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REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

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DATE DISTR. 13 April 1954

SUBJECT Military Science Program at the Polytechnic Institute in Bucharest NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF INFORMATION

50X1 REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Enrollment

1. [redacted] the total Institute enrollment in 1952 was about 600. [redacted] this was broken down as follows:
50X1 1st year students - approximately 200
50X1 2nd year students - approximately 175
50X1 3rd year students - approximately 150
50X1 4th year students - approximately 80
2. [redacted] the enrollment would increase by about 50 students each year, but [redacted] the maximum enrollment could not exceed 1,200 students.
3. Of the 600 students, about 500 were enrolled in the military science course. The remainder consisted of students who possibly were exempt from military service, an undetermined number of regular Rumanian military officers who wore uniforms and who studied mechanical engineering, and possibly sons of prominent political leaders.

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Military Science Course

4. In January 1952, [redacted] the Polytechnic Institute, a three-year compulsory military science course was added to the curriculum of the Institute. This course was divided into artillery, signal, chemical warfare, and aviation phases. Naval science was also instituted, but in 1953 this subject was dropped from the Institute. [redacted] the naval science course was being taught at the naval institute in Galati, Rumania.
5. In addition to the theoretical military science course, the students were compelled to attend three summer training periods, each approximately one month in duration. For this summer training, students were sent to special military units, located throughout Rumania, which were organized to train these students. Successful completion of the course plus three actual training periods led to a commission as a junior lieutenant and an assignment in the reserve.
6. Prior to acceptance into the military science course, the students were given a physical examination. [redacted] chest was fluoroscoped, [redacted] blood test taken, and [redacted] examined on [redacted] sight, hearing, and teeth. [redacted]

Instructors

7. [redacted] about 40 Rumanian military officers, with the rank of captain and above, were assigned to the Institute as instructors. [redacted] only one officer taught chemical warfare; two officers, armored vehicles; one officer, pioneer training; one officer, signal training; and three officers, infantry tactics. The others taught artillery, aviation, and other military subjects.

Assignment of Students into Phases of Military Science Course

8. Assignment of students to phases of military science course normally followed this pattern:
- a.) Students in mechanical and textile engineering were assigned to the artillery phase.
 - b.) Industrial chemistry students went into the chemical warfare phase.
 - c.) Aerodynamics students were assigned to the air force phase.
 - d.) Electrical engineering students were placed in the signal phase.
9. [redacted] when the military science course was introduced in the Institute, [redacted] about 80 students of other subjects (who were also in their last school year of study) were put into the artillery phase. At the completion of their last semester, [redacted] five other aerodynamics students petitioned the school military authorities for an assignment to the air force phase on the basis that they were studying aerodynamics. This petition was granted in June 1952. As a result, the 6 and 20 other aerodynamics students from the third year class were sent to an air force unit in Medias for their summer training. There they received theoretical and practical training in aviation subjects.

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10. [redacted] approximately 40 more days of practical training in order to receive a reserve commission. [redacted]

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Military Science Training

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11. [redacted] the 140 hours of military science given during his last semester was all theory and limited to the classroom. Visual training aids included large charts and pictures of artillery weapons, gas masks, and tanks. Texts were not issued. However, the students were given plain notebooks and upon completion of the lecture the notebooks were returned to the instructor.

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12. [redacted] information on the subjects studied:

a. Description of artillery weapons and tactics - approximately 56 hours. Studied characteristics, capabilities, and limitations of artillery weapons; use of artillery observers; selection of observation points; observation of artillery fire; use of artillery on infantry and tank targets. As an example, the instructor cited the successful use of Soviet artillery fire during the siege of Berlin.

b. Infantry tactics - approximately four hours. Lectures were on the use of a bayonet; use and capabilities of small arms whose most effective range was 200 m.; use of hand grenades against tanks; digging of foxholes and trenches; and use of infantry to occupy captured areas. He was informed that the soldier carried 200 rounds of small arms ammunition into combat.

c. General tactics - approximately 10 hours. The principles of organizing an attack, defense and withdrawal (size of units not specified); support of infantry by artillery, reconnaissance patrols; artillery fire with infantry support; coordination between artillery units and air force, and camouflage techniques, artificial and natural. The students were told that an artillery weapon could be placed into firing position within 10 minutes after leaving a road.

d. Aviation - approximately four hours. Limited to an orientation on aviation subjects.

e. General Topography - approximately six hours. This course included basic map reading, reading of military grids, use of coordinates, and use of contour lines. Red, blue, and yellow were used on situation maps [redacted]

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[redacted] Students had no training aids such as compasses or maps.

f. Chemical Warfare - approximately six hours. The chemical warfare officer named various gases, among [redacted] iperyt, phosgene, diphosgene, and tear gases. Effects of gases were also stressed. [redacted] pictures of two gas masks - one showing the facepiece covering most of the head, and the second showing the facepiece covering the face. Lectures included decontamination of small arms and equipment, use of smoke pots, gas shells, and use of aircraft for a gas attack. [redacted]

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g. Signal - approximately four hours. Discussion centered on the importance, use, and function of signal equipment such as radios, telephones, and telegraph.

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- h. **Tanks** - approximately four hours. The instructor related stories of proficiency and heroism of Soviet tank units during World War II.
- i. **Pioneer Instruction** - approximately four hours. Instruction stressed methods of constructing bridges for river-crossing operations. The instructor also stated that engineers cleared mined areas.
- j. **Political Course** - approximately 20 hours.

(1) Military organization

The instructor explained that the smallest infantry combat unit was a group (grupa) and consisted of 1 sergeant and 10 privates. Next was a platoon (pluton), which consisted of three to five groups headed by a junior lieutenant. The company (kompania) consisted of three to four platoons, having a strength of 200 to 250 officers and EM, with the senior officer being a captain. The battalion had approximately 1,000 officers and EM, while the regiment was made up of 3 or 4 battalions, or about 3,500 officers and EM.

During the summer of 1953, [redacted] several military officers remark that political officers were no longer assigned to infantry units. This step was supposedly taken to avoid friction among line officers and political officers.

(2) Discipline Regulations

These included the duties of the individual soldier, military courtesy, familiarization with discipline regulations and punishments, and uniform regulations.

- k. **Political Indoctrination** - approximately 15 hours. These classroom lectures consisted or orally-presented examples of the valor of the Soviet army.

- (1) **Close Order Drill** - several hours. Close order drill was held infrequently during the semester on the grounds of the institute. Uniforms and weapons were not issued to students.

Military Science Courses at Other Institutes

13. [redacted] the Institute for Construction Engineering had a military science course. Its students took the pioneer course, which included construction of military-type bridges across streams, fords, rivers and other natural obstacles.
14. At the Commercial Academy in Bucharest, students studied military administration, finance, and supply logistics.
15. In 1953, [redacted] female nursing schools in Bucharest, and possibly in the entire country, were giving a military-type first aid course to women student nurses. He had no further details.

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