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LAWSUITS AGAINST THE ENGINEERS IN BULGARIA (1952-1953). MEMORIES OF DEFENDANTS AND THEIR RELATIVES

(Summary)

In the late 1940s and early 1950s numerous trials were held as a result of the investigations made after the lawsuit against Traycho Kostov. Highly qualified experts from the most important branches of the economy, educated in Germany, Austria, Belgium, and France were subjected to repression through the practice of judicial retribution "against enemies of the people". The article analyzes memories of people who experienced the trials against the civil and electrical engineers in 1952 and against the mining engineers in 1953. The memories about the lawsuits against the mechanical engineers are not included in the research. It is revealed that the authorities of the Directorate of State Security systematically purged the so called "old technical intelligentsia" who were charged with the industrial accidents and economic difficulties as well as with the bad economic decisions at the time.