

March the 26th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL OF THE MINISTER OF ADMINISTRATION AND INTERIOR

Next week, the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, will begin a diplomatic travel including more European destinations, as the moment of the decision regarding Romania's accession to the European Union is very close. This series of diplomatic measures, dedicated to the progress achieved by Romania in view of its integration to the European Union on 1 January 2007, will include meetings with Spanish, Italian and German high-officials.

Between 29 and 31 March, Minister Vasile Blaga will pay a visit to Spain, in the context of which he will hold talks with the Spanish ministers of public administration - Jordi Sevilla Segura and internal affairs - Antonio Alonso Suarez. On this occasion, the home affairs ministers of Romania and Spain will sign an Agreement regarding the co-operation in fighting organised crime, terrorism and trafficking in drugs and human beings.

On 31 March, in Rome, Vasile Blaga will participate in the Congress of the European Popular Party, and then he will meet home affairs ministers and other European political personalities, members of this organism.

On 4 April, the Minister of Administration and Interior will pay an official visit to Germany, upon the invitation of the federal minister of internal affairs, Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble. Vasile Blaga will solicit from his German counterpart official the support of the federal authorities, at European level as well, for sustaining Romania's efforts of finalising the preparations in view of the EU accession.

On 17 May, the European Commission will present before the Member States the report regarding the degree of Romania's preparedness in view of the EU integration and in June, the European Council is going to adopt either the decision on the date of Romania's accession, or the decision to activate the safeguarding clause.

This safeguard clause, comprised in the Treaty of Romania's Accession to the European Union, provides the possibility of postponing the accession date by one year, if Romania should not carry out a series of reforms. The aspects referring to the Internal Affairs were solved: the Action Plan Schengen was adopted by the deadline, there was also adopted a clearer legal framework regarding the attributions of the Gendarmerie and Police, as well as regarding the co-operation between them, and important progress was achieved in countering organised crime. The staff shortage at the future outer border of the European Union is already over 98% covered, and by June it will be 100% covered; at the same time, by the beginning of November, the process of ensuring a high level of border control and surveillance will have been completed, within the framework of the contract with EADS.

"I am not worried about Romania's accession, if considering the issues referring to the Internal Affairs", announced Minister Vasile Blaga.

March the 23rd, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

A POLICEMAN AND HIS FATHER ARE RETAINED ON CHARGE OF BRIBERY

Yesterday, 22 March 2006, two persons – a police agent within the Police Station No.7 Bucharest and his father – were retained for 24 hours on charge of bribery and today they will be presented before Olt Court with the proposal of pre-trial custody.

The two men were caught in the act by the officers of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate within M.A.I. – Anti-Corruption Bureau Olt and the prosecutors of the Prosecutor's Office near Olt Court, while they were offering 1,800,000 ROL to a policeman within the Police of Bals – Olt county, in order to get a favourable solution to a file drawn up on charge of rape, that the police officer was working on.

Everything started from the self-denouncement of the police officer, who notified the workers of the Anti-Corruption Bureau Olt and the prosecutors of the Prosecutor's Office near Olt Court that a citizen from Bals had offered 5 million ROL as bribe, for getting a favourable solution to the penal file in which his son was being investigated.

The investigations have led to the following: the son of the briber is police agent within the Police Station No.7 in Bucharest, and he was being investigated on charge of rape, following a notification of a woman from Bals.

Taking into consideration the policeman's self-denouncement, on 22 March 2006, officers within the General Anti-Corruption Directorate of M.A.I. – Anti-Corruption Bureau Olt and the prosecutors of the Olt Court organised the action of catching the defender in the act, with the technical support of S.I.I.P.I. Olt.

Thus, they were caught while offering 1,800,000 ROL and while they were giving "instructions" to the police officer on what he had to do in order to be able to propose not to start the criminal investigations.

Following the acquired evidence, the two were retained for 24 hours on bribery, and later today they will be taken before Olt Court with the proposal of pre-trial custody.

