

**THE ROMANIAN GULAG AND ITS CHARACTERS: CAMP
COMMANDERS AND POLITICAL OFFICERS AT THE DANUBE –
BLACK SEA CANAL DESCRIBED IN MEMOIRS***

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Abstract: Generally the human dramas and tragedies that the communist prison camp system, the Gulag has produced in all countries who had the misfortune to experience the rigors of communist totalitarianism are known. Even so, however, new evidence, new revelations of those who inhabited the islands of the Gulag will always be welcome for those who do not know, to find and those who pretended not to know, to recognize the evil essence crime of the regime and its human instruments.

In this case, examples of such instruments of the regime are commanders and political officers who worked in various periods in the forced labor camps across the Danube-Black Sea *Canal*. It is not difficult to guess that memoirs tried to sketch and present dozens, maybe even hundreds of examples of investigators, guards, torturers, commanders of prisons and labor camps, political officers who chose willingly, to put themselves in the service of political repression in its most violent forms.

In this category, the camp commanders and political officers on the Danube Black Sea *Canal* were evoked in dozens of works, in dozens of oral history testimonies showing portraits of people employed in the efforts to liquidate all "enemies of the people" people of extraordinary cruelty, heedless to the human suffering in its most extreme forms, which did not, at any time, questioned the motives, methods and the aims developed in the underground by the Party and the Securitate.

Keywords: Danube-Black Sea Canal, political prisoners, labor camps, "reeducation", detention memories
