

U R G E N TLL  
18 Dec  
VI - 2952BULGARIA

<u>COMMUNIST PARTY</u>	600
Inner Life	604
Criticism	605

ETHNIC MINORITIES 1100

<u>CULTURE</u>	800
Theater	811

The Deliana OperettaSOURCE ROME: Confidential source.DATE OF OBSERVATION: November 1952.

EVAL. COMMENT: The first night of the operetta "Deliana" took place at the State Musical Theater "Stefan Madekon-sky" on 12 October 1952. The author of the libretto, VERDA, is not one person because the newspaper "Rabotnichesko Delo" of 27 October 1952 speaks about "the authors of the operetta. Whether DAMIANOVA Vera is among them, is unknown. Since 27 May 1951 her husband has not been Minister of Defense any longer, but President of the Presidium of the National Assembly.

The music of this operetta was written by HADZIEV Parashkef and not by KARDJIEV.

We do not know whether the author of the article in the newspaper "Rabotnichesko Delo" is CHERVEN-KOV. However, one thing is clear: this column has been inspired by him and is principally directed against the President of the Committee for Arts, Sciences and Culture, LEVI Ruben. The tone of this article and that of 30 November 1952 published in the same newspaper indicate, that he might soon find himself in the prisoner's dock. He is the only Jew still holding a post in the Bulgarian Government, and he will not be excluded from the anti-Jewish drive, as shows the artificial anti-Semitism in the Communist countries.

\* \* \* \*

This is the first operetta written and performed by Bulgarian artists after the Communists came to

(Over)

(cont'd)

power. Its libretto was written by VERDA (DAMIANOVA Vera) the wife of the Minister of War, DAMIANOV.

After several performances the operetta was suddenly withdrawn under the accusation of being "bourgeois" and after the publication of an article in the "Rabotnichesko Delo." This article is commonly attributed to CHERVENKOV Valko and several indirect attestations confirm that he was indeed its author.

As to be expected this fact only increased the already existing tension between the president and his minister.

It was now reported that DAMIANOVA Vera was paid 900 Leva royalties for each performance. The same amount of money was due to the composer of the operetta's music, KARDJIEV.