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MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE ABSTRACTS
OF
UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

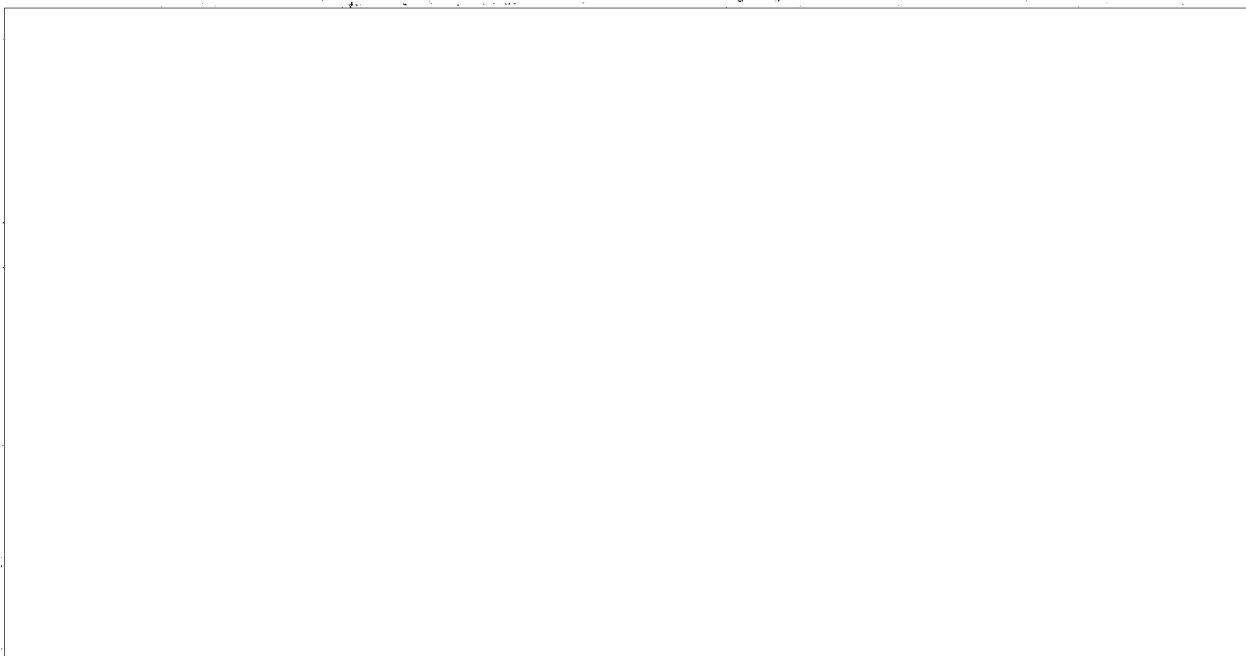
CIA/SI 25.17-51

18 July 1951

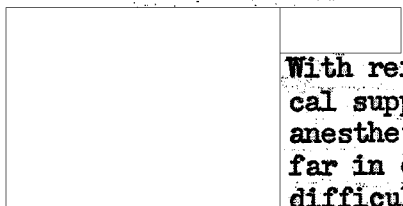
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2. Stockpiling in Mexico.



With reference to Mexico, the quantity of medical supplies, such as surgeons' gloves and anesthetics ordered in 1951, to date, appears far in excess of normal needs. It would be difficult for Mexico to absorb all of the goods in these two categories which have been received in 1951.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

ANALYST'S COMMENT:



While these items may be for internal use, possibility of transshipment must be considered.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

3. Rumanian Acquisition of "Gift" Drugs.



Early in 1951 it was reported that Rumanian authorities have been retaining 10 per cent of the medicines sent in gift packages from private citizens in the United States. Medicines are so scarce that authorities use a syringe to draw part of the contents of penicillin bottles containing more than a million units. Experiments to produce penicillin at Sinaia failed.

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~~SECRET~~3. Rumanian Acquisition of "Gift" Drugs (Cont'd).

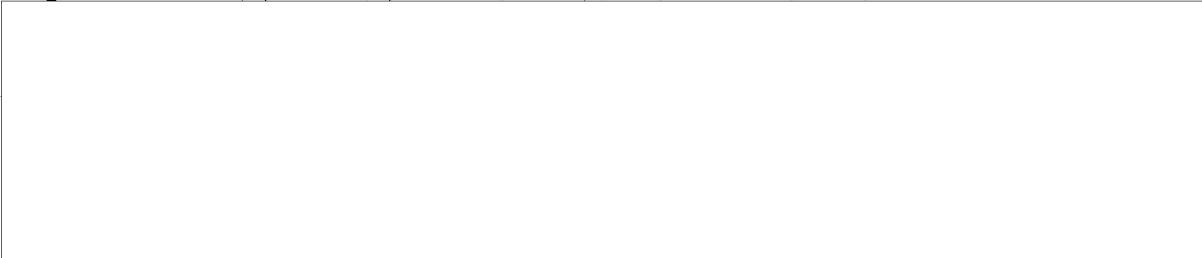

ANALYST'S COMMENT: Numerous reports have been received of the serious shortages of medicines, particularly antibiotics, in other Soviet Satellites. This item indicates that the Rumanians also are extremely desperate for penicillin. The Rumanian pharmaceutical industry has been extremely underdeveloped but with the help of the USSR more and more products, now including sulfa drugs, are being manufactured. A July broadcast from Bucharest reported that some of the factories producing medicines had completed this year's program ahead of schedule. Nevertheless, during the past year and a half Rumania has received "medicines" (?) from Czechoslovakia and Western Germany, and penicillin from Holland, Sweden, and Eastern Germany. A center in Bucharest receives penicillin and distributes it to the Army and hospitals only. No penicillin is on the market and it is mostly stockpiled.

Additional evidence confirms the fact that confiscation of a certain portion of the drugs contained in gift packages is a standard procedure of most of the Satellite governments. Other reports have indicated that the Satellite governments encourage requests for drugs on the "West" by their private citizens as one means of obtaining medicines in short supply.

4. Evacuation of Western Frontier Area of Rumania.

 There has been large-scale evacuation extending the full length of the Yugoslav border and to a depth of as much as 30-40 miles. One hundred and twenty physicians have been ordered to the resettlement area to meet the needs of evacuees and to prevent epidemics. Estimates indicate up to 50,000 to 75,000 persons may have been already evacuated.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)


 ANALYST'S COMMENT: While physicians and supplies are reportedly in short supply elsewhere in Rumania, a concentration of MD's in this area may be indicative of: (1) Highly susceptible (non-immunized) civilian population without adequate hygiene and sanitation facilities; and (2) large numbers of military personnel and/or non-immune laborers preparing this area for contemplated military operations.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)(b)(1)
(b)(3)~~SECRET~~