

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION FROM  
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania  
SUBJECT Economic Agriculture, harvest, financial aid  
HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspapers  
WHERE PUBLISHED Bucharest  
DATE PUBLISHED 1-30 Aug 1953  
LANGUAGE Rumanian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1953

DATE DIST. 3 MAR 1954

NO. OF PAGES 15

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 As indicated

INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION URGED IN ROMANIA

Comment: This report was compiled from August 1953 issues of the Bucharest daily newspapers Viata Capitalei, Romania Libera, and Scanteia. It includes the following information:

Premier Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej admitted that the insufficient attention and support given to agriculture and the food industry had resulted in acute food shortages and near famine in the country. The state has promised large credits to state farms, collectives, TOZ, and individual peasants. In return, the state expects increased production in grain, cotton, sunflower seeds, sugar beets, potatoes, vegetables and fruit, bovines, sheep, and hogs.

Extensive criticism of negligence and complacency by regiune, raion, and commune people's councils has been voiced by volunteer local correspondents and by the special investigating correspondents of the newspapers. It is significant to note that even a number of state farms neglected their duties and consequently did not fulfill their quotas. Bucharest Regiune, with many state farms and large collectives, is a special target for criticism. The criticisms of threshing and other late summer activities are countrywide, however. These complaints are far more numerous and extensive than in 1952, when the crop was a very poor one. The very number of complaints may suggest the possibility that the errors were due to more than negligence.

Information is given by regiunes, arranged in alphabetical order.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

50X1-HUM

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	NAVY	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION			
ARMY	AIR	FBI				

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

General

Agricultural workers have an important role in the plans of the party and the government of the Rumanian People's Republic. Our present regime has given peasants an opportunity to till their soil under better conditions than ever before. Peasants have been given selected seeds, they have been exempt from taxes, and they have been granted credits to increase agricultural production and livestock inventories.

Peasants have become more and more convinced of the advantages of collective tilling of large areas of land with state-owned machines. Consequently, close to 200,000 peasant families united of their own free will to form 1,980 collectives with a total of 732,000 hectares, and close to 2,000 TOZ with a total of 250,000 hectares. In Bucharest Region alone, there are more than 100 collectives and more than 200 TOZ. The successes obtained by collectives and TOZ are attracting increasing numbers of peasants. In 1953, large numbers of peasant families have joined existing collectives and TOZ, and others have asked for permission to form new collectives.

State farms had exceptionally large harvests of good quality and set a good example for collectives, TOZ, and individual peasants in organizing labor.

Beside these results, a report submitted to the plenary session of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers Party, held 19-20 August 1953, revealed a series of shortcomings which have existed in the economic policy of Rumania. The report showed that state investments had not been fairly distributed in proportion to the expanding needs of the national economy. Large investments were granted to heavy industry and to large construction projects, while agriculture and the consumer goods industry had been granted entirely inadequate investments. This lack of funds retarded both agriculture and the consumer goods industry, and consequently the standard of living of the working people and the national economy suffered.

The report pointed out a further shortcoming. Independent peasants have not been given sufficient attention even though they turn over to the state 75 percent of their agricultural produce. These peasants did not get enough credits to buy selected seeds, to buy high breed animals, etc. Insufficient assistance to collectives was another point under discussion at the plenary session. Collectives have not been adequately subsidized. Therefore, they have not become important suppliers of agricultural products.

To improve conditions, the state will place some 6 billion lei at the disposal of agriculture during 1953-1955. This is twice the amount allotted to agriculture for the years 1950-1952. Cheap credits will be granted to individual peasants in 1953-1955 to buy livestock and agricultural implements. The peasants will enjoy guidance and assistance by veterinary experts to improve and increase their animal stock. Individual farms will enjoy the help of MTS to increase production. Taxes on peasant homes will be reduced.

State farms must set a good example for working peasants; they must produce choice seeds and high breed cattle, which should be made available to collectives and individual peasants. State farms must constantly strive to increase the quantity and quality of grain, of vegetables, and of industrial plants.(1)

[The above is taken from a speech by Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej.]

A total of 213 MTS have been set up, with an inventory of 9,680 tractors, 2,250 sowers, 1,440 reaper-binders, and 2,970 cultivators. State farms own an additional 4,400 tractors and other machines.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The areas cultivated with industrial plants have also increased. Outstanding results have been obtained in cotton growing, and more and more individual peasants have started cotton cultivation.(2)

The agriculture of the country must exceed the prewar agricultural production level and must increase considerably the production of bread grain, corn, potatoes, vegetables, fodder, milk, and meat. Financial aid to agriculture in general will be three times as large in 1954 and 1955 as it was in 1953. Collectives and TOZ will be granted additional credits of 100 million lei in 1954 and 200 million lei in 1955. State farms and MTS will be strengthened. New MTS will be set up and large numbers of new machines will be added to existing inventories.(3)

At the Congress of Agricultural Collective Leaders, C. Prisnea, Minister of Agriculture, discussed the duties outlined by the party and the government for agriculture in the future, as follows: in the next few years, agriculture must produce 10 million tons of grain annually, as against the present annual production of 6-7 million tons. Cotton plantations must be extended to 300,000 hectares. A yield of 1,100-1,200 kilograms of cotton per hectare must be obtained on irrigated plantations, and 600-700 kilograms of cotton per hectare on nonirrigated land. Agriculture must produce annually about 2.5 million tons of sugar beets, 450,000 tons of sunflower seeds, and 3.2 million tons of potatoes. Grape and fruit production must also be increased considerably. The number of bovines must be increased to 5.5 million head, that of sheep to 15-16 million, and that of hogs to 4.5 million.

