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SOURCE Le Journal d'Alger.

REPORT OF MASS ARRESTS AND DEPORTATIONS
IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, RUMANIA, AND LATVIA

[Comment: The following is a summation of a report on mass arrests and deportations in Czechoslovakia, Rumania, and Latvia was submitted to the Algiers conservative pro-West daily newspaper Le Journal d'Alger by its Paris office. The report is allegedly based on eyewitness accounts.]

According to testimony given by persons who fled into Austria from Czechoslovakia and Rumania, deportations are continuing on a vast scale in those two countries. Approximately 50,000 persons have been deported from Prague and Bratislava over a 6-week period. They belonged, for the most part, to the industrial and commercial classes, but included also some lawyers, newspapermen, and pensioners. About 12,000 families have been forcibly evacuated from Prague alone. Meanwhile, 60,000 families under suspicion of anti-Communist activities have been expelled from Karlsbad. Their living quarters have been occupied by local Communist Party members.

A Rumanian doctor, who is now in Vienna, recently stated that numerous arrests had been made in Rumania during the week preceding the so-called anniversary of the liberation of November. According to this doctor, it had been thought at first that the arrested persons would be detained only for the period of the anniversary festivities, but instead they have not yet been released. He estimated their number at between 5,000 and 6,000. According to him, most of these persons are former officers or relatives of persons who played an active role in Rumanian public life before the establishment of the present regime. The general belief, the doctor added, was that these arrests had been made solely to deprive the arrested persons of their living quarters and personal property. He also reported that an official announcement had been made to the effect that some 450 persons had been arrested in Stalin alone, and added that he had heard of persons being deported from Cluj.

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Meanwhile, in Latvia, about 4,000 families on collective farms of Daugavpilskaaya Oblast are threatened with deportation to Russia proper. They are accused of "having exploited the workers" prior to Latvia's incorporation into the Soviet Union.

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