

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INTELLOFAX 24

INFORMATION REPORT

CD

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR 17 May 51

SUBJECT "Peace Loan"; Concentration Camps of
Nozhareva and Belene

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PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
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SUPPLEMENT TO
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[Redacted]

1. The poor state of the Bulgarian economic situation has necessitated the collection from the citizens of a "peace loan" of from one to two billion levas. It is proposed to collect this amount in three payments over a ten month period, but [redacted] the people will be able to pay that amount. [redacted] this money will be used for the arming of Bulgaria.*

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2. As the Nozhareva concentration camp in Tutrakan the number of political prisoners was estimated at about five thousand during late 1949 and early 1950.

3. The Belene concentration camp, situated on an island in the Danube opposite Belene village, had about three thousand political prisoners, including some Turks, during late 1949 and early 1950. Chief of the camp is Militia Major Nikola Kurtev. During summer holidays the Turkish children are sent to private camps with the Bulgarian children, ostensibly for a change and rest, but actually to teach them Communism.

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* Comment: [redacted] the government is attempting to raise a substantial sum of money rather quickly.

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