Individual peasants must also be assisted and guided. Individual peasants who planted cleaned and selected seeds had crops of up to 920 kilograms of wheat from one half hectare of land, or about 150-200 kilograms more per hectare than the crops of individual peasants with similar parcels of land who did not follow agricultural rules. If a village of 1,000 individual peasants used selected seeds and followed agricultural rules, each peasant would have 150-200 kilograms more per hectare, and 15-20 additional carloads of wheat could easily be obtained by the village.

Individual peasants have the facilities to raise more animals than at present. Experts in animal breeding must guide and teach these peasants to raise high-breed cattle and to produce the best fodder.

The executive committees of regiune, raion, and commune people's councils have a great obligation in this drive. They must recruit engineers and technicians and must keep in close touch with them.

Sustained and constant attention must also be devoted to collectives and TOZ, as they have great resources to increase agricultural production and animal raising. Many leading collectives, such as those in Slobozia-Mandra, Bucharest Regiune, and in Vaida, Oradea Regiune, harvested 2,000-3,000 kilograms of wheat per hectare, which was 800-1,000 kilograms per hectare more than individual peasants obtained.

MTS must also be supervised and instructed more closely. Some MTS were responsible for considerable losses of crops through faulty machine repairs and lack of adequate mobile repair shops. Agricultural inspectors must call frequently at MTS, collectives, and TOZ.

The Ministry of Agriculture will take measures to consolidate MTS and to improve their guidance and control. Collectives, TOZ, and individual peasants will be advised and instructed in agricultural methods. Courses and lectures will be given regularly in villages.(4)

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Bacau Regiune

In some regiunes, threshing and shallow plowing was completed by 2 August 1953. This was not the case in Bacau Regiune. Important summer work lagged behind in this regiune, because of the lack of guidance and supervision by the executive committee of the regiune people's council. In turn, the raion executive committees did not devote attention to the organization of labor and the use of man power. At Buhusi Raion, for example, threshing and plowing were far behind. Agitators of Buhusi Raion were not sufficiently instructed. Consequently, commune people's councils did not draw up plans for the summer campaign, and peasants were not advised on the application of agricultural methods and rules.

Flatra-Neamt was another raion in which threshing and shallow plowing lagged badly. As in many other raions, work proceeded in a very unsatisfactory manner. The raion executive committee did not guide peasants in setting up threshing platforms on time. In many communes of Flatra-Neamt Raion, as for example in Stefan-Del-Mare Commune, the threshing machines remained idle in the yards of the people's councils.

The absence of organized teams was another handicap. In many communes, peasants wanted to use the threshers at the same time. As a result, the largest output of one threshing platform was only 9,000 kilograms a day. Many threshers, on the other hand, were not in operation because of the confusion. For example, Bacau Raion MTS did not start shallow plowing in the fields of collectives of Turcul, Buzoi, and other communes, and did not live up to their contracts. The regiune executive committee, however, did not take any measures to correct this situation. (6)

Bucharest Regiune

Most of the grain in Bucharest Regiune was reaped by 1 August 1953, and the threshing plan was completed about 50 percent. But threshing was slow as a result of poor organization. In many cases, threshing platforms were not set up on time, thus tying up labor and equipment for days. For example, in Cuza-Voda Commune, Calarasi Raion, one threshing platform was set up for three villages. Many difficulties arose as a consequence.

Another requirement for efficient threshing is the organization of teams. This was completely neglected in Bucharest Regiune. Bureaucratism resulted in much confusion. In Albesti Commune, Slobozia Raion, for example, teams were set up without consulting the commune people's council. This resulted in poor distribution of machines. In Creveni Commune, Vlada Raion, peasants were merely told to go to the threshing platforms and organize there. This again led to confusion and waste of time. Calarasi and Slobozia raions did not organize transportation of teams to threshing platforms and consequently grain was brought haphazardly.

MTS had a serious responsibility in the completion of the summer campaign. Many MTS prepared their machines and implements well and speeded up threshing and shallow plowing, but others, such as those in Titu, Tatarestii-de-Jos, Nanov, and Uimulet, repaired their machines superficially. The consequences became evident even at the beginning of threshing, when many tractors and threshers broke down. Other MTS did not prepare adequate supplies of lubricants and fuel, with the result that tractors were idle for days. Bucharest Regiune MTS did not apply the Brediuk method. For example, the Mirosi MTS, Rosiorii-de-Vede Raion, investigated the possibility of adopting the Brediuk method, but took no further action. Not one thresher operated according to the Brediuk method at the Mirosi and other MTS in Bucharest Regiune. (7)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

