

ALTS

CONFIDENTIAL
Security Information

15 January 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Nicola MALAXA

1. The attached column by Drew Pearson appearing in the Washington Post on 13 January 1952, reported that Mr. Pearson had obtained a copy of a confidential report found in Judith Coplon's purse when arrested by the FBI. The report is described as being dated May 11, 1948, and written to J. Edgar Hoover by [redacted], Acting Director of Central Intelligence.
2. In an effort to determine whether the report had been previously made available during the trial of Judith Coplon, the files of [redacted] OGD, were examined relative to Subject. These files contained a thermoprint of an item appearing in the Evening Star, 10 June 1949, which stated in part "A fantastic story of intrigue was read to the jury yesterday on the activities of Nicola MALAXA...". This article then quoted from "the FBI report" as follows: "According to a reliable source, MALAXA was characterized by Col. Finogenov, Chief of the Soviet Economic Mission in Romania as a man who was prepared to sell Romania to the USSR if he could profit from this transaction." It is noted that this quotation is a verbatim portion of the report quoted in the Drew Pearson column.
3. Inasmuch as the report quoted by Drew Pearson article had been read to the jury in the trial of Judith Coplon in June 1949, further effort to determine the manner in which Pearson obtained a copy of the report is unwarranted.

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