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VII - 874

BULGARIA

COMMUNICATIONS (0500)  
Waterways, Ships, (0507)

Movements Of Bulgarian Ships

SOURCE TRIESTE: Confidential source.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Current period.

EVAL. COMMENT: No information is available here on the reported movements of Bulgarian ships.

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We were just informed that after having been in the docks the ship "Bulgaria" sailed to GDYNIA to pick up a cargo of 4,000 tons of coal for PORTO MARGHERA (VENICE.) When she had almost reached GDYNIA, the ship received radio orders to change her route and to sail to ROTTERDAM to load 5,000 tons of fertilizer for ALEXANDRIA (Egypt) after which she is supposed to pick up 2,000 tons of iron in ANVERS to be shipped to BURGAS.

The "Rodina" which was due to enter the docks of TARANTO on 27 or 28 July 1953 is still in DURAZZO where she will sail to VALONA where she will unload about 500 tons of various goods.

It was not possible to have the "Rodina" enter the docks of TARANTO since at the last moment, the Italian military authorities to whom the two floating docks belong, refused to give their consent. And as for the time being there are no other free docks on the Adriatic coast and since the ship owners refused to send the boat to the docks in TRIESTE, the "Rodina" will have to return to Bulgaria in her present state and postpone entering the docks until the month of August 1953.

It has not been confirmed as yet whether or not the "Rodina" will call at BARI, BRINDISI or OTRANTO on her way back, in order to take on board 17 men belonging to the crew of the "Hristo Smirnenski" who are

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supposed to repatriate by order of the ship-owning company. The latter requested that the ship call at BRINDISI or OTRANTO excluding the port of BARI.

The "Nicola Vaptsarov" is expected to reach RAVENNA on 30 July 1953, where she will unload 2,000 tons of maize belonging to a lot of 5,000 tons sold to Italy by Bulgaria. The "Nicola Vaptsarov" will stay in RAVENNA for approximately one week. She is already looking out for a cargo for her return trip from an Italian port to the Levant or the Black Sea.

End.