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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT STROIT

REPORT MADE AT STROIT, MICHIGAN	DATE WHEN MADE 10/5/55	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/27, 30/55	REPORT MADE BY W. HALL . . . J. J. . .
TITLE GENERAL INVESTIGATION		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Allegations again made by NICHOLAS MARTIN that Subject is bringing Iron Guard members into the U. S. and installing them as priests. Individuals who allegedly have personally suffered atrocities at hands of Subject named by MARTIN. Subject appeared before U. S. Senate on 5/11/55 to give opening prayer to start the session. This appearance criticized in "Bliss Sunday," publication. Resolution passed by National Congress of Rumanian Orthodox Episcopate of America held 7/2, 3, 4/55 denounces charges against RIIPA as being untrue and without foundation and expresses complete trust in RIIPA and promises him continued and unreserved cooperation and support.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOT SUITABLE FOR MICROFILM</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IRON GUARD ACTIVITIES</p> <p>NICHOLAS MARTIN, 1771 East State Fair, Stroit, Michigan, of questionable reliability, who is acquainted with Rumanian activities in Stroit and who has previously furnished information, advised SA G. MARTIN on April 26, 1955, that the Subject, the Bishop of the Rumanian Orthodox Episcopate, Grass Lake, Michigan, has in the past effected the entry into the United States of the following members of the Rumanian Iron Guard, whom he</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
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<p>① - Bureau (105-14006) (REGISTERED)</p> <p>1 - WFO (105-619) (Info) (REGISTERED)</p> <p>3 - Stroit 105-278</p>		<p>This is an "O" investigative report</p> <p>INDEX</p>	

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subsequently installed in parishes supporting his faction: Reverend ~~GEORGE~~, presently in St. Paul, Minnesota, and formerly of Montreal, Canada; and other (Arcanrite) ~~MARTIN~~ presently of Akron, Ohio.

MARTIN stated that TRIFA is now bringing the following members of the Rumanian Iron Guard into this country to install them in his parishes so that the Rumanian Orthodox Church will become a political rather than ecclesiastical entity: Reverend ~~PAUL~~, whom MARTIN described as a Rumanian Iron Guard member and who at TRIFA's instructions was elected Pastor of St. Paul's, 50 West 89th Street, New York, New York; Reverend ~~PIETRU~~, described by MARTIN as a Rumanian Iron Guard member presently residing in Montreal, Canada; ~~NICOLAE~~, described by MARTIN as a Rumanian Iron Guard member presently residing in Montreal.

MARTIN further stated that according to ~~STAVR~~ JIANU, 250 York, Hamilton, Canada, described by MARTIN as a former World War II Air Force officer in the Rumanian Army, JIANU had never personally met TRIFA but had known him by reputation while in Rumania as an Iron Guard leader. According to MARTIN, JIANU had stated that he had "officially" interviewed the following individuals regarding actions committed against them by TRIFA and had obtained from them "officially" their consent to be interviewed and furnish signed statements and to testify to the following information regarding TRIFA. MARTIN stated that JIANU described these individuals as "Rumanian Jews" who have suffered as a result of direct personal actions by TRIFA:

1. Mrs. ~~PLATMAN~~, 1186 Susan Mary, apartment 12, Montreal, Canada. She allegedly lost her husband in the revolution of the Rumanian Iron Guard at Bucharest during January 21-23, 1941. According to JIANU, she can identify TRIFA as the personal leader of the small group who killed her husband.

2. ~~OSBERN~~ NICHLES ~~OSBERN~~, 270 Laurier St. E., Montreal, Canada. According to MARTIN, NICHLES lost two sons in the above revolution. NICHLES can identify TRIFA as the leader of the group who entered her home and removed the signature on papers confiscating her personal property.

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3. Mr. and Mrs. ~~NEAU~~, 3793 Park Avenue, Montreal, Canada. Mr. ~~NEAU~~ allegedly lost a brother in the above revolution and according to JIANGU, he can identify TRIFA as the personal leader of rioters who broke into their home.

In July 6, 1955, SA G. CARLON MILLER received a letter from MARTIN enclosing a copy of "redinta" (The Faith) issue of June, 1955, a Rumanian newspaper published in Detroit by MARTIN. On page 1 of this publication was an article signed by GEORGE ~~UNTREAN~~, 424 W. Eelden Avenue, Apartment 4, Chicago, Illinois. This article was translated by SA MATTHEW J. CAVAN, Washington Field Office translator, as follows:

Title: "The Unmasking of an adventure to help Me God"

"The undersigned, born in America of Rumanian parents, taken to Rumania as a child where I lived for twenty-nine years, observing upon my return to the United States the quarrels and dissension among the Rumanian Orthodox on these shores and hopeful of contributing to the discovery of the truth and restoration of peace and integrity in the heart of my parents' church, hereby declare of my own free will, without coercion from any source the following true disclosures, so help me God:"

First: In this paragraph ~~UNTREAN~~ states that he lived 18 years in Bucharest, 6 of which he spent as a student there and that he was brought back to America by the United States Government.