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The TV Channels which are interested in this case can get images from the action of catching the police commissioner in the act, beginning with 12.30 hrs, at the G.A.D. headquarters 12 Nicolae Grigorescu St, sector 3.

**March the 23rd, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

MINISTER VASILE BLAGA HAS MET TODAY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ENLARGEMENT DIRECTORATE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, has met today, the General Director of the Enlargement Directorate of the European Commission, Michael Leigh, present today in Bucharest in an informal visit before the issuing of the Monitoring Report for Romania, which is scheduled to be published on 17 May 2006.

Minister Vasile Blaga presented before the European official the progresses that the Ministry of Administration and Interior achieved in view of Romania's EU accession, underlining the aspects related to the measures taken for borders securing and those referring to the public administration reform, domains considered as crucial by the European Union.

Vasile Blaga informed Michael Leigh of the fact that the Border Police has to fill in only 500 vacancies in order to entirely cover the staff shortage at the level of the future outer border of the E.U., and this will be accomplished in 2-month time. At the same time, by November, the process of creating a high level border control and surveillance will be completed.

As regards border modernisation, the Ministry of Administration and Interior wants to attract as many specialists within the Border Police as possible, for the management of the integrated border securing system, one of the most effective systems of this kind in Europe. At the same time, M.A.I. will soon organise an international auction for employing a specialised company to watch the development of the EADS contract and to monitor the progresses achieved in this respect, has stated Vasile Blaga.

As regards public administration, Director General of the Enlargement Directorate appreciated that decentralization, the ensuring of the public position independence and its depoliticised development, as well as the ensuring of some appropriate financial sources – elements promoted by the Ministry of Administration and Interior through the law package which is currently subject to Parliamentary debates – are extremely important from the point of view of the European Union, as they represent step that have to be taken in view of our country's E.U. accession.

March the 23rd, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

ROMANIA AND MOLDOVA HAVE SIGNED A PROTOCOL ON THE APPLYING OF THE READMISSION AGREEMENT

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, and his Moldovan counterpart official, Gheorghe Papuc, have signed today, 23 March 2006, in Bucharest, a Protocol regarding the Applying of the Agreement between the Romanian Government and the Government of the Republic of Moldova on foreigners' readmission (agreement signed on 27 July 2001, in Bucharest).

On the occasion of this meeting, the home affairs of Romania and the Republic of Moldova discussed on the introducing of entering visas for the Moldovan citizens who want to travel in our country, measure scheduled to be introduced beginning with November of this year, within the framework of the commitments made by Romania in view of its E.U. accession. Referring to this issue, Minister Vasile Blaga stated:

„It is not a pleasure for Romania, for the Romanian Government, to introduce visas for the Republic of Moldova, but we have the responsibility that we took in December 2005 on the occasion of signing the Treatment of E.U. Accession, to ensure - since 1 January 2007 on - an area of rights and liberties for about 480 million citizens of the Member States”.

In this context, the Minister of Administration and Interior asked the Foreign Affairs Ministry to take all the necessary measures so that the Moldovan citizens could benefit from a preferential treatment in getting visas, like other states do, granting a preferential treatment to the citizens who have the ethnicity of that particular country.

“All that we want is not confining the Moldavians' free movement to Romania and the Romanians' free movement to the Republic of Moldova” has stated Vasile Blaga.

The official talks held between the two ministers covered a wide range of issues in the home affairs area, mainly focusing on the supplementing of the bilateral legal framework for co-operation and operational co-operation between the counterpart structures of Romania and Moldova – police, border police, migration, and asylum.

The Minister of Interior of the Republic of Moldova approached the issue raised by *“the representatives of the underworld originating from the Republic of Moldova who apply for Romanian citizenship, thinking that, by using this method, they could avoid to legally be punished in the territory of the Republic of Moldova. For preventing the cases of granting the Romanian citizenship based on some forged documents, it was proposed that an international exchange mechanism be created, so that the authenticity of the documents submitted by the citizens of the Republic of Moldova could be better established”.*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Between 22 and 23 March 2006, the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, accompanied by a delegation within **the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Border Guard Service** paid an official visit to Romania.

