

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

REPORT   
 CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY Bulgaria; Poland; Rumania  
 SUBJECT Political - Concentration camps  
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily, weekly newspapers  
 WHERE PUBLISHED Istanbul; Athens  
 DATE PUBLISHED 4 Dec 1952 - 27 Mar 1953  
 LANGUAGE Turkish; French; Greek

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952 - 1953  
 DATE DIST. 6 May 1953  
 NO. OF PAGES 3  
 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

SATELLITE CONCENTRATION CAMPS

STATISTICS ON SATELLITE FORCED LABOR CAMPS -- Istanbul, Aksam, 29 Jan 53

Munich, 28 January -- According to a Paris Populaire article no date given, there are 220 forced labor camps in the USSR; they hold 7 million prisoners. The same article also gave the following statistics on forced labor camps in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, and East Germany:

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Year</u>  | <u>No of Camps</u> | <u>No of Prisoners</u>                                       |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|--|
| Poland         | 1948         | 2                  | 5,700  |
| "              | 1951         | 30                 | 50,000   |
| "              | October 1952 | 175                | 180,000  |
| Czechoslovakia | 1953         | 371                | 250,000  |
| Hungary        | 1953         |                    | 200,000<br>(plus 300,000 sent to the USSR)                   |
| Rumania        | 1953         |                    | 100,000  |
| East Germany   | 1953         |                    | 50,000<br>(plus 700,000 sent to the USSR since World War II) |

| CLASSIFICATION |  | RESTRICTED                               |  | DISTRIBUTION |  |  |  |
|----------------|--|--|--|--------------|--|--|--|
| STATE          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB |  |              |  |  |  |
| ARMY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI  |  |              |  |  |  |

RESTRICTED

STAT

GREEK PRISONERS IN BULGARIAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS -- Athens, To Vima, 10 Feb 53

Paris -- According to reports from Sofia, Greek military and political prisoners, who were taken to Bulgaria by the Greek Communist guerrillas, are still being kept at the concentration camp at Persin. Up to a few months ago, they numbered 180. Another 300 Greek prisoners have been sent to Siberia.

DATA ON BULGARIAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS -- Athens, Stratiotika Nea, 15 Feb 53

According to information from Bulgaria and reports from Bulgarian refugees, 8,000 prisoners are being held without trial at the Belene Island concentration camp. These prisoners live under terrible conditions. Since 1951, 1,000 of them have succumbed to torture and disease.

Athens, I Kathimerini, 27 Mar 53

London -- According to information from Sofia, 8,000 prisoners are being held under especially terrible living conditions in the concentration camp located at the outskirts of Svishtov, Bulgaria. Most of these prisoners, among whom are civil servants, officers, and intellectuals, have contracted tuberculosis. Also, cases of insanity have been noted.

In addition to the Bulgarian prisoners, there are many foreigners, especially Yugoslavs, Greeks, Turks, and Macedonians, in this concentration camp. The Macedonians, who were taken prisoner during 1951 on the pretext that they were in contact with the Yugoslav Macedonians, number about 400. Even though these prisoners are undernourished, they are obliged to work 8 - 10 hours a day, cutting down trees and constructing roads.

Athens, Stratiotika Nea, 8 Mar 53

Information from Sofia states that, besides the large concentration camps, there are 25 prisons in Bulgaria in which 20,000 political prisoners are held. However, the exact number of hard-labor concentration camps is not known, because they are numerous and scattered in various secluded spots.

The prisoners live under the worst conditions from the viewpoint of living quarters, food, and medical care. Those prisoners who survive their prison term and are released still belong to a separate class. They are watched continuously by secret agents of the militia and do not enjoy even those small privileges that are granted to other citizens. Every member of their families, as well as distant relatives, is watched continuously while the prisoner is detained, as well as after he is released. One restriction placed on the prisoners' relatives is that their children are not permitted to study in higher schools.

POLISH CONCENTRATION CAMP NEAR JAROCIN -- Athens, Le Messenger d' Athenes, 21 Jan 53

A new concentration camp at Wicszyel, near Jarocin, only has a few hundred prisoners at present. It is expected that it will soon be able to hold 3,000.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

STAT

RESTRICTED

MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST PRISON ESCAPES IN RUMANIA -- Istanbul, Aksam, 4 Dec 52

Munich, 3 December -- Mines have been planted around prisons in Rumania where political prisoners are held. These measures were taken because of the increased number of escapes from these concentration camps.

- E N D -

- 3 -

RESTRICTED