, for each of whom he maintains a separate and detailed file. Endowed with absolute authority and unlimited powers, he is answerable for his actions only to his immediate superior of the prefecture, and to the Ministry of the Interior itself.

The provincial police chief of ZLATOGRAĐ province is a captain (NU). His administrative colleague, the commander of ZLATOGRAĐ provincial police headquarters, is Captain PANCHEV (fnu), a former Communist partisan 40 years of age. PANCHEV, whose weakness for women and drinking is well-known in the town, comes from STARA ZAGORA or CHIRPAN; he is a thin, dark, taciturn man of medium height, with an elementary school education. His second-in-command is Second-Lieutenant VASILEV Georgi, 30 years old, tall, slim, dark and unscrupulous.

The ZLATOGRAĐ police, numbering some 40 men, have their headquarters in a two-story building in the center of the town. Their arms consist of "Prabellum" pistols, "Spagin" submachineguns, old-type "Mannlicher" rifles, and light machineguns of Czechoslovak and Belgian make. They have no motor transport except for one Russian jeep.

The ZLATOGRAĐ secret police ("Darjavna Sigurnost") occupying the same building, consists of three plain-clothes men of unknown name and rank.

EVAL. COMMENT: UNCONFIRMED