In Slobozia, Calarasi, and Lehliu raions, the summer campaign proceeded at a very slow pace. Many dozens of threshers did not complete their daily norms because work was disorganized. Almost daily, 100-200 threshers stood idle for many hours and even days because of breakdowns. In Plataresti, Purlita-Vasilati, Cosambesti, and Ciulnita communes, threshing was below the required norms. Up to 26 July, seven threshers in Ciulnita produced 70-90 tons each, seven threshers between 40-70 tons each, and another seven threshers even less than 40 tons each. However, the regiune people's council is indifferent to this situation. (8)

Alexandria Raion, Bucharest Regiune, was among the leading raions of the regiune in reaping and threshing. There were, however, a few communes where threshing was very slow despite an abundance of machinery and labor. In Plosca Commune, for example, Constantin Gugiu, chairman of the executive committee of the commune people's council, did not devote any attention to the organization of labor. Iana Jianu, secretary of the people's council, was also to blame. She contended that threshing had to progress by itself without interference from the people's council. Only 50 percent of the threshing of the 1,765 hectares was completed by 30 July, while neighboring communes had achieved 65 percent. Shallow plowing was even worse, since only 100 hectares had been plowed by 30 July. (9)

Threshing Platform No 1 of Grecii-de-Jos Village, Caciulati Raion, Bucharest Regiune, did not produce its daily norm. The Gradistei MTS management is to blame because it has pursued a bureaucratic attitude and has neglected to instruct and prepare tractor operators to fulfill their obligations.

Calarasi Raion, Bucharest Regiune, intensified threshing as a result of extensive agitation by the primary party organization and the raion party committee. Meetings were organized on 23, 24, and 25 July and individual peasants were required to attend. The secretaries of the party organization explained the importance of completing the harvest campaign at the earliest possible moment. The week of 26 July was declared record week and the leading commune was promised the Red Banner.

In spite of agitation, there were some communes in which work was badly behind schedule. This was the case in Roseti, Cuza-Voda, Modelu, and Dichiseni communes. The executive committees in these communes did not exercise proper supervision and permitted peasants to do what they pleased. In Roseti Commune, for example, only 18 percent of the harvest was threshed by 5 August. Cuza-Voda completed only 20 percent by the same date. The Roseti and Cuza-Voda MTS sent poorly repaired tractors and threshers to the fields. This resulted in frequent breakdowns and loss of work days. Petre Bula, head of the commune organizations section of the raion people's council, was one of the guilty persons because he failed to supervise the operations of the Cuza-Voda MTS.

Calarasi Raion should have taken drastic measures to supervise MTS operators and peasants alike, in order to finish on schedule. (10)

In Branesti and Eimnicea raions, Bucharest Regiune, threshing was completed only 61 percent by 3 August; in Lehliu Raion, only 42 percent. Primary party organizations did not devote enough time and attention to these communes. Threshing machines were never used to full capacity and deliveries were sporadic and incomplete. Technicians of raion agricultural sections conducted their work from their desks, instead of going into the fields and speeding up the work. Individual peasants were not told how to organize teams.

Another serious reason for the slow progress in threshing was the poor condition of machines. Many of them broke down during threshing and were not repaired properly. Parallel with this shortcoming was the slow progress in shallow plowing. Measures should be taken to correct these deficiencies. (11)

- 5 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The executive committee of the Gradinari Commune People's Council, Mihalesti Raion, organized labor teams; nevertheless, threshing in Tantava Village was very slow. The thresher broke down and was idle for hours and even days. By 30 July, only 34,000 kilograms of wheat had been threshed, an average of only 3,000 kilograms a day. The mobile repair shop of the Ciororgarla MTS repaired the thresher several times, but it continued to break down. The indifference of Ivan Florian, the Ciororgarla MTS director, contributed largely to this condition. This man inspected threshing platforms from his speeding automobile.

The raion party committee and the executive committee of the Mihalesti Raion People's Council should have taken measures to improve this situation, so that Tantava could finish threshing. Those guilty of neglect should be called to task.(9)

At Mavrodinu Commune, Bucharest Regiune, the work also lagged. Only 31 percent of the wheat harvest was threshed by 24 July, despite the fact that the commune had a sufficient number of threshers to fulfill its quota. The same situation prevailed in plowing. Only 23 percent of the planned area was shallow-plowed by 4 August.

The lack of organized labor and the superficial activity of the commune people's council accounted for this condition. Working teams were thrown together at random and nobody checked the machines. Agitation in the commune was very weak. Agitators, chosen by bureaucratic standards, existed only on paper; not one agitator ever visited the fields. Raion party and state organizations must take drastic measures to check this negligence. (12)

The following incident further illustrates the indifference of some raion people's councils. On 1 August 1953, the newspaper Viata Capitalei published an open letter to the chairman of the Racari Raion People's Council, calling his attention to five large piles and several rolls of posters which had been discarded in a corner of the council hall instead of being posted. The article ridiculed and expressed indignation against the indifference and negligence of the Racari People's Council.(13)

While some raions in Bucharest Regiune completed threshing on schedule, they did nothing for the fall campaign. In Rosiori Raion, for example, only 3 percent of deep plowing was done and only 25 percent of seeds were prepared by 26 August. More than 11 communes, including Beuca, Didesti, Mozaceni, and Maldaeni, did not even start plowing. No wheat was conditioned for planting. TOZ and collectives were not sufficiently supported to finish on time. Machines necessary for the fall campaign were not prepared. Thirteen of the planned repair centers did not operate at all. Only 60 percent of the seed selection centers were in operation, and almost all of their work was poor and disorganized. In Scrioste Commune, for example, Seed Selection Center No 1 had cleaned wheat for only six peasants by 26 August. Similar situations prevailed all over the raion. The raion primary organization and the executive committee of the raion people's council were to blame for this situation, because they did not devote any attention to the important preparation work. The Odobesti and the Mirosi MTS should remember that lack of preparedness in 1952 prevented collectives and TOZ from completing their work on schedule, and they should be more conscientious in the present fall campaign.

