

Iliescu creates a Romanian Nazi state

by Konstantin George

Between June 12 and 15, television viewers around the world were witnesses to an orgy of organized violence and brutality by fascist-communist thugs, who appeared in the streets of Bucharest, Romania, ordered by Romania's President Ion Iliescu. Directed by the secret police, miners and workers beat up, arrested, or carted away to jails and camps thousands of helpless Romanian citizens.

Under Soviet direction, and with full Anglo-American complicity, the reign of terror against Romania's anti-communist opposition is creating a national socialist tyranny. Iliescu the Bolshevik has emerged as Iliescu the national socialist, installing in "post-communist" Romania, the first fascist state in Europe since World War II.

The superpowers granted the new totalitarian system a clean bill of health via the Western observer teams sent to the May 20 elections. They turned a blind eye to the massive vote fraud committed by Iliescu's National Salvation Front, which transformed a narrow absolute majority into an over two-thirds landslide for Iliescu.

Iliescu's 'Reichstag fire'

The results of the elections led to daily demonstrations of thousands of anti-communists in Bucharest, which continued into June. These demonstrations were often noisy, but always peaceful. For three weeks, Iliescu issued threats and warnings against the demonstrators and the opposition, but nothing happened, or so it seemed. But behind the scenes, the miners' shock troops were being organized into stormtrooper formations, and the 70,000 cadres of the allegedly disbanded secret police, the Securitate, were being regrouped and reorganized into a Romanian version of the Nazi SS.

On June 12, in the midst of continuing anti-regime demonstrations, a provocation occurred which was the equivalent of the Nazis' torching of the Reichstag building. Numerous police buses were set on fire, and secret police agents-provocateurs staged fire-bombing attacks against the headquarters of the Interior Ministry. A cassette recording made of police radio conversations that day in Bucharest, excerpts of which were published in the June 21 *Daily Telegraph* of London, document the secret police provocation. Police officer Number 53 is quoted reporting to police officer Number 52: "Do

you see any possibility of informing the President? *We* are starting to burn all the buses. This was the agreement."

Iliescu had his pretext to declare that a "fascist coup" had begun, and to inaugurate the reign of terror, every detail of which had been planned in advance. He "appealed" to Romania's "miners" to come to Bucharest and smash the "coup." The miners in question were a hand-picked force of 10,000, who were rushed to Bucharest aboard waiting trains, well-stocked with food and drink. Along with the miners, the Securitate, on cue, reappeared in the thousands, on the streets of Bucharest. The miners from the provinces had no trouble getting around the unfamiliar streets of the capital. Each squad of miner toughs had Securitate officers to lead them. The orgy of Nazi violence began.

The reign of terror

Carrying clubs, iron bars, and miners' pickaxes, Iliescu's stormtroopers roamed the streets of Bucharest, beating up demonstrators and anyone else whom they thought looked like an opponent of the regime. As one thug boasted to Romanian television: "You can tell from their ideas, their dress, their behavior, the way they speak."

The pogrom went on for three days. The grisly toll by nightfall, June 15: at least seven people killed, thousands injured, of whom 460 required hospitalization, and up to 2,000 persons arrested, carted away with no trace of them since.

How well-organized the terror was, was shown by the destruction and vandalism of every single opposition party office, newspaper, and the private apartments of all leading figures from the two main anti-Iliescu parties, the National Liberal Party and the Peasants Party. The same scenes occurred in university buildings and students' dormitories. Western journalists and camera crews were ordered by the miners to go back to their hotels, which were sealed off by squads of miners and Securitate agents. Hotel personnel were told that if the journalists did not remain in the hotels, then the hotels would be attacked and vandalized.

On June 15, Iliescu appeared to address a "farewell rally" for the miners. "You did very good work," he told them. "Thank you for coming. If I need you again, I will call you." The miners roared in reply, that they would return to Bucharest if the city needs "further cleaning up."

The next day, Iliescu, in a televised address, announced the formation of a National Guard, to be drawn from the miners and other workers' formations, and the Securitate, to "restore order" in Romania. The very name was deliberately chosen to evoke the image of the pre-war Romanian mass fascist organization, the Iron Guard.

The reasons why Romania is becoming the first postwar fascist state on the European continent do not only lie in Bucharest. Iliescu is a lifelong Soviet agent, a close associate of Mikhail Gorbachov, who was put in power last December in a coup d'état ordered from Moscow.