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SUMMARY OF THE BULGARIAN PROVINCIAL PRESS

(31 March - 6 April 1960)
(No. 69)

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SUMMARY OF THE BULGARIAN PROVINCIAL PRESS

(31 March - 6 April 1960)

Preface

The present summary is a report on the economic, political, military and sociological activities and developments in Bulgaria covering all available newspapers of the Bulgarian provincial press from 31 March to 6 April 1960. All items, whether summaries, condensations or partial translations, reflect the specific and contextual meaning of the original text.

During this week the newspapers devote considerable space to the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Hungarian People's Republic. Feature articles and editorials detail Hungary's achievements. Much coverage is also given to National Forest Week in Bulgaria.

A certain increase in antireligious articles is noted in all papers, in particular Dunavska Pravda, which carries an article attacking the Seventh Day Adventist sect and its ministers in the city. Subsequent issues carry letter to the editor advocating repressive measures against these ministers and Saturday religious school teachers.

Appendix A of this summary lists graphic materials.

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<u>Pirinsko Delo</u>	<u>Kolarovgradska Borba</u>	<u>Dunavska Pravda</u>
<u>Chernomorski Front</u>	<u>Otechestven Glas</u>	<u>Narodno Delo</u>

I. ECONOMIC

A. Manufacturing Industries

The Machine Building Plant (Mashinostroitelen zavod) in Kolarovgrad has completed the prototype for the first Bulgarian manufactured three ton truck. It has rear wheel drive, and the driver's seat is mounted above the engine. The gear shift is on the steering wheel. (Kolarovgradska Borba, Kolarovgrad, 31 March 1960, page 1)

B. Chemical Industry

As a result of a mechanical reorganization program, the "Karl Marx" State Soda Plant (DZS "Karl Marks") in Reka Devnya village be able to produce 600 tons of solid caustic soda per month. Production cycle time has been cut from 70 hours to 15 to 20 hours. The plant will now use fuel oil in place of coal. (Narodno Delo, Varna, 2 April 1960, page 1)

C. Fuels and Power

During the first quarter of this year, seismic research parties of the Varna Geophysical Group, headed by Engineer Angel Banchev, did preparatory work for geophysical field prospecting. On 30 March, geophysical field studies were begun. The seismic research party headed by geophysical engineer Milko Milkov began prospecting using the reflective wave method in the area of Konstantinovo village. They are using the new "AVB" type drilling apparatus. It is mounted on a powerful caterpillar tractor of the "S-100" type. It can easily be moved to new drilling points over rugged terrain where transport is difficult.

Seismic studies in the area of Konstantinovo village are being made in order to determine the structural elements of the area and to install a rotary prospecting drill for oil and gas. Similar seismic work has been begun in the Kavarna area under the leadership of Georgi Ganchev. Another geophysical team, headed by Yanko Kolev, has undertaken seismic studies in the Kardam region on the Dobrudzha Plain. (Narodno Delo, Varna, 1 April 1960, page 1)

D. Agriculture

At the current stage in the development of the TKZS, there can be no argument as to the economic need for the continuation of the personal plots for cooperative farmers.

"The managers of some cooperative farms in Ruse Okrug, however, do not properly understand the importance of these auxiliary lands at this point." In many instances the plots allocated to farmers for their personal use are at the remotest ends of the cooperative lands. The farmers are thus forced to grow grain rather than fodder crops. In 1959,

more than 20,000 decares of grain and only 7,000 decares of fodder grass were planted on such plots. Nor are cooperative farmers being given needed aid in proper cultivation. They do not receive prompt allocations of draft animals and machinery, and therefore are late in planting and sowing as well as cultivation. For this reason they produce insufficient fodder and are forced to reduce the number of cattle maintained. Currently Ruse Okrug has only 2,112 head of cows personally owned by cooperative farmers. On some cooperative farms this situation has already reached an alarming degree of seriousness. The number of personally owned hogs, sheep and poultry is also insufficient for the needs.

