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*"Citizens fund
in Rumania"*

RADESCU (General) Nicolas
7 October 1949
SOURCE:
EVAL: B-2

Statement of General Radescu Made to the Rumanian
National Committee on 24 June 1949

~~Mr. M. Caranfil~~
Mr. M. Caranfil brought up in the meeting yesterday the question in regard to the fund held by Mr. Constantin Visoianu and Mr. Alexandru Cretianu. These two persons were asked if they intended to give this fund to the Committee to be administrated. They tried to avoid giving an answer. They declared that before they gave a reply they were going to ask me some questions in regard to the sums of money which were put at my disposition by Mr. Nicolae Malaxa.

To assist them, anticipating the questions which I would be asked, I have issued a memorandum which will later be completed and published.

In a memorandum based on documents, the entire history in regard to the construction of the Committee will be made known.

Mr. Caranfil asked me in a letter about the financial requirements of the Committee; he also mentioned the funds taken from Rumania and now held by certain members of the Committee.

This matter, however, I brought to your attention at yesterday's meeting and I asked Mr. Visoianu and Mr. Cretianu, who have this fund, to tell us about this matter and to let us know if they will put this sum at the disposition of the Committee.

Constantin
Alexandru
Mr. Visoianu and Mr. Cretianu replied that it was purely a personal matter. The fund, according to them, has a special destination in regard to which they will give no explanation. They also added that in no case will they give any account until the sums which Mr. Malaxa put at my disposition to help the destitute Rumanians are explained.

An accounting was to be made in the form of answers in regard to the matters which they were going to ask me in writing.

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Mr. Cretianu discussed the fact that I had burdened my conscience with a great responsibility, accepting aid from someone who had made money with the Communists and is suspected of being a Communist. ^(his name Malaxa)

Here is my reply:

Although there was no connection between the fund taken out of Rumania and the sums spent in the name of Mr. Malaxa for aid to refugees, and although I would not be obligated to give an accounting since the money which was put at my disposal was made by a private citizen and in a strictly personal manner, however, I will make an explanation to Mr. Viscianu and Cretianu.

I maintain, however, in the first place that my duty is to show what I know in regard to Mr. Malaxa's implied activities with the Communists.

After I was thrown out of the Government by Vishinsky, Mr. Malaxa brought to my attention that if I intended to organize a movement against the regime, he (Malaxa) was ready to give me all the financial support I needed.

I thanked him and told him that it was impossible to organize a movement in the country, in view of the liquidation of the opposition.

A year later I was able successfully to leave the country. A short time after that I came to the United States, where Mr. Malaxa was staying. A short time after my arrival, ^{George (Malaxa's son-in-law)} ~~Mr. Malaxa~~ came to me and gave me the following information:

"I am sent by Mr. Malaxa to let you know that what he told you in Rumania still stands. He will be at your disposal to help you in the fight which you have started against the Communist Government in Rumania, in the form which you think will be of the most use".

"I made contact with Mr. Malaxa when the following was established:

To what extent would it be possible for Mr. Malaxa to put at my disposal money which would be of use to the Rumanian cause and in what way would it be of the most use. Mr. Malaxa made the following statement: "I would not give any money to an eventual committee which would be composed of Messera, Viscianu,

Cretianu and Grigore Niculescu - Buzesti, since I have proof that these gentlemen together with Mr. MacMannit are attempting to have me deported from America". With this understanding I had with the beginning of March 1948 the possibility to give the following aid, which shall be shown below.

Having in mind the orgy started in Rumania against the opposition, which was being liquidated, I figured that one of the cares would be to save at any price the few intellectuals who succeeded in leaving Rumania, the only reserve on which Rumania would be able to draw one day.

Here is the way I distributed the money which I received.

1. I created through the "Students Association in Paris" twenty scholarships, then forty scholarships, later reverting to thirty scholarships.
2. I paid debts of the Rumanian Government to the Rumanian Institute at the Sorbonne and continued to pay the necessary sum for its maintenance.
3. I supported many intellectuals who were in financial need. They received periodic or permanent aid; this is still being continued.
4. The Unceafarul review is published to which the most distinguished writers abroad confront, giving Rumanian culture the possibility to express itself.
5. I support the newspaper Unlunea, which is sent all over the world. Thus Rumanians in need will be able to read a Rumanian newspaper.
6. Caroman, under the direction of Mr. Granicul, has been aided.
7. Significant sums have been sent to Austria in order to attempt to maintain contact with Rumania and to aid the intellectuals.
8. Some financial aid has been sent to Rumania.
9. Smaller sums have been sent to Turkey, Germany, and Argentina.
10. The Rumanian Orthodox Church in Paris has been aided.
11. Food packages have been sent to different places.
12. Some of the leading fighters in the resistance have been aided.
13. I have been able to go to Europe several times and make reports to His

which
Rumanian
Government?

How
good?

Majesty, and to maintain contact with the Rumanian refugees.

In general this is the way I have used the money which was given to me by Mr. Malaxa, showing from the very first moment where I received the money.

Mr. Cretianu has also accused me of intervening with the American authorities to extend Mr. Malaxa's visa.

It is true. I did as much as I could in regard to this, Mr. Malaxa gave me proof that his enemies are not sparing any means to throw him out of the United States. Making the necessary interventions, I showed the authorities my reasons for extending Mr. Malaxa's visa. I pointed out especially that Mr. Malaxa is of the greatest help to the Rumanian cause, since he is the only wealthy Rumanian on whose support I can depend.

The accusation made by Mr. Cretianu, I submit not only to the judgement of the committee but to all the Rumanians. I have no objection if it is made publicly, if there is any foundation.

In regard to myself and independent of any other consideration, I express my thanks to Mr. Malaxa for everything he has done and is doing, expressing at the same time my regret that others cannot be found to follow him. In closing I wish to point out that explanations which were asked of me resulted from the Coplon trial, which proves an attempt of compromising tendencies. When the day of judgement arrives I trust that those in the right will not let me down. After I have replied to the questions which I have anticipated would be asked of me by Mr. Visoianu and Cretianu, I await their explanations.