Executive committees and primary party organizations should show more interest in the progress of the fall campaign and should guide and supervise not only collectives and TOZ, but also individual peasants.(14)

Another typical example of confusion and indifference is the case of Dimieni Village, Snagov Raion, Bucharest Regiune. Individual peasants of Dimieni Village received a dynamo for the electrification of their threshing platform as a gift

- 6 -

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

from workers of the Chitila Sugar Factory. To use the dynamo, the village needed a new tractor in exchange for its own old tractor. The new tractor would have powered both the thresher and the dynamo. Ion Onisie, chairman of the executive committee of the Balotesti Commune People's Council, asked the Snagov Raion People's Council to allot Dimieni Village a new tractor. He never followed up his request, however, and the new tractor never came. Thus Dimieni Village was not able to electrify its threshing platform. Ion Petru, chairman of the executive committee of the Snagov Raion People's Council, and the members of this committee showed complete indifference to this matter. They did not find time to attend to the request. Dimieni Village completed threshing without the dynamo.(15)

Snagov Raion was very much behind in shallow plowing by 1 August, even though the threshing campaign had progressed rapidly and large surfaces of land were ready for plowing, and many machines were available for work. For example, the Cocloc MTS, Snagov Raion, had contracts with 14 TOZ, but had carried out only 5 percent of the plowing at 13 of these TOZ as late as 26 July. The tractor brigades of this MTS worked on threshing platforms, but received no instructions on shallow plowing. Furthermore, they neglected tractor repairs, and breakdowns occurred shortly after work started. The political section of this MTS was also to blame because it did not guide and support the management and it carried out its work from the office.

The situation was just as bad at individual farms in Moara Seaca Commune. Shallow plowing progressed very slowly and the plan was fulfilled only about 10 percent by 26 July. The commune people's council was responsible for this situation. Ana Dumitrescu, secretary of the executive committee of the Moara Seaca Commune People's Council, attended to minor duties and stated that plowing could wait. Gheorghe Toader, secretary of the commune primary party organization, did not agitate among peasants to recruit them for plowing. The raion party committee was also guilty of neglect. It should have carried on proper political agitation to mobilize all forces for plowing.(13)

Some commune executive committees in Vartoppe Raion, Bucharest Region, do not devote sufficient attention to individual peasants. Among these negligent committees is the one in Popesti-Palanca Commune. Only about 23 percent of the grain was threshed in that commune by 25 July. The executive committees of Raca, Tatarestii-de-Sus, Tatarestii-de-Jos, and Negresti commune people's councils also have serious deficiencies in their work. The Vartoppe Raion Committee should take more interest and should intensify political work in the fields. The primary party organizations and the executive committees of the raion and the commune people's councils must put an end to this condition. Threshing machines in the raion must complete their full daily norms. Teams of peasants must be organized and urged to speed up work. (12)

Some TOZ in Turnu-Magurele Raion, Bucharest Region, did not receive sufficient attention and guidance, and consequently did not obtain satisfactory results. One of these neglected TOZ is the Contemporanul TOZ of Lissa Commune. The statutes require members of a TOZ to work together; however, Ion Gheorghe, chairman of the management committee, did not observe regulations. He allowed each peasant to work his own small plot and to harvest it individually. As a result, agricultural rules were not observed and the harvest was small and substandard.

Vidroiu (Imu) chairman of the executive committee of the Turnu-Magurele Raion People's Council, carries out inspections throughout the raion, but stops briefly only in villages. Otherwise, he sees the raion while racing through in his car. Chairman Vidroiu should stop running around in his car so much and give more attention to the actual situation in the raion.(16)

- 7 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Cretesti, Berceni, Vidra, and Prundu communes, Vidra Raion, Bucharest Regiune, were behind in their summer campaign. This situation was not incidental. The people's councils of these communes were not interested in the progress of their communes. For instance, plowing was completed only 8 percent in Cretesti Commune by 6 August, and threshing was completed only 52 percent.

The raion and party committees know that Istrate Io-lache, chairman of the Cretesti Commune People's Council, is neglecting his job, but they are not taking any measures to correct the situation.(17)

#### Cluj Regiune

While harvesting of grain was almost completed, threshing had not started in some communes of Cluj Raion, Cluj Regiune, by 7 August. Commune executive committees, such as those of Macau, Faurdeni, Turca, and Vistea, neglected their duties in the summer campaign and permitted work to progress at random. Threshing platforms in these communes were set up only around the end of July. The situation at Vistea Commune is another example of negligence. While several hundred hectares of wheat were reaped, only a few hectares were threshed by 7 August, even though this commune had three threshing platforms, two of them electrified. Only 60 percent of the threshing machines scheduled for the entire raion were in operation.