The wrongful attitude toward cooperative farmers' personal plots must be immediately eliminated. TKZS leaders must devote their efforts not toward the elimination but toward the strengthening of these plots in order that they may become more productive. This year, the lands allocated to cooperative farmers in Ruse Okrug for their personal use will be planted with 60,000 decares of corn, which will help to provide adequate fodder and to increase the number of head of livestock personally owned by the farmers. They must be given all possible aid in the proper cultivation of their personal lands. However, this should not at all costs be permitted to interfere with cooperative production. "It should be noted that there are still some cooperative farmers who have not entirely cast away concepts of private ownership, and who waste a large percentage of their time and effort on their own plots. The Party organizations must absolutely explain to such farmers that their personal plots are intended only as auxiliary sources of agricultural produce. Thus they must use their personal plots for the production of fodder for their cattle and only such vegetables and other crops as are needed by their own families. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 2 April 1960, page 1)

E. Transportation and Communications

A new type of radio service will be operative in Plovdiv as of 1 April 1960. It will make possible the rebroadcasting of several local programs along with those broadcast by Radio Sofia on an inexpensive and simple basis. Industrial and atmospheric disturbances will not affect reception. As many as five different programs will be broadcast at the same time. The main advantage of this multiple program service is that the presently existing telephone lines can be used to transmit broadcasts to subscribers. The five programs will be relayed on frequencies ranging from 180 to 330 kilohertz. This will not interfere with the normal functioning of telephone communications. Anyone with a telephone or near one can utilize this new type of radio service. Programs will be heard through standard radio receivers on the long wave band. The programs will be tuned in as if coming from five separate stations. If he so desires, a subscriber may use a standard antenna, or he can tune into the multiple program radio network without any structural alteration in his receiver. In the future, a new type of receiver for multiple

program radio service is to be manufactured. This new type of installation greatly improves service in plants, establishments and enterprises. These can now be easily and cheaply linked with radio facilities such as to receive several programs in addition to those broadcast on national transmitters. (Chernomorski Front, Burgas, 1 April 1960, page 1)

F. General Economic

Docking recently at the port of Varna the Soviet freighter "Tula" unloaded 4,140 tons of goods from the USSR for the Bulgarian construction sites at the "Maritsa-iztok" Thermoelectric Power Plant and at the Kremikovtsi plant. Included were a 65 ton drying drum, 2,626 tons of iron ingots, pipe, rolled metal, excavators, etc. (Narodno Delo, Varna, 6 April 1960, page 1)

II. THE GOVERNMENT

A. Comrade Courts

A conference for the Party and economic workers' active of the Plovdiv City BCP Organization was held on 30 March 1960. It was attended by Georgi Tsankov, a member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the BCP, and Minister of the Interior, and by other Party workers. Colonel Kashilski, head of the "Administrative Organs" Department of the Plovdiv City Committee of the BCP spoke on the decree issued by the CC of the BCP and the Council of Ministers on the participation of the working people in the maintenance of public order in the country, and on the draft law on the creation of comrades' courts. He stressed that the major aspect of the activities of such voluntary groups is preventive and educational work.

The comrades' courts will be composed of the most prominent citizens who enjoy the trust of the enterprises in which they work. They will have jurisdiction in cases of violation of labor discipline, public morality, of petty theft, hooliganism, etc., which are not serious enough in nature to warrant court prosecution. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 31 March 1960, page 1)

III. THE COMMUNIST PARTY

A. Conference on Marxist Theory

On 25 March 1960 the Ruse City Party Organization held a conference on theory sponsored by the Ruse Okrug and City BCP Committees. Propaganda workers attended and discussed history and Marxist-Leninist philosophy. Four papers were read, dealing with the following subjects:

"Marxism-Leninism and Strategy and Tactics as the Science of Guiding Revolutionary Struggles", "Strategy and Tactics of the CPSU in the Struggle Against Czarism and the Bourgeoisie and for the Dictatorship of the Proletariat and the Construction of Socialism," "The Strategy and Tactics of the BCP in the Struggle Against Monarchofascism and Capitalism and for the Dictatorship of the Proletariat and the Construction of Socialism," and "The Strategy and Tactics of the Communist and Workers' Parties in Capitalist and Colonial Countries." A similar conference was held on 26 March for propaganda workers of the Party and Komsomol in villages. Propaganda worker G. Stanev, of Dve modili village, spoke on the development of revolution in certain countries and the tactics pursued by the communist and workers' parties in each. He also mentioned certain erroneous concepts as regards the transition from capitalism to socialism which have been permitted by the Union of Yugoslav Communists. Petur Tankov, a propaganda worker from the village of Pirgovo, "dealt in detail with the wrongful strategy and tactics adopted by left wing sectarians in Bulgaria." Angel Slavov, a propaganda worker from the village of Chervena voda, spoke on the economic and political situation in Cuba, and the policies of the Cuban People's Socialist Party. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 31 March 1960, page 2)

