

News Background

X/210 CURT-R - STATE CONTROL COMMISSION ABOLISHED IN RUMANIA

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Munich, August 17 1961-CNR/Rum.Res.& Eval.-The Rumanian Collection of Laws and Decrees (March-April 1961) just received here carried Decree No. 100 (published in the Official Bulletin No.10 of April 20 1961) by which the State Council of the RPR decided that the activity of the State Control Commission had to cease on April 15 1961.

This decision taken shortly after the establishment of a State Council in Rumania (March 1961) has not been published in the press.

News Backgrounds F 133 of March 21 and F 108 of March 29 1961 draw attention to the fact that the Chairman of the State Control Commission, alternate member of the Politbureau Dumitru Coliu (who holds also the position of Chief of the Party Control Commission since June 1960) was not listed as a Cabinet member anymore in the new Government announced on March 21 1961.

Article 2 of the new Decree indicated that the decision to abolish the State Control Commission had to take into account pending cases, since it specified that protestations regarding disciplinary sanctions applied by the State Control Commission would have to be solved by the leaders of the ministries or other central organs as well as by the executive committees of the ^{regional} people's councils (including the people's councils of Bucharest and Constanta) in which those who raised a protest were employed.

Protestations against charges made by the control organs of the Ministry of Finance and which were handled by the State Control Commission would have to be solved by the Ministry of Finance.

The Decree No. 369 of September 15 1949 for the establishment of the State Control Commission and the amendments provided by Decree No. 133 of August 16 1951 and No. 97 of February 29 1956 were abrogated.

The transfer of the personnel (cadres) of the State Control Commission was to be carried out according to (unspecified) norms established by the Council of Ministers.

The text of Decree No. 100 (issued by the State Council on the basis of decisions taken by the National Assembly in its first session of the fourth legislative period) would appear to imply at first sight a certain degree of decentralization illustrated by the abolition of the State
(over)

Control Commission itself and by the right granted to Ministries and regional people's councils to solve pending cases involving protestations against decisions taken until April 15 1961 by the State Control Commission.

It should be kept in mind however that this measure followed closely on the establishment of the State Council and that Law No.1 amending Chapter III of the Constitution (Official Bulletin No. 9 of March 25 1961) on Supreme Organs of State Power specifies (Article 37 of Chapter III of the Constitution) that the State Council " receives reports and exerts control over the activity of the Government." 1)

The State Control Commission still exists in one form or the other in Soviet Russia, Poland, CSSR, Hungary .

In the Stalinist period a Ministry of State Control existed for instance in Soviet Russia and Hungary.

In Soviet Russia this organ was headed by Molotov from November 1955 to August 1957, when it became the Soviet Control Committee. (Measure officially advertized as withering away of the State.) On July 23 1961 it was named again State Control Commission in a period of re-centralization obviously caused by the growing pains of de-centralization in the vast spaces of Russia and by widespread dishonesty, (sharp increase of penalties for economic crimes.) It is known that in Soviet Russia and in Hungary for instance tens of thousands of volunteers are working for these commissions .

(H) In Hungary this organ, which existed as a Ministry of State Control before the 1956 uprising, became the Central People's Control Commission in early 1958.

(CS) In Czechoslovakia, this organ of State Control was renamed and became the Central Office of State Control and Statistics (Law published on June 26 1961.)

(P) In Poland, the Control Commission has a certain power, although its chairman is not a member of the Cabinet.

According to the Decree of September 15 1949, the ^{Rumanian} State Control Commission was in charge of the control of the administration of "Socialist property" (financial means and material goods), it was in control of the application of laws, decisions and decrees as well as governmental directives concerning economic plans, the State Budget and the financial system and had to make the final report to the Government on the execution of the State Budget. (Art.2)

The Commission exerted control over ministries and other central and local organs of State administration, economic enterprises and institutions of the State, the budget of other State institutions and cooperative organizations and units of the Ministries of the Interior and of the Armed Forces-special regulations, (Art. 3.)

1).-Moreover, one of the new functions of the National Assembly is to

"establish some control commissions apart from the temporary commissions of investigation (inquiries) and revision (auditing)."