Second: In this paragraph he states that he knew VI ~~UNTREAN~~ TRIFA when they were both students and has firsthand knowledge of his "public activities".... "Even as a student TRIFA showed signs of loving intrigue and dissension more than understanding and peace; of loving politics more than religion and was more quickly disposed to handle a bat and a pistol rather than the Holy Cross and Scripture"... "TRIFA left nothing in his wake in Rumania but suffering and heartaches, while here in America he is creating dissension, hatred, losses and shame for the Rumanian nationality and the Orthodox Church."

Third: "I saw him during the summer of 1937 in Montreal, Prohva County, in the capacity of Rumanian

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"any honorable man, clergy or layman, committee or council and to testify before any Tribunal of Justice in America."

/s/ GLENN WHELAN

PERSONAL ACTIVITIES OF TRIPA

The May 22, 1955, issue of "Solia," a Rumanian language newspaper published by the Rumanian Orthodox Episcopate of America in Detroit, reflects that TRIPA was in Washington, D. C., on May 10, 1955, at which time he opened a session of the United States Senate. The following excerpts from articles appearing in "Solia" were translated by SE MATTHEW J. CAZAN, Washington Field Office translator:

On Page 1 an article written by Bishop VALESTIAN appears entitled "A Day in the American Senate:"

"On the occasion of May 10 your Bishop was honored with the high mission of opening the session of the American Senate with a prayer appropriate to the moment.

"Shortly before May 10, I received, through the Public Relations Office of the Episcopate, conducted by the Rev. VASILE MATHEGAN, an official invitation to go to Washington, as the spiritual pastor of the Rumanian American Orthodox, and to say the prayer for the opening of the Senate.

"I discovered that on May 10 there would be committee meetings and, therefore, I was informed that my prayer would be delivered at the full session on Wednesday, May 11.

"Wednesday at 11:00 o'clock I was received by the Senate Chaplain, Fr. BROWN BARNIS, by the Senate Secretary and by a functionary who took me on a tour of the main offices.

"At 11:30 I was presented to the Vice President of the United States, Mr. NEYON, with whom I had the pleasure of speaking for a while, during which time I was able to ask his support on behalf of Rumania, for our brothers in Bessarabia and for the recognition

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"of the Romanian Orthodox Church as one of the major churches in the U. S.

"The meeting opened at 11:30. I was escorted by the Vice President of the United States, who is the President of the Senate, to the presidential table and, after I was introduced to the Senate, I delivered the opening prayer.

"I was given special attention by the Michigan Senators, with whom I was already acquainted, H. POTTER and PATRICK MacNAMARA.....I also met Senator EASTWELL (Mass.) who sponsored the Orthodox in America by introducing a bill to recognize Orthodoxy in the American Armed Services.....He is familiar with many Romanian problems, being a friend of Romania thanks to the grace of Princess Ileana.

"Write to your Senators, your Congressmen and to the President of the Senate to support Bill S. 3872 (83rd Congress) by which the military services will be authorized to use the initials 'E. O.' (Eastern Orthodox) for the Orthodox soldiers."

In addition to the above, the prayer offered by TRIFA at the U. S. Senate was republished in English on Page 5 of "Olia" and is set forth below:

"PRAYER

offered by Bishop VALERIAN in the U. S. Senate

"On the occasion of 'May Tenth' (Romanian Independence Day) His Grace, Bishop VALERIAN (S. TRIFA) opened the session of the United States Senate. The following is an extract copy from the Congressional Record of proceedings and debates of the 84th Congress, First Session, Washington, May 11, 1955:

"His Grace, Bishop VALERIAN S. TRIFA, of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America, offered the following prayer:

"In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, with deep humility, We pray for the Members of this body, representing the people of the United States of America.

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Grant them, O Lord, the wisdom, the understanding, the ability, and the power to govern this beloved country of ours, and to guide the world according to Thy will.

'Almighty God, Creator of all things, who hast made America trustee of priceless human liberty and dignity, look down from heaven upon Thy servants now present before Thee, and bless them, that they may remember in their discussions and decisions Genuina and all the oppressed nations who are still longing for a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," and that they may give hope and help to all those who are living in hunger, need, discouragement, doubt, or fear.