IV. SOCIOLOGICAL ITEMS

A. Seventh-Day Adventists

There are Seventh Day Adventists in the city of Ruse and elsewhere in Bulgaria. Some of them believe in this faith guilelessly, and others "believe" for certain purposes. For example, their brother-in-law, Brigadier F. D. Frost, of Britain, wrote an article in the newspaper "Zov" (The Call), in which, on the basis of the Apocalypse of St. John and other biblical writings, he claimed that God, in his strategic plan, envisaged the "Suez War" as occurring exactly in 1956. The purpose of the article is crystal clear -- a justification of the defeated efforts of the English and French imperialists. The aims of other "believers" are sometimes far less transparent. Such persons play upon the beliefs of adherents of the sect in socialist countries to obtain intelligence for the imperialist states where the centers of such sects are located. In Ruse, Seventh Day Adventist minister and secretary-cashier of the Union of Seventh Day Adventist Churches in northern Bulgaria, Danail Georgiev Kadalev, has his own reasons and motives for "believing" in the "second coming". His purpose is evident when one visits his home at No 3, Terter Street, where he lives in extreme comfort. He does not believe in accounting for the tithes which are paid weekly by each believer.

The constitution of the Bulgarian People's Republic guarantees full freedom of religion. Normally, we would content ourselves with an explanation of the truth, and an appeal to those who have been misled

to come to their senses and discard medieval superstition. However, the activities of this super-reactionary sect involve not only unhygienic practices but crime as well.

Ministers Kadalev, Borisov and others in their various sermons have appealed to and ordered believers, the majority of whom are workers', not to report on Saturdays. This is a command to violate labor discipline and to hinder plan fulfillment. "Many members of this sect listen to these damaging edicts and fail to work on Saturdays. Examples include Stoil Nikolov Manev, an employee of the "Solidarnost" Cooperative; Pencho Denchev Georgiev, a worker at the "Services" Industrial Combine; and Dr. Baeva, who is employed at the Transportation Workers' hospital." The indifference with which the managers of the above-mentioned enterprises tolerate this systematic violation of the labor code is amazing.

Bulgaria's laws forbid any private individual or organization to open schools to teach children of Bulgarian citizens. The Adventist leaders grossly violate these laws. Not only do they forbid the children of their flocks to attend school on Saturdays, but they also operate a school of their own on Saturdays in the home of Petur Chernev on Chiprovtsi Street. There Sisters-in-Christ Mariya Dimitrova Encheva and Rayna Grigorova Encheva "teach" small children. As a result of these teachings, some of these children will be spiritually maimed for life. It is high time that their parents came to their senses, and that the court organs interfered.

Let us appeal to public organizations and to neighbors and friends of those Ruse citizens who have been so unfortunate as to become members of the Adventist sect, one of the most reactionary and dangerous. We must surround them with attention and concern, and help them correct their error. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 31 March 1960, page 3)

A letter to the editor of the newspaper "Dunavska Pravda" inquires about the wages of Seventh Adventist ministers. The writer has heard that they barely suffice to keep their families alive.

An investigation of financial documents drafted by the inspector of the Ruse Okrug People's Soviet, who has checked on the financial activities of the Union of Seventh Day Adventist Churches provided the answer to the question.

The Seventh Day Adventist sect maintains 17 ministers and other officials on the payroll. Their wages are far from modest. For example, the president, Khristo Nikolov Kirov, who lives at No. 10 Vasil Kolarov Street in Sofia, and who visits Ruse once or twice a year, receives 1,090 leva per month. Minister P. Iv. Obrev earns 1,058 leva monthly. Minister Pavel Angelov Kostov earns 1,020 leva a month. The monthly wage of Minister Boris Kirilov Stefanov is 1,016 leva, and that of Danail Georgiev Kadalev, secretary and cashier of the Union and minister at Ruse, is 940 leva. As is evident, none of these is likely to die of starvation.

As to their work, a definition is easy. They preach and sing one day a week, i.e. mislead and confuse the population. They also discreetly collect the tithe from their flocks.

Worker Y. G. of the "Transportation and Haulage" Cooperative in Ruse, a member of the sect, earns 678 leva per month. He could have earned much more had he ignored the criminal edict not to work on Saturday. After paying his 68 leva tithe, he and his family have only 610 leva left. This shows that Adventist ministers suffer from no excess of scruples as regards brotherhood, justice, and honesty. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 3 April 1960, page 3)

Letters to the editor in connection with the activities of Seventh Day Adventists in Ruse.

From Stefan P. Velikov, Party secretary of the "Transportation and Haulage" Economic Enterprise in Ruse:

Our enterprise employs Seventh Day Adventist Yordan Aleksandrov Todorov. Poisoned by his religious misconceptions, he eats rather oddly. Frequently he has eaten roots which give him ulcers. He fails to report for work on Saturdays, and therefore receives lower wages than his comrades. In February the other members of his brigade earned 1,100 leva, while he earned but 678, one tenth of which he gave to the church. Because of his absenteeism on Saturdays, no brigade wants to have him as a member.

