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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. The Ministry of Propaganda has been dissolved and its activity has been taken over by the Committee of Science, Art, and Culture (KNIK), which directs the theaters, motion pictures, radio, press, and the other means of mass propaganda. This Committee, under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, chooses the plays for the theaters, pictures for the movies, radio programs and press material.
2. In Sofia there is the National Theater, the Youth National Theater, the National Opera, the Labor Front Theater; there are also theaters at the General Workers Professional Union and other organizations. In the larger towns of Bulgaria there are local national theaters and opera houses. The actors and actresses are among the most privileged citizens in the country. Because of this, a great many of the old actors have sold themselves to the Communists, and the Communists have honored them with titles such as "People's Actors" and "Deserving Actors". Some of those who have received titles are Vlado Trendafilov, Neli Karova, Mimi Balkanska and Mihail Popov.
3. Most of the motion pictures shown in Bulgaria are made in the Soviet Union, but a few are received from the Satellite countries. Because practically all of the movies are for propaganda purposes, the attendance is not large. The Communist Party, however, uses a system of mass attendance; for example, The Fatherland Front Organization of a certain sector of the town will buy tickets for a picture, and then take the citizens in formation to the theater.
4. The State Enterprise, Bulgarian State Cinematography, a branch of the Committee of Science, Arts, and Culture, has a monopoly on the distribution of motion pictures in Bulgaria. Several of the movies which it has distributed are: "Kalin Orelut", "The Blue Women Slaves", "Alarm and Ivan Sousarin".
5. The programs broadcast over the radio in Bulgaria are so much like the Soviet programs that the people say, "If you want to hear Moscow, listen to Radio Sofia." Broadcasts consist almost exclusively of Russian songs, Russian news, and Russian propaganda, and as a result, few Bulgarians listen to their radio stations. Bulgaria has the following stations: Khristo Kotev, the National Radio Station in Sofia; Radio Sofia 2; Radio Sofia 3, a short wave station; Radio Stara Zagora; and Radio Varna.

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6. The chief purpose of propaganda in Bulgaria is to create respect and love for Stalin and the Soviet Union, and hatred for the West. Other themes are: hatred for Tito; the misery of the great numbers of unemployed in the West, compared to the prosperity of the people in the East; the tremendous success in the construction of socialism; and, since last year, the "justifiable" war of the people of Korea against the American imperialists. Propaganda themes in the villages are: the struggle against the Kulaks; increased production; and, beginning on 1 January 1951, propaganda for the voluntary state loans which will help the socialist construction in Bulgaria.
7. Despite the years of repetition of the above propaganda themes, the effect has been contrary to the expectations of the Communist rulers. The people do not believe the propaganda and listen to radio programs from Western stations to get the news.