The raion people's council is responsible for this situation. The executive committee of the commune people's councils did not get support and guidance, and MTS were not properly supervised. For example, the Bontiba MTS did not fulfill its contract with the Apahida Collective for grain harvesting. Furthermore, this MTS did not bother to check its machines. The daily output of threshers was reduced by breakdowns, resulting from poor quality repairs or lack of fuel.(18)

The lack of responsibility, the indifference, and the bureaucratism of agitators of regiune and lower people's councils were to blame for the small percentage of threshing achieved by 15 August. The bureaucratic conduct of the summer campaign, with endless meetings, circulars, and telephone calls at the Huedin Raion Executive Committee, caused the delays in threshing. This was the case in such communes as Petrindru, Dumbrava, and Huedin. Another reason for the lag was the use of obsolete equipment and methods in some communes. Furthermore, MTS did not operate threshers smoothly and at top speed. Tractors and threshers were not properly repaired or serviced, and frequent breakdowns slowed up the work. Pledges remained on paper and the commune executive committees did not check up on the results.

The Cluj Regiune Executive Committee should strengthen agitation and carry out strict and careful supervision, especially in Huedin, Sarmas, Beclean, Cluj, and Bistrita raions, which were behind in their work.(19)

#### Constanta Regiune

Several raions in Constanta Regiune progressed well with threshing, but other raions remained behind in their work. For example, Baneasa and Istria raions completed only 48 and 49 percent of their threshing quotas, respectively, by 14 August. The entire regiune quota was fulfilled only 62 percent. The reason for the lag was the self-satisfaction of the members of some executive committees of raion people's councils, who were so pleased with reaping successes that they expected threshing to go on by itself. A typical example of this attitude was found in Baneasa Raion, which was the first to complete reaping but then remained behind in threshing.

- 8 -

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The executive committees of raion people's councils did not guide the activities of commune people's councils or require them to set up work teams. In many communes, such as Valea-Rea, Oltina, and Ostrov, Baneasa Raion, the commune people's councils did not organize threshing teams to feed grain constantly to threshing platforms. Consequently, threshers operated intermittently and the output was small. In Coslugea Village, the thresher was moved around three times in one day as a result of disorganized labor distribution. This caused the loss of many work hours.

Collectives also suffered from a lack of guidance and support by executive committees of commune people's councils. Some collectives, such as those of Carvanu-Mare and Cuiungiuc, had not even started threshing by 20 August. Moreover, lack of technical guidance and instruction at the collectives of Sipote and Urluia communes resulted in neglect of the Brediuk method, which they had formerly adopted, and the output of threshers was even smaller than usual.

The slow and inefficient threshing in Constanta Regiune was not only due to poor organization and guidance, however, it was also due to the many breakdowns of threshers and tractors. Even in Fetesti Raion, where threshing was more advanced, 15 threshers broke down in one day. MTS managements were not in close touch with the fields. They did not guide and did not help tractor operators to take care of the machines and to avoid breakdowns. Another serious shortcoming was the absence of mobile repair shops to attend immediately to emergency repairs. As an example of the manner in which the regiune MTS supervision neglected its duty, only one of three mobile repair shops scheduled for Baneasa Raion operated in the fields, and this one was inefficient and lacking in spare parts.

The director of the regiune agricultural department was also to blame for this confusion. He should have realized that all agricultural activities must be coordinated and guided. All the agencies and committees should analyze carefully their activities and should change their attitude. The regiune executive committee, the agricultural section, MTS, and commune executive committees must work hand in hand and produce better results. (20)

#### Craiova Regiune

Not every executive committee of the raion people's councils in Craiova Regiune devoted sufficient attention to the supervision of the summer campaign. For example, no steps were taken to correct shortcomings in Bals Raion. This resulted in delays in threshing in some communes, such as Vulpeni, where only 18 percent of the grain was threshed by 18 August. The threshers assigned to this commune were idle part of the time. One thresher had no scales for a time, which also delayed output.

The same shortcomings were prevalent in Curtiscara and Ungureni communes. The latter completed only 15 percent of its quota by 13 August. The situation in Pascoveni and Popanzesti was just as bad. Threshers worked sporadically and thus daily norms were never attained. The situation at Galicea-Mare Commune, Bailesti Raion, is another example of bad management. Threshing progressed very slowly and inefficiently in this commune because of a lack of proper working plans and teams. Threshing platforms were set up very late and many threshers were idle for days. Threshing and deliveries were haphazard. Marin Tanase, secretary of the executive committee of the commune people's council, is indifferent and irresponsible. The executive committee of the Bailesti Raion People's Council should check closely into this situation. (21)

- 9 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Galati Regiune

The threshing plan was not fulfilled in Galati Regiune, even though the executive committee of the Galati Regiune People's Council made adequate preparations for the summer campaign. On 11 August alone, 87 threshers were idle in the regiune, 66 as a result of breakdowns and 21 because of disorganized labor.