'And we pray, our Lord, for the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of mankind, and for the union of all.

'Amen.'

An article appearing in "Glos Ludowy" a Polish-English language newspaper published in Detroit, which strictly follows the Communist Party line, page 1, columns 1 and 2 issue of June 11, 1955, entitled, "Nazi Says Prayers in Senate" with a dateline of Washington, D. C., reflects as follows:

"On May 11th the U. S. Senators stood up and bowed their heads when VIOREL TRIPA said the prayer to start the session of the U. S. Senate. VIOREL TRIPA, former Rumanian Nazi, leader of anti-Semitic pogroms in Bucharest and a war criminal of the worst type, prayed to God for 'blessings' before the start of deliberations in the Senate. In other words, the devil dressed himself in pontifical garments and with his tail rang the bell for Mass.

"This shocking fact was revealed by NEW PERSON on June 4. NEW PERSON was amazed how such a notorious Nazi could be invited to say a prayer in the Senate, yet alone be admitted to the USA on July 15, 1950 as a refugee. NEW PERSON emphasized at the same time that the so called 'displaced persons act' was passed for the benefit of those fleeing from 'terror.' Here a terrorist was admitted as a refugee.

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"V. W. MASON should know that V. W. WEL, PRIFA was not the first, nor the last, Nazi admitted by the United States. The worst fascist remnants, who could not return to their native countries, because their hands were tarnished with the blood of their own people, secured shelter in the USA. At the same time, people who sacrificed their whole lives to make this a free and rich country were and are persecuted, deprived of their citizenship and deported."

On July 11, 1955, SA PAUL K. BOWSER, JR., received from Bishop VIOPSEL PRIFA the following mimeographed resolution:

"The National Congress of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America, with clergy and lay delegates of the Romanian Orthodox parishes in the United States and Canada, convened July 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1955, at the Vatra Romaneasca, Jackson, Michigan, taking into consideration the problems confronting the members of the Romanian Orthodox parishes, unanimously voted the following:

RESOLUTION

"Desirous to preserve and promote unadulterated the dogmas, traditions and teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church, the Congress directs its humble prayers to His Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras of Constantinople, to include in his prayers the Orthodox Americans of Romanian descent, and in view of the historical responsibilities of the Holy Ecumenical See of Constantinople with regards to all sister Orthodox Churches, begs His Holiness to assist the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America through His benevolent intercession with the Romanian Patriarchate in Bucharest and the Romanian authorities to permit and facilitate the return to His Bishop See, of His Grace the Rt. Rev. Policarp Morusca, now residing in Romania.

"II.

"The Congress desires to express its most heartfelt sentiments of gratitude to the local, state and federal governmental authorities in the United States and Canada, for their protection and interests in the preservation of the religious freedom which permits the members of the Orthodox Churches to enjoy the free manifestation of the Orthodox faith.

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"In the name of the clergy and faithful of the Romanian Orthodox Churches in America, the Church Congress reaffirms their will to give full support to all actions which the governments of United States and/or Canada are taking to preserve or to promote the same principles of freedom of religion and humanity throughout the world, including Rumania.

"III.

"The Church Congress appeals in true spirit of christian love to the American of Romanian descent and to the Romanians residing outside the borders of Romania to concentrate all their efforts for a unified action to defend and sustain the unalienable rights of the romanian people to liberty and to the free expression of its ideals and beliefs.

"Simultaneously, the Church Congress appeals to all the Orthodox Romanians, clergy and faithful in the free world, to align themselves with the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America and to endeavor a constructive collaboration amongst all those who believe in the mission and the future of the Holy Orthodox Church.

"RESOLUTION

"The clergy and lay delegates representing the Romanian Orthodox parishes in the United States and Canada, assembled in annual Church Congress, took note with sincere satisfaction of the great progress made by the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America, under the guidance of His Grace the Rt. Rev. Valerian Trifa, since His investiture three years ago.

"Whereas, taking into consideration the visible and fruitful realizations in all fields of activities, which have brought high regards for our Church as well as for the Americans of Romanian descent, the Congress wishes to express its warmest appreciation and assures His Grace Valerian of full devotion of all the members of the Episcopate.

"The Congress unanimously rejects and repudiates all direct and indirect attacks, regardless of sources, directed against the person of His Grace Valerian Trifa, as being untrue and without any foundation.

"The Congress expresses complete trust in His Grace Valerian and solemnly promises Him continued and unreserved cooperation and support."

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