

CLASSIFICATION TOP SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR 5 March 1951

SUBJECT Soviet Activities at Vranja Palace, Sofia

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM



1. The Vranja royal palace, located 12 kilometers from Sofia, is now being used as a residence for Premier Vulko Chervenkov. Highly secret meetings of the Council of Ministers and the Politburo are held here.
2. In late July or the first part of August 1950, when it was reported that Yugoslavia might attack Bulgaria, a series of high level meetings took place in Vranja palace during which the Bulgarians were allegedly asked to furnish five divisions.
3. During October 1950 a very high ranking Soviet officer, either a marshal or a general, was quartered at the palace and conducted a number of meetings there. A continual flow of the highest ranking Bulgarian officials was seen driving to and from the palace during his stay.
4. The normal guard of the palace is a detachment of Border Guards known as "Blue Caps" numbering approximately sixty to eighty men with three officers. Border Guards are selected for this duty in keeping with their responsibility for guarding the Dimitrov Mausoleum, Sofia Palace and other Party installations.
5. The main guardhouse is in a corner of the palace compound on the Sofia road and is the first building seen when approaching from Sofia. Housing approximately twenty to thirty men, this guardhouse covers the main gate and palace building.
6. All Border Guards are armed with sub-machine guns; none have pistols or rifles. Informant believes they also have machine guns for emergency use.



50X1-HUM

Page Denied