MTS managements were responsible for the frequent breakdowns, because machines and tractors were repaired superficially. Moreover, there were no mobile repair shops in the fields to cope with emergency repairs.

Maicanesti Raion, for example, did not fulfill its daily norms because of faulty operation of threshers. In other raions, production was hampered by inefficient teamwork. Bujor and Macin raions were not sufficiently guided and supervised. Threshing teams in Dneni, Greci, Peceneaga, and Mircea-Voda communes of Macin Raion were disorganized, because the teams were set up on the basis of an inadequate agricultural register in the office, without considering location and transportation of peasants.

At the electrified threshing platform of Lacul-Sarat Commune, Braila Raion, the thresher broke down three times in one day and production was 10,000 kilograms short of plan.

MTS in Galati Regiune must be closely supervised, and must be reprimanded for their lack of responsibility. Executive committees of regiune and raion people's councils must devote more attention and provide more guidance to MTS, collectives, TOZ, and individual peasants. (23)

Several other raions in Galati Regiune were also very slow in completing threshing. One of these was Bujor Raion. The reason for this lag was inefficient labor organization by the executive committees of commune people's councils. The executive committee of the raion people's council did not devote any time and attention to instructing commune people's councils on how to plan the summer campaign. Teams were not organized properly and many threshers in the raion remained idle for days. Some communes in the raion, such as Cuca and Oasele, had good results, but their example was not followed by others. In Varlezi Commune, for example, the executive committee of the commune people's council did not organize teams and, therefore, threshers at four threshing platforms stayed idle for 2 days, even though large piles of grain had accumulated.

The daily threshing output at Platform No 2 in Craesti Commune could have been 30,000 kilograms of wheat, instead of the 22,000 kilograms obtained, if teams had been better organized to start work early in the morning, and if time had not been wasted in cleaning the thresher. The raion executive committee must take urgent measures to remove these shortcomings. (24)

The Brates State Farm, Galati Regiune, progressed well, especially in animal raising. The farm supplied the state with large quantities of agricultural and animal products in 1952. In the first 7 months of 1953, the state farm supplied 7,371 liters of cow's milk, 11,000 liters of ewe's milk, 1,226 kilograms of honey, and 35 head of young bovines above its plan. However, this was not sufficient in view of the size of the farm. The farm has an area of 8,000 hectares, including 5,600 hectares of arable land. The soil is rich and irrigation is good. The state farm has 47 tractors, 3 self-propelled combines, a potato harvester, 2 beet harvesting combines, 27 mobile pumps and 24 stationary pumps for irrigation of vegetable gardens and rice fields and many reaper-binders, mowers, plows, cultivators, harrows, sowers, etc. The farm also has four flour mills, fodder grinders and beet choppers, an electric machine for shearing the sheep, centrifugal machines for honey, and other equipment. Three agricultural engineers and many skilled brigade leaders and qualified laborers are on duty at the farm. Sufficient outside

- 10 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

help was brought in for seasonal work. Nevertheless, results obtained in 1953 were below those of 1952. The yield of the 58 hectares threshed by 27 August at the Foltesti section was only 1,000 kilograms of wheat and 1,200 kilograms of barley per hectare. The Sarbu section planted 800 hectares of grain. The 80 hectares of wheat already threshed showed a yield of only 1,200 kilograms per hectare. The average production, calculated for the entire farm, will be 1,300 kilograms of wheat, 1,760 kilograms of barley, and 1,700 kilograms of oats per hectare. This yield is smaller than that of the 1952 crop. The corn crop was small, and in some places in the Pruth section, the corn was choked with weeds. The farm planted 226 hectares of rice. Half of the crop was ruined because of bad distribution of the lots for irrigation.

Petru Ghinea, manager of the farm, is mostly to blame for this failure. Agricultural rules were not enforced. Shallow plowing, planting, maintenance of plants, and gathering of crops were all done at the wrong time. Only 41 percent of the fields was shallow plowed and only 21 percent of the arable land was plowed in the fall of 1952. Only 165 hectares were planted in check rows, even though the farm planted 1,800 hectares of grain. Cultivation of plants needing more moisture was done only twice instead of three times in the cultivating period from 11 May to 4 July. Failure to weed cost a considerable amount of the crops. Two hundred hectares of beets and corn, which had been planted too close for mechanical cultivating, were neglected. Indifference was also evidenced in harvesting. Instead of reaping up to 102 hectares per day with machine reapers, 62 hectares or less were harvested. By 20 August, the state farm still had to thresh 788 hectares of grain lying in the fields. None of the advanced Soviet methods were used at this farm because the management was very pleased with itself and did not find it necessary to devote time or attention to the administration of the farm. The management thought the farm had achieved excellent results and all shortcomings were blamed on weather conditions.

