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BULGARIAN FARMERS REBEL AGAINST COLLECTIVIZATION

According to a report from Yugoslavia, the Communist Party organizations in Kula District in Northwest Bulgaria and the party organization in Yablanitsa have been dissolved because they deviated from the party line. Both organizations allegedly were deactivated by Vulko Chervenkov in an effort to pacify the farmers, who are incensed at the rigorous collectivization measures which are being implemented.

Rabotnicheskio Delo, the party newspaper, published an article announcing a moderation of the collectivization program. Thereupon, a large number of farmers in Kula Okoliya deserted from the kolkhozes. According to Bulgarian refugees in Yugoslavia, the deserters were caught and arrested. Since the Kula prison holds only 70 persons, the elementary-school building had to be used as an emergency prison.

Ivan Karaivanov, a leading Bulgarian Communist who has lived in Yugoslavia for several years, accuses Chervenkov of copying the collectivization methods used by the Soviets in the 1930s. He claims that beatings, physical torture, incarceration, and shooting are resorted to, to force the farmers into the kolkhozes.

Karaivanov also reports that numerous farmers from the area adjoining the Yugoslav frontier have been deported to the Deli Orma sector. This region consists of sparsely settled, hilly cattle country, situated between Ruschuk and Varna, in Northeast Bulgaria, from which the local Turkish inhabitants have been expelled. According to Karaivanov, deportations to the USSR, via Rumania, have also taken place. It has not been established, however, whether these deportations took place as a result of collectivization, or whether they represent security measures, such as have been carried out in Rumania and Hungary.

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