The delegation of the Republic of Moldova, which also includes Sergiu GOLOVACI – the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Vasile STERBET – the Head of the International Relations and European Integration Directorate, was accompanied during this visit by questor general Anghel ANDREESCU, Secretary of State and Head of the Public Order and Safety Department, questor principal Nelu POP, Inspector General of the Border Police and questor principal Dan-Valentin FATULOIU, Inspector General of the Romanian Police.

The signing of this protocol of facilitating the readmission procedures for foreigners represents an important step to strengthening the co-operation of the home ministries of the two countries, considering that, on the date of Romania's E.U. accession (in 2007), the border between Romania and the Republic of Moldova will become the outer border of the European Union.

This agreement was a necessity as, once in the European Union, Romania will turn from a transit country into a destination country for migrants, and both states – Romania and the Republic of Moldova – are part of the route of illegal migration from the Near and Middle East.

Since the signing of the readmission agreement between Romania and Republic of Moldova, the Romanian border authorities have identified over 400 people (foreign citizens) who tried to illegally enter our country from the Republic of Moldova.

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Up to present, Romania has concluded 33 readmission agreements with the following countries: **Albania, Austria, Belgium, Benelux, Bulgaria, Czech, Croatia, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland, Finland, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Hungary, United Kingdom of Great Britain and the North Ireland, Estonia.**

The current agreements are being applied accordingly to those persons who do not fulfil the conditions required for entering or staying on the other party's territory, if they prove to be citizens of the other contractor party.

At the same time, the same agreements are being applied to the aliens (third countries' citizens) who were not allowed to enter the territory of the other contractor country, if they prove to have come directly from the territory of the other contractor country (the conditions and the procedures regarding the readmission of the citizens of the two contractor countries and those of a third country are established by the text of each agreement).

**March the 22nd, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

Today, 22 March 2006, at the Uzinexport Bussines Centre, has taken place the launching of the programme "**Anti-Corruption Awareness Campaign**", initiated in partnership with the British Embassy in Bucharest, the Ministry of Administration and Interior – the Anti-Corruption General Directorate, European Union through the Phare Programme for developing the measures against corruption within M.A.I., the International Organisation for Youth Euro<26 and Starlink Romania.

This event was attended by the British Ambassador **Quinton Quayle**, the General Director of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate within M.A.I. – Marian Sinton, representatives of the European Commission Delegation in Bucharest and of the other partner institutions involved in this project.

The initiation of this campaign based on the need, identified by all the partners, to make Romanian society aware of the danger that the perpetuation of corruption represents for the next generations.

The campaign will consist in:

I. Distributing for the public and private television channels a 30-second and a 15-second **TV ad** which presents the danger represented by corruption for the next generations, considering the fact that children develop their behaviour and personality imitating and borrowing much of the adults' behaviour. Thus, the adults should be made aware of the corruption issue, so that corruption as "a way of living" should not be handed down to the next generations.

II. Distributing to the national and local radio stations a **Radio ad** which has the same message as the TV ad.

III. M.A.I. has to print **10,000 posters**, having a significant message for encouraging citizens not to tolerate corruption. These posters will be placed in the M.A.I. institutions as well as in other locations where people have access and can inform. At the same time, there will be printed **20,000 fliers** containing the modalities that citizens can use to notify the General Anti-Corruption Directorate regarding the corruption deeds committed by the M.A.I. staff which they know about.

IV. Association for Implementing Democracy has to organise **6 regional debates** on "**Raising awareness of countering corruption among citizens and state institutions**" which will be attended by local and regional opinion leaders.

These debates aim at giving the local and regional opinion leaders the opportunity to present their opinions regarding the causes and effects of corruption and at finding appropriate solutions to reduce it.

The recommendations resulted from these debates will be gathered by AID in an “Anti-Corruption Guide” which will be transmitted to be consulted to the institutions which are involved in the “legislating”, “executing” and “informing/reporting” anti-corruption fight: Parliament (to each Parliament); Government (to all the responsible ministers); civil society (including mass-media), local Public Administration.