"We have called him before the Party Bureau several times, and have advised him wisely and considerately, in an effort to help him mend his ways. We have transferred him to work in various departments, but he refuses to understand. We will be forced to take definitive measures in this connection. Any liberal attitude toward those who destroy labor discipline and hinder the fulfillment of the plan is no longer admissible." (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 5 April 1960, page 2)

B. Anti-Religious Education of Children

Although all parents have an obligation to work toward the anti-religious education of their children, facts indicate that there are two types of parents who are committing unforgiveable and irreparable crimes against their children in this connection. The first group are religiously minded persons "who are to be found in certain villages in Plovdiv Okrug." In the majority, these are honest people who have fallen under the influence of preacher-demagogues, and who sincerely believe that religion is a superior teaching which has as its purpose the building of strong moral character. They are unwittingly misleading their own children, and sometimes are the cause for the suffering and death of their offspring. The second category includes persons who are not religious, but who have failed to rid themselves entirely of certain religious remnants in the form of superstition and prejudice. Thus a certain percentage of parent, particularly mothers, frequently indulge in dream interpretations or other superstitious practices. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 5 April 1960, page 3)

C. Anti-Catholic Atheistic Education

The "Agitation and Propaganda" Section of the Plovdiv Okrug BCP Committee held a two day seminar for the "teachers in villages in Plovdiv Okrug where the influence of Catholicism is still felt. The seminar concentrated on problems of atheistic education of the younger generation." The first paper, on the subject "Catholicism and Its Reactionary Aims," was read by V. Barov, a lecturer from the National Lecturers' Group.

A report on the role of the schools in the atheistic education of students was read by D. Minchev, director of the Institute for Teachers' Specialization in Sofia. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 5 April 1960, page 1)

D. Treatment of Gypsies

Considerable attention has been devoted to gypsies by the Nesebur Obshtina People's Council. A large percentage of this minority is employed in state and cooperative enterprises. There are 1,150 citizens of gypsy origin in Nesebur Obshtina. Of these, 565 are able-bodied workers, and 457 are employed on farms, in Craftsmen's Cooperatives, industrial combines, and the State Fishing Enterprise.

However, there are still some gypsy families who prefer to retain their nomadic habits. They engage in practices incompatible with socialist morality, commonlaw marriage, etc.

The decree of the Council of Ministers on the granting of certain privileges to the gypsy population has not been widely publicized nor fully implemented. Although an entire year has passed since the decree was issued the Nesebur Obshtina People's Soviet has failed to take any measures in connection with the final solution of several problems, including the granting of loans of up to 5,000 leva, the allocation of free lots for housing construction to those interested, etc. In defiance of the decree, large percentages of the gypsy population are still being refused membership in cooperative farms. This is particularly serious in Orizare village, which takes the wrongful attitude that gypsies will not remain permanent members nor be steady workers. Inadequate attention is being given to the cultural education of gypsies. Except for the readers' groups established in Nesebur and the village of Tunkovo, there have been no measures taken in regard to this aspect of the gypsies' life in the settlements of the obshtina. The case of Orizare village is a strikingly bad example of the situation. There not a single gypsy is a member of the Fatherland Front. The percentage of gypsies in the membership of the Voluntary Organization for Defense Cooperation, the Communist Youth Movement, etc. is insignificant. (Chernomorski Front, Burgas, 5 April 1960, page 2)

E. Tourist Facilities

Resort establishments in Varna and its environs provide a total of 2,700 beds for visitors. The "Balkanturist" Organization has another 1,000 beds in tents available. Nine hotels are under construction. One is to be eleven stories high, and one seven stories. Eight of these, with accommodations for 1,740 persons, are to be completed in the spring of 1960. Camping grounds are being established on the "Golden Sands" site, where tourists will be able to park their cars and pitch their own tents. The director of the Varn branch of "Balkanturist", Tsonyo Andreev, has reported that in 1960 plans to welcome about 60,000 foreign visitors from 53 different countries. The largest group will come from Czechoslovakia -- 24,697. There will be 10,024 from the German Democratic Republic, 5,535 from Poland, 3,521 from the USSR, etc. About 10,000 tourists are expected from capitalist countries. On 15 April, "Balkanturist" expects a group of 44 from America. They will be accommodated at the "Chayka" Hotel. (Narodno Delo, Varna, 2 April 1960, page 1)

APPENDIX A

Graphic Illustration

(1) Photograph of the "Vasil Kolarov" Cement Plant (Tsimentov zavod "Vasil Kolarov"). (Pirinsko Delo, Blagoevgrad, 6 April 1960, page 1)

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