The Ministry of State Farms is also to blame for this situation. There is no indication in the records of the farm that any inspector ever called to check on conditions. The Ministry of State Farms and the regiune and raion party agents should take more interest in the administration of this farm, and should compel the management to carry out its duties and responsibilities. (25)

#### Hungarian Autonomous Regiune

Berghia Commune was among the first to complete reaping of all grain by 24 July. But once the harvest was completed, the executive committee of the commune people's council paid no attention to threshing and plowing. The executive committee did not bother to set up threshing platforms, to allot machines, and to plan the distribution of equipment for shallow plowing. The chairman and the secretary of the executive committee drew up plans on paper without analyzing actual conditions, but never enforced these plans. Some peasants did not know even when and where to thresh. The lack of contact between the executive committee and the peasants was one of the main reasons for the bad situation in the commune. Commune deputies were not instructed in agricultural methods and the permanent agricultural committee appeared only on a poster exhibited at the headquarters of the people's council. In the case of Berghia Commune, the agricultural campaign was choked by bureaucratism, the raion people's council did not intervene, and shortcomings continued.

State farms are also criticized for poor administration and negligence. For example, reaping and shallow plowing were almost completed by 12 August at the Sangeorgiu-de-Mures and the Gornesti sections of the 1 Mai State Farm, Targu-Mures Raion, but other sections of the state farm advanced very slowly. Virgil Chebeleanu, chief engineer, directed harvesting preparations from his

- 11 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

office desk and did not check on machine repairs. Gheorghe Zavoianu, manager of the state farm, became involved in a multitude of small duties and neglected the summer campaign entirely.

Socialist competition was organized on paper, but results were never checked. Danila Szilarye, chairman of the state farm enterprise committee, filed a large number of pledges but never checked on the results of these pledges. The commendation of production leaders in honor posters and articles in wall newspapers is unknown at this state farm.

Bureaucratism also gripped other section managers of the farm. For example, Carol Suba, manager of the Sancraiu-de-Mures section, was requested to send a reaper-binder from the Berghia subdivision to the Ceausu-de-Campie subdivision. He dispatched a tractor from Ceausu-de-Campie which brought the reaper back to Ceausu-de-Campie. Only one hour later, Berghia sent a tractor to Ceausu-de-Campie for threshing. Thus, one tractor made the round trip unnecessarily. The indifference and bureaucratic attitude of the Targu-Mures State Farm management resulted in serious delays in harvesting and threshing.

Serious complaints were also voiced against the Voiniceni Commune People's Council, Targu-Mures Raion. Threshing Platform No 2 in Voiniceni Commune was set up early and in a favorable location, with a water supply at hand, and with a good thresher. Organization of labor, however, was unsatisfactory. Reaping of wheat was completed in the commune the third week in July, but threshing proceeded very slowly. Transportation of grain to the platform was slow and disorganized, and only 4 percent of the harvested grain was carried to the thresher in 4 days. Consequently, on 27 July the thresher had no grain to thresh. Ioan Kilyen, secretary of the executive committee of the commune people's council, was busy repairing his bicycle instead of organizing transportation of grain from the fields. The next day, 28 July, the thresher broke down, choked with straw and chaff, but even then the executive committee did not intervene.

Safety measures were also neglected. The threshing platform, littered with stalks, was a serious fire hazard. The negligence in organizing labor was further demonstrated with regard to transportation of quotas to collection centers. Although a large quantity of grain piled up at the threshing platform on 24 July, the convoy for quota delivery was not organized until 28 July.

Political work was neglected just as badly. There were no slogans, no newspapers, no panels, and no reading groups at the threshing platform. Not even a discussion of work was organized. The executive committee of the Voiniceni Commune People's Council will have difficulty in explaining to the raion executive committee the reason for its negligence and indifference.(22)

#### Oradea Regiune

In Bucharest, Craiova, Pitesti, and some other regiune, almost 70 percent of the threshing was completed by 8 August. However, in Oradea Regiune, threshing of grain was lagging. One of the reasons for this shortcoming was inefficient machine repairs. Some MTS, as for example the Marghita, Tileagd, and Cefa MTS, Oradea Regiune, repaired their tractors and threshers superficially. As a result, the machines broke down constantly at the threshing platforms and considerable time was wasted. This problem of breakdowns is very serious and calls for the immediate attention of MTS managements. Special repair teams with mobile repair shops should have been set up. This important fact was completely neglected.

The lack of sufficient fuel and lubrication supplies for machines was another hindrance. Some MTS in Oradea Regiune neglected to prepare adequate supplies. The Cefa, Ghiorac, and Marghita MTS, for example, prepared only a few

- 12 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

days' reserves and this negligence resulted in a lack of fuel oil, motor oil, and grease for all machines. A threshing combine of the Marghita MTS, working in San Lazar Village, Chislaz Commune, stood idle for 2 days because of the lack of motor oil and grease. Such conditions must be corrected. There should always be a 3-day reserve of fuel oil and lubricants.

Experience of past threshing campaigns showed the urgent need for improved agricultural methods. The Gradea Regiune People's Council was aware of this fact and gave instructions for the application of such methods. At the beginning of July 1953, some MTS managements reported they had taken steps to apply the Brediu method. However, plans remained in the preparatory stages and the Brediu method was applied in very few instances.

The executive committee of the regiune people's council was fully responsible for these failures. The executive committee was satisfied with sporadic reports and did not compel MTS to report regularly on conditions and repairs. Immediate and strict measures should be taken to eliminate such negligence and inefficiency (5)

#### Pitesti Regiune

While some raions in Pitesti Regiune did good work, Slatina Raion was slow and the threshing plan was completed only 50 percent by 13 August. It cannot be said that agitators of the Slatina Raion People's Council neglected the duties outlined by the decision on 9 May 1953, of the Government and the party. Plans were drawn up for fulfillment of schedules on time. The executive committees of the commune people's councils assisted and guided peasants to prepare for the harvest. In a relatively short time, all grain was harvested and threshing started 5 days after reaping.