V. Conducting **two opinion surveys** which evaluate the impact of the campaign and measure more aspects regarding raising awareness of corruption among the youth and institutions.

VI. The **AID Romania** will publish, within the framework of the “Europe Diary” Agenda (a project of the Generation Europe Foundation and Euro26 Romania), a page comprising **educational material for the young students in high schools** on the causes and effects of corruption. The Agenda will be printed in **125,000 copies** and distributed to the 12th-Grade students in the high schools nationwide.

Being aware of the difficulty of the immediate change of citizens’ and state institutions’ behaviour and attitude to the “petty” and “high level” corruption, M.A.I. - through G.A.D. and the partners present in this activity - appreciated that the “fight against corruption” has to be a long-term process which has to get state institutions and citizens- the civil society involved.

**March the 22nd, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

ACTION OF CATCHING A POLICEMAN IN THE ACT, ORGANISED BY THE GENERAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DIRECTORATE

On 21 March 2006, officers of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, together with prosecutors of the Prosecutor’s Office near Bucharest Court, caught a police agent (within the Police General Directorate of Bucharest – D.G.P.M.B., Road Police Brigade) in the act, while he was getting 250 RON, money claimed from a citizen, for facilitating the release of the document attesting his right to drive a vehicle on the public roads.

On the same date, the Prosecutor’s Office near Bucharest Court disposed the police’s retaining for 24 hours, as he was charged with having committed the crime of influence trafficking twice, the punishment being of 2-10 year-prison sentence.

The criminal activity of the police agent consists in the fact that, on 25 February 2006, a car accident having been identified, the police agent suspended the driving license of the persons who committed the deed, consequently saying that he did not release the document attesting the right to drive on the public roads unless he receives 259 RON.

The money was received by the police agent in his office at the Road Police Brigade. This is also the location where the action, organised by the GAD’s officers with the support of the officers within D.G.I.P.I., took place.

Presently, the police agent is retained and he is being investigated; later today he is going to be presented before the Bucharest Court, in view of the releasing of a pre-trial custody warrant.

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The TV Channels which are interested in this case can get images from the action of catching the police commissioner in the act, beginning with 15.30 hrs.

March the 22nd, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

**ROMANIA AND MOLDOVA WILL SIGN A PROTOCOL REGARDING THE APPLYING OF THE
READMISSION AGREEMENT**

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, and his Moldovan counterpart official, Gheorghe Papuc, will sign tomorrow, in Bucharest, a Protocol regarding the Applying of the Agreement between the Romanian Government and the Government of the Republic of Moldova on foreigners' readmission (agreement signed on 27 July 2001, in Bucharest).

The agreement specifies the obligation of the Republic of Moldova to accept the readmission of its own citizens, as well as of all the illegal immigrants who transited its frontiers, after they have been identified in Romania.

At the same time, the home affairs ministers of Romania and Republic of Moldova will hold talks on the introducing of entering visas for the Moldovan citizens who want to travel in our countries, measures scheduled to be introduced beginning with November of this year, within the framework of the commitments made by Romania in view of its E.U. accession.

In the context of visa requirement for the citizens of the Republic of Moldova, the Minister of Administration and Interior asked the Foreign Affairs Ministry to take all the necessary measures so that they could benefit from a preferential treatment in getting visas, like other states do, granting a preferential treatment to the citizens who have the ethnicity of that particular country.

The official talks that are going to be held between the two ministers will cover a wide range of issues in the home affairs area, mainly focusing on the supplementing of the bilateral legal framework for co-operation and operational co-operation between the counterpart structures of Romania and Moldova – police, border police, migration, and asylum.

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The ceremony of signing the “Protocol between the Home Affairs Ministry and the Border Guard Service from the Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Administration and Interior of Romania regarding the Applying of the Foreigners' Readmission”, will take place on Thursday 23 March 2006, beginning with 11.25, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Administration and Interior (6-8 Mihai Voda, sector 5) – the Honour Hall.

