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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION FROM  
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT [ ]  
CD NO. [ ]

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COUNTRY Bulgaria  
SUBJECT Sociological - Education, schools, students  
Political  
HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspapers  
WHERE PUBLISHED Sofia  
DATE PUBLISHED 7 - 11 Dec 1952  
LANGUAGE Bulgarian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952  
DATE DIST. 31 Jan 1953  
NO. OF PAGES 2  
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE: Newspapers as indicated.

WOMEN IN BULGARIAN POLITICAL LIFE:  
EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS, ENROLLMENT

BULGARIAN WOMEN IN PUBLIC OFFICES -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 7 Dec 52

According to Tsola Dragoycheva, Minister of Posts, Telegraphs, and Tele-  
phones, 56,092 women agitators and propagandists participated in the elections  
of 15 May 1949 and 157,659 in the elections of 18 December 1949.

At present, women occupy the following high positions: one is a minister  
[Tsola Dragoycheva], one is an ambassador [Stela Blagoeva, Ambassador to Mos-  
cow], four are assistant ministers, and 38 are deputies to the People's As-  
sembly.

During the first elections for people's soviets in 1949, a total of 37,000  
deputies were elected, including 5,646 women. Five hundred women were appointed  
as court assessors and judges. Half of the citizens participating in 11,000  
election commissions, which included over 160,000 citizens, were women.

A total of 16,915 election commissions with 400,000 persons will be active  
during the elections of people's soviets on 14 December 1952, at which time,  
60,000 men and women will be elected as workers' deputies in okrug, okoliya,  
city, rayon, and village People's Soviets.

Among the female candidates is Magda Gineva, chief of the women's section  
of the Central Committee of the BKP (Bulgarian Communist Party) and member of  
the Bureau of the National Council of the Fatherland Front.

Twelve women are now directors of enterprises, 15 are members of the Central  
Council of Trade Unions, 543 work in trade union committees, and 25,848 have  
other responsible jobs in industry.

About 500,000 women have joined field and livestock-raising brigades, 20,000  
are zveno (group) leaders, 3,030 are members of TKZS (cooperative labor farm)  
administrations, 4,142 are leaders and workers in livestock-raising farms, and  
758 are tractor drivers.

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At present, there are 631 rural maternity centers in Bulgaria and 1,175 rural dispensaries for women and children. All okrug hospitals have children's wards. During the past years, three new children's clinics and ten children's sanatoriums were opened. A pediatric research institute was also opened.

By the end of 1951, there were 278 day nurseries with 882 nurses. Now there are 42 Sunday nurseries with 2,067 children and 1,137 half-day nurseries with 48,048 children. There were 3,460 seasonal nurseries in rural areas, with 4,760 nurses and 159,200 children at the end of 1951.

**PUBLIC EDUCATION IMPROVES -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 10 Dec 52**

According to Marin P. Geshkov, Assistant Minister of Public Education, during the 1951 - 1952 school year, only 8,000 children were not in school, while during the 1952 - 1953 school year, only 0.5 percent of the children of school age were not registered in some school.

During the 1952 - 1953 school year, there are 249 secondary schools in Bulgaria. Of these, 180 are edinnite pulni sredni obshtobrazovatelni uchilishta (united and complete secondary general-education schools), modeled after the Soviet pattern. Forty-six evening gymnasium preparatory schools and 47 evening gymnasiums are being opened. There are 1,637 kindergartens, with 68,705 children. During 1952, there were 3,572 summer or other seasonal kindergartens, with 182,837 children.

During the 1951 - 1952 school year, there were 279 vocational schools. At present, there are 1,057 Turkish schools with 87,235 children. There is a Turkish Gymnasium in Kolarovgrad, a Turkish coeducational secondary school in Momchilgrad, a Turkish gymnasium for girls in Ruse, and three Turkish teachers' schools, including the one in Sofia. A Turkish department is being opened in the teachers' institute in Kolarovgrad, and three Turkish departments are being added to Sofia University.

There are also 12 Armenian and 10 Gypsy schools in Bulgaria.

There are 24 teachers' schools and 10 teachers' institutes in Bulgaria. At present, 2,500 teachers are being trained for gymnasium preparatory schools.

There are 84 homes for 5,851 children without parents.

**59,716 WORKERS' DEPUTIES REGISTERED -- Sofia, Otechestven Front, 10 Dec 52**

According to Georgi Damyanov, President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, 59,716 candidates are registered for the election of people's soviets of workers' deputies -- 48,396 men and 11,320 women. Of the 59,716 candidates, 5,333 are blue-collar workers, 19,303 are white-collar workers, 23,680 are members of TKZS, 8,986 are private farmers, 881 are artisans, and 1,733 are of miscellaneous professions.

**8,514 SCHOOLS IN BULGARIA -- Sofia, Otechestven Front, 11 Dec 52**

There are 8,514 schools in Bulgaria, attended by 1,169,540 students, and there are 24,605 more teachers there now than in 1944. The government has established 1,038 minority schools in Bulgaria. There are 14 higher educational institutions in Bulgaria, with 36 faculties attended by 30,000 students. By the end of the 1951 - 1952 school year, 435,611 citizens became literate, and by the end of 1953, illiteracy will be eliminated altogether.

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