



CONFIDENTIAL
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AUG 5 1975

Romanian Orthodox Church
Internal Security-Romania

A confidential source recently furnished the following information:

At the recent Congress of the Romanian Orthodox Church of America held at the Vatra in Grass Lake, Michigan, the atmosphere there was very gloomy due to the current trial taking place involving Bishop Valerian Trifa, leader of the Church, for allegedly concealing his past activities in Romania. In connection with this matter, the delegates unanimously passed a motion declaring that the United States (US) Government does not have the right to involve itself in the problems of the Church.

It was learned that Dr. Charles Kremer of New York City (NYC), who has been instrumental in bringing the charges against Bishop Trifa, had written a letter to Horia Sima, the leader of the Romanian Iron Guard (RIG), now residing in Spain, requesting Sima to advise if Bishop Trifa was, in fact, a member of the RIG, a fascist-type political movement in Romania prior to its involvement in World War II, and also the role the Bishop played in the RIG revolt in January, 1941.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

Romanian Orthodox Church

In order to defray the trial expenses of Bishop Trifa, a collection was taken and \$7500 was raised in only ten minutes.

The delegates present also voted to establish a Romanian Studies Center at the Vatra, costing \$500,000.

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