The journalists accredited with the Ministry of Administration and Interior are invited to participate in this event – which will be followed by press statements – beginning with 11.00.

March the 21st, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

THE WEB SITE OF M.A.I. – THE 4TH IN THE TOP OF THE MOST ACCESSED WEB SITES

The Ministry of Administration and Interior is the 4th - after the Government, the Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Presidency - in the top of the most accessed institutions on the Internet, over the last seven days.

Today, until 15.00 there were recorder 9,737 visitors and 41,464 displays (an increase by 1,512 visitors and 8,081 displays as compared to the last seven days).

Out of the existing statistics – calculated at every 10 minutes – there was recorded that between 13 and 19 February 2006, the M.A.I. Internet page was accessed by 9,196 visitors, being recorded 38,432 displays, as compared to the

week of 6-12 March 2006, when there were recorded 8,481 visitors and 34,374 displays, which shows an over 10 per cent increase as compared to last week.

The everyday updating of the web site and the accuracy of the information placed on it are appreciated even by the persons abroad who have visited it; according to the statistics, only in March this year, beside the 99.234 displays recorded in the country, there were recorded 877 visitors from Germany, 586 from France, 573 from the USA, 562 from Italy, 313 from Great Britain, etc.

In the context of those presented above, and taking into consideration the people's necessity to permanently stay informed, the Ministry of Administration and Interior will keep on offering information of public interest, in digitalised form as well, in compliance with one of its priority objectives, namely that of ensuring the institutional transparency.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Willing to give all the persons interested the possibility to inform of the managerial team, the specific activities of M.A.I. and its component units, as well as the opportunity to participate in the public debates in the context of the decisional transparency of the institution, the Ministry of Administration and Interior launched its own web site in 2000 – the Romanian version (which was modernised in 2004) and in 2005 – the English version.

We express our gratitude to all those who have accessed the official web site of the Ministry of Administration and Interior (www.mai.gov.ro), assuring them that the specialised staff of our institution will do their best to improve the Internet page, so that the quality of the services could be at the level of the citizens' expectancies.

Bucharest, 21st March 2006

BULLETIN

“The public safety of Romania is the public safety of Germany” stated the Ambassador of Germany in Bucharest, **H.E. Mr Wilfried GRUBER**, on the occasion of the official handing of the technical endowment aids for 2005, offered by the Federal Home Affairs Ministry of Germany, to the Romanian Police General Inspectorate.

The event has taken place today, 21 March 2006, 17.00 hrs, at the headquarters of M.A.I., occasion on which Minister of Administration and Interior, **Mr Vasile Blaga**, assured the German official of the full availability of our country to keep on, in the same rhythm, the co-operation between Romania and Germany after 1 January 2007 as well, as *“we are extremely interested in the process of border securing and in harmonizing our structures' operational way with the operational way existing in the E.U. Member-States, and especially with the one existing in Germany”*.

The German authorities' aids, amounting to 231,000 euros and consisting in intervention vehicles for the local police brigades, various material necessary for expanding the drugs analysis laboratory from Iasi and different technical equipment, represents a real support to the activity developed by the representatives of the Romanian Police in fighting the organised crime.

This initiative is not an isolated one, as since 2003 the Romanian Police has received different donations from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany – through its Federal Home Affairs Ministry and the German Police (BKA) – amounting to **approximately 4.7 million euros**.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

An important part of the donation offered by the German Embassy, that is 192,000 euros, was destined to the laboratory of drugs physical-chemical analyses from Iasi.

This laboratory, inaugurated on 11 May 2005, promptly analyses drugs and substances supposed to be drugs, received from the operational departments from the North-East of the country.

The Police County Inspectorates of Iasi, Botosani, Suceava, Neamt, Bacau, Vaslui, Vrancea and Galati and the Brigades for Organised Crime and Drugs Countering are co-operating with this laboratory, in view of analysing the samples supposed to contain all kinds of drugs on the illicit market, medicines with stupefying and psychotropic content, and precursors.

