

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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INFORMATION REPORT

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Bulgaria

Anti-Government Revolts in the Plovdiv and Pleven Areas

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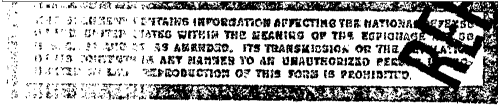
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1. A revolt against the Labor Cooperative Farm (LCF) policy of the Bulgarian Government recently took place in the Peshtera area, southwest of Plovdiv. The peasants of three villages in the district demanded to withdraw from the LCF. When this demand was not considered, they took matters in their own hands, removed all the livestock and agricultural implements they had contributed to the LCF and barricaded themselves in their villages. After three days a truce was arranged with the local authorities. In the meantime, the area was encircled by the Militia.

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2. [redacted] similar disturbances in the Asenovgrad area south of Plovdiv, and in the Pleven district. The trouble in these areas also started from the dissatisfaction of the peasants with their lot in the LCF as compared with their previous position as private farmers. The peasants took the seed and livestock from the local LCF when they were not allowed to return to private farming. Tishko Chernokolev, the Minister of Agriculture, paid a personal visit to the village of Gorni Dubnik in the Pleven district.

3. Another factor underlying these recent revolts is undoubtedly the Government's order in 1950 that farmers could not retain grain for their own bread but must be provided with ration cards, which apart from the price of bread, did not entitle the peasant to anything like the quantity he normally consumed.

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