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25X1A

COUNTRY Russania

DATE DISTR. 7 Jan 52

SUBJECT

Rumanian Efforts to Sell Gold Through

the Swiss Government

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- 1. The Rumanian National Bank recently requested the Swiss Bankgesellschaft to arrange for the re-minting and sale in Holland of about six tons of Rumanian Gold in bars of 60 kilograms.
- 2. The Rumanians proposed to ship this gold from Bucharest via Prague to Amsterdam. The Swiss however, have turned down the request pointing out that they would not sell any gold on Rumanian behalf except for the purpose of liquidating Rumanian indebtedness to Switzerland.
- 3. The Swiss refusal has apparently caused the Rumanian Government to present to the Swiss the following proposals regarding settlement of their outstanding debt amounting to eighty-five million francs:
 - a. Immediate cash payment of forty percent to be met from earmarked assets in gold and cash held in Switzerland.
 - b. Balance of sixty percent to be paid over next eight years.
- 4. Rumanian frozen assets in Switzerland exceed the amount proposed as a cash payment by approximately five million francs. Any Swiss acceptance will be conditional on this sum being released for the purpose of paying for Swiss exports to Rumania. The Swiss lawyers consider that no ratification to a Swiss acceptance of the proposals will take place before January 1952.

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