Since 1 September 2005, when this laboratory started to be operational, there have been made physical-chemical analyses for 200 samples, of which 152 were found to be drugs.

**March the 20th, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

Italy could support Romania in view of modernising the intervention system in case of floods

The Italian authorities offered to support the Romanian authorities in matters relating the intervention in case of floods, through the creating of a mechanism of co-operation between the civil protection services of the two countries. The offer has been announced today during a meeting between the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, and the Ambassador of Italy in Bucharest, Daniele Mancini, who emphasised the full availability of the government that he is representing in this respect.

The Italian civil protection services, mainly based on voluntariness, are considered among the most effective organisms in the whole world, benefiting from a very well-organised system and the expertise gained following the actions carried out in a series of emergency situations. For example, on the occasion of the extreme weather conditions which have taken place over the last two years in the Far East, the Italian civil protection was the first intervention force that reached the disaster scene.

The Minister of Administration and Interior told the Italian Ambassador about the most important problems that the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations is facing, as the main institution with responsibility in intervening in case of floods or other disasters.

Minister Vasile Blaga has shown that the technical equipment of G.I.E.S. is “totally out of date”. Thus, at the beginning of 2005, 99 per cent of this technical equipment exceeded its cassation norm. The supplementing of this institution’s budget by about 1,000 billions in 2005 allowed the acquisition of an important number of modern utilities, which can be used in all types of interventions. Even in these circumstances, the percent of the technical equipment with exceeded cassation norm is quite high - 97 per cent. **“The renewing of the technical equipment of G.I.E.S. implies very big sums of money and can only be accomplished on long-term”**, stated the Minister of Administration and Interior.

Another problem that the Romanian intervention services are facing is the losing - beginning with next year - of over 23,000 soldiers in their military service, following the ceasing of the compulsory military service. The G.I.E.S.’s staff will be reduced by 8,000 soldiers in their military service, and the staff of Gendarmerie - another Arm placed in the first line in the fight against the floods -, by over 15,000 soldiers. In these circumstances, the Ministry of Administration and Interior commits itself to develop a system based on citizens’ voluntary participation in case of disasters, after the model offered by almost all the European developed countries.

Minister Vasile Blaga has appreciated that the Italian expertise would be extremely precious to Romania within the process of institutional construction, which aims at adjusting the intervention system to the problems that we have to overcome.

March the 20th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

A BORDER POLICEMAN, ACCOMPLICE OF SOME UKRAINIAN SMUGGLERS, WAS ARRESTED

The officers within the **General Anti-Corruption Directorate**, together with the prosecutors of the **National Anti-Corruption Directorate**, through the territorial departments from Oradea and Satu Mare – in co-operation with the workers of the **Border Police General Inspectorate** – BPCI Satu Mare, dismantled, after carrying out some actions in the night between 16/17 March 2006 and the following days, a trans-border network of smugglers dealing in cigarettes originating from Ukraine, which were introduced illegally in the country, through the responsibility area of Halmeu BP Sector (border point and green zone).

The leader of this group was sub-inspector Stanica D., shift chief at the Border Police Sector Halmeu, who, in exchange for some sums of money or some goods, ensured the entering of the cigarettes into Romania, from where they were taken over by more distributors.

On 17 March 2006, 13 actions of home searching were carried out, occasion on which there were found cigarettes at different distributors in the area, who recognised the way they took possession of those cigarettes. On the same day, two Ukrainian citizens, who had driven the vehicles with cigarettes in the Romanian territory, were also identified and retained.

It was recorded that Stanica D. committed more crimes: **bribery, abuse in carrying out his duties in view of getting some undeserved goods, and smuggling, the most severe punishment provided by law being the prison sentence up to 18 months.**

Stanica D. was retained and then arrested by the Satu Mare Court for 29 days, the residence search revealing approximately 10,000 euros, 100 million ROL and a Swiss watch amounting to about 1,000 euros, received as bribe.