It would seem, however, that the members of the raion people's council were too enchanted by the good results. They actually became so pleased with themselves that they allowed things to run without supervision. As a result of this complacency, visits to communes became rarer and rarer, and control and guidance became increasingly superficial. The raion people's council no longer checked on the activities of the chairmen of the commune people's councils, they did not inquire about results, and they did not give any more advice. The shortcomings which developed proved how wrong this attitude was. In many communes, such as Margineni, Mogosesti, etc., grain was not properly and speedily carried to threshing platforms. Threshers, therefore, remained idle for many hours each day. Teams were not organized. At Buzesti Commune, for example, peasants did not know when to carry their grain to the platforms. As a consequence, only seven peasants threshed their grain in 10 days. Another negligence of the raion people's council was the lack of control over MTS. The Recea and Tampani MTS neglected machine repairs because they knew they were not being checked. The Perieti Commune MTS sent out a thresher that had not been repaired at all. In Floru Village, a tractor did not work. At Platform No 3 of Scornicesti Commune, the transmission belt broke often and the sieve caved in. Tampani and Recea MTS did not send fuel in time for threshers and tractors to operate continuously. The engineers of these MTS did not organize work properly.

Slatina Raion had all the means to carry the summer campaign to a successful and speedy conclusion. The members of the executive committee of the raion people's council have proven that they know how to act properly and conscientiously. They should rid themselves now of their erroneous self-satisfaction; they should go out in the fields and instruct and guide the peasants and organize labor. (21)

- 13 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Stalin Regiune

Threshing in Stalin Raion, Stalin Regiune, did not progress satisfactorily. By 18 August, the entire raion had completed only 22.1 percent of threshing.

Lack of guidance, lack of labor distribution, lack of organization, and lack of agitation were the main causes. Executive committees of commune people's councils did not devote attention to the summer campaign. For example, at the electrified platform in Feldioara Commune, only 18.2 percent of grain was threshed by 18 August. Lack of teamwork and the constant shifting of threshers from one stack to another in the fields caused great loss of time. Threshers were serviced by only 8-10 men and 2-3 carts. A similar situation prevailed in Prejmer, Crisbav, and Apata communes.(26)

Timisoara Regiune

Individual peasants of Sipet Commune, Deta Raion, Timisoara Regiune, made serious efforts to complete their threshing campaign. But the good efforts of the peasants were not supported by the agricultural section of the Deta Raion People's Council. On the contrary, members of the committee created hardships.

Reaping was completed on time, but threshing could not be finished promptly. The peasants set up stacks and organized teams, but lacked equipment. According to the raion plan, six threshers were scheduled to be sent to Sipet Commune. By 2 August, only one tractor and three threshers had arrived. Two of the threshers could not be used for lack of power. At the same time, in neighboring Jebel Commune, three or four tractors were idle because of a lack of threshers. The difficulties created by the poor planning of the agricultural section were pointed out several times by the peasants, but nothing was done. This negligence and lack of responsibility of the employees of the agricultural section caused serious damages. Another shortcoming which proved the inefficiency of the raion people's council was the absence of threshing delegates. Six threshing platforms were scheduled for work in the commune and were to be supervised by six delegates. Only three delegates were appointed. The commune complained, but nothing was done.(6)

## SOURCES

1. Viata Capitalei, 30 Aug 53
2. Scanteia, 23 Aug 53
3. Romania Libera, 26 Aug 53
4. Scanteia, 30 Aug 53
5. Romania Libera, 8 Aug 53
6. Ibid., 2 Aug 53
7. Ibid., 1 Aug 53
8. Scanteia, 6 Aug 53
9. Viata Capitalei, 5 Aug 53
10. Ibid., 12 Aug 53
11. Ibid., 6 Aug 53

- 14 -

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

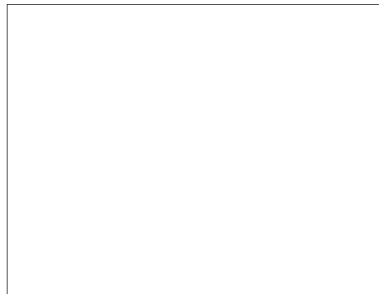
CONFIDENTIAL



12. Viata Capitalei, 4 Aug 53
13. Ibid., 1 Aug 53
14. Ibid, 29 Aug 53
15. Romania Libera, 6 Aug 53
16. Viata Capitalei, 27 Aug 53
17. Ibid., 11 Aug 53
18. Romania Libera, 7 Aug 53
19. Ibid., 15 Aug 53
20. Ibid., 20 Aug 53
21. Ibid., 13 Aug 53
22. Ibid., 12 Aug 53
23. Ibid., 19 Aug 53
24. Ibid., 14 Aug 53
25. Scanteia, 27 Aug 53
26. Ibid., 21 Aug 53



- E N D -



50X1-HUM

- 15 -

CONFIDENTIAL