S.S. R. No.12.
June 1st, 1944. Thursday.

## BULGARIA

Obergrupenführer Beckerle, German Ambassador to Sofia, has now been sent - as reinforcement - S.S. Obergrupenführer General Dietrich, who arrived in Sofia by special plane on May 28th.

As soon as General Dietrich's aircraft landed, he ordered and had carried out the most drastic measures against the Bulgarian Staff officers who refused to succumb to German pressure to take up arms against Soviet Russia. Within 24 hours, 41 senior Bulgarian Staff officers had been arrested. The S.S. elements were responsible for these arrests.

Seven officers (Bulgarian) attached to the Sofia Military garrison, previously managed to reach Varna without leave; and from there, through the medium of a motorboat they managed to find heir escape. It is reported that these deserters have landed near Odessa and have joined up with the Soviet Forces there.

## LOCAL

NICOLAE MALAXA, the Roumanian steel king, who has made his immense fortune out of heavy industry in that country, has arrived in Istanbul accompanied by his son and his well-known daughter Irene, who was once said to be about to be married to King Michael of Roumania. Malaxa arrived here on some mysterious mission of which nothing is yet known.

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