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20 Nov  
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RUMANIA

Government  
Purges

COMMUNIST PARTY

SOURCE ATHENS: No information available

DATE OF OBSERVATION: recent and current.

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The following news items from Rumania originate with a source who is in close contact with the Foreign Ministry of a well-informed Middle Eastern state:

One reason for the appointment of the relatively obscure BUGHICI Simion to succeed PAUKER Ana as Foreign Minister was the desire of the Rumanian Communist regime to forestall charges of anti-Semitism. BUGHICI, like PAUKER, is a Jew. Little else is known of him, other than that he succeeded IORDAN Iorgu as Rumanian Ambassador to MOSCOW, in 1949, and held that post until he took over the Foreign Ministry from PAUKER. According to a well-informed source, BUGHICI comes from a family of strolling musicians who earned their living playing in restaurants and at weddings and other social functions. BUGHICI himself played the accordion in the family group, headed by his father. He is said to have joined the Communist Party at 18 and spent some years in the prisons of the old regime until his deportation to the USSR in 1941.

EVAL.COMMENT: Confirmed, except for his deportation. BUGHICI also is a member of the Party's Central Committee.