

December 28, 1989

**Romania: Ceausescu-Era Remnants Turning Up in
and Around New Government**□□□

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Summary:

An analysis of Ceausescu hardliners and their efforts to integrate themselves with the
National Salvation Front.

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The success that Ceausescu-era hardliners have had in ingratiating themselves with the National Salvation Front is contributing to growing public skepticism of the Front.

Former Prime Minister **Ilie Verdet**, who is married to Nicolae Ceausescu's sister, has been named to the Provisional Leadership Council, the Front's executive body.

Col. Gen. **Iulian Vlad**, who once served as military aide to Ceausescu and had been head of the Securitate—the secret police—since 1987, is functioning at the new Defense Ministry. Vlad called on his former subordinates to cease fighting after he surrendered to the Army on 23 December.

Former Prime Minister **Constantin Dascalescu** has been consulting with Verdet and Vlad. Dascalescu was a member of the party's elite Permanent Bureau and [redacted] administered the hated program of village destruction.

Former Deputy Prime Minister **Gheorghe Oprea** denied to the press that more than a handful of people had been killed in the uprising, changing his tune only after the tide of the rebellion turned. Afterward, Oprea [redacted] said that Ceausescu deserved to die and that he intended to return from talks with Turkish economic officials to join the Front.

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