

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Danube-Black Sea Canal

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 1. The Danube-Black Sea Canal begins at Cernovada on the Danube and is 60 kilometers long. Construction has been undertaken in six sections: Cernavoda, Medgidia, Dorobantul, Navodari, Poarta Alba and Canara (now called Ovidiu). A minor harbor is being built for each section.
- The offices of the general management are in Constanta opposite the casino. The general director is Grumberg-Mayer, and his deputy is Vasile Posteuca. Other heads are Adrian Mihail Maurer and Rene Ernest. Each section has its own management staff, consisting of a technical head, one assistant, 11 technical assistants, 6 overseers, 24 storekeepers, two surveyors, with Militia and Securitate people.
- 3. Modern machinery has arrived at the section headquarters since the end of 1951. About 120 mechanical shovels are at work and the excavated material is carried away by 5 to 7 ton Soviet trucks and 4 ton Skoda trucks. The technical equipment is inadequate in comparison to the number of laborers.
- 4. Several electrical generating stations are being built; one at Suit-Ghiol which was completed at the end of 1950, and another 30 kilometers southwest of Constanta, which is still under construction. Fourteen transformer stations are being set up along the canal between Navodari and Poarta Alba.
- 5. The labor force has grown to 30,000 men since the end of 1951, which may be grouped into three categories: free laborers, who are not allowed to transfer to other jobs for political reasons (5,000 to 7,000); military labor units, made up of soldiers from the bourgeoisie and the sons of kulaks (about 3,000) who work especially in the Tasaul Lake-

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Capul Medea section; and political and criminal prisoners, who make up the greatest part of the work force. These workers live in 17 camps, the largest of which are at Navodari and in the Poarta Alba section. The work hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 a.m., and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. In a few places the work is in three shifts.

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