At the same time, there was discovered that, in January 2006, he had acquired an apartment which was furnished in exceptional conditions, and which the officer had not mentioned in his fortune declaration. At the searching of his car at the end of his shift, there were discovered different sums of money, in ROL and currency, amounting to approximately 2,000 euros, which represented the bribe that he accepted (during one night only).

The cigarettes that have been found and seized so far amount to approximately 160, 000 euros, but the investigations are going on, and there are clues that this criminal network caused much more important damage to the state budget.

The success of this action was a result of the co-operation between the three institutions which provided the prosecutor with a number of 25 officers, who intervened for solving this case.

The investigations are going on, in view of establishing the entire prejudice, as well as the respective penal responsibilities for each participant in these criminal deeds.

**March the 20th, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

CORRUPTION DEEDS IN DAMBOVITA

Following a citizen's denouncement, workers within the General Anti-Corruption Directorate – Dambovita Anti-Corruption Bureau, caught in the act a policeman within the Road Police in Dambovita, who claimed and received 200 euros for favouring the denouncer in the penal file drawn up for him, for driving without a driving license on the public roads.

S. DAN, from Gaesti, Dambovita County, presented to the **Anti-Corruption Bureau Dambovita**, where he submitted a self-denouncement regarding the fact that deputy chief agent C. CATALIN-MARIUS within the Road Police claimed a sum of money in order to intervene in the penal file that had been drawn up for driving his car without a driving license on the public roads, on 11 March 2006, deed identified following a routine control by the police agent and his chief.

Once the denouncement recorded, the Prosecutor's Office near Dambovita Court was notified, the judicial inquiry activities being carried out under the co-ordination of the prosecutor assigned.

On the 16 March 2006, the first meeting between the police agent and the denouncer took place, occasion on which the policeman asked for 200 euros, in order to help the denouncer to get rid of the criminal file that had been drawn up for him. They agreed to meet that day later, so that the police agent could get the money. It is this moment that the action of catching the agent in the act, organised together with the prosecutor assigned and with the technical support of the S.I.I.P.I. Dambovita, took place.

According to what the denouncer and the police agent agreed upon, the former waited the agent on the pavement opposite the Police Station of Gaesti. The policeman came out of the building, meeting - by accident - an acquaintance who he asked to take "something" from the denouncer that he pointed to on the opposite pavement. The acquaintance followed the instructions and took the money (200 euros), brought it to the policeman and gave it to him.

The agent entered the police station, while a team caught the person who mediated the money transaction, and while a second team entered the police station for continuing the proceedings. The policeman did not enter his office, as he went directly to his chief's office; after that, when leaving, in the institution's hall, he was stopped by the GAD's workers.

The searching of the policeman did not lead to the finding of the currency, but on his hands, (as well as on the hands of the person who mediated the transaction), there were identified traces of the fluorescent substance which the notes had been marked with. When asked where he was coming from in the moment he met the G.A.D. officers (in the hall), the agent said that he had been in his chief's office; consequently, that office was also searched.

On this occasion, on the hands, clothes, purse, desk and locker of the officer (the agent's chief) there were identified traces of the fluorescent substance in a significant quantity, yet the money (the 200 euros) was not found; but there are reliable indicators that, when he caught the sight of the GAD's control team, the agent threw the money out of the building.

After the initial preliminary investigations were started, the prosecutor disposed that the file should be forwarded to the N.A.D. – the Territorial Service Ploiesti.

On 17 March 2006, the two policemen were presented before the competent prosecutor's office, heard, and the measure of starting the criminal proceedings was disposed, for bribery and for aiding and abetting in bribery.

Investigations carried out led to the fact that, in 2005 – on two occasions, the police agent claimed and received from the denouncer some sums of money for helping him get favourable solutions in other two penal files based on the same fault – driving without a driving license on the public roads.

The two policemen had been in the attention of the GAD's officers, as there had been clues that they were committing some corruption-related activities.

The officers within the General Anti-Corruption Directorate – Dambovită are keeping on the investigations under the coordination of the prosecutor assigned by the NAD – the Territorial Anti-Corruption Service Ploiesti.