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Excerpts from book entitled "EVENTS LEADING UP TO WORLD WAR II", published by United States Government Printing Office, Washington: 1945

Relating to Rumania

From p. 247

June 26, 1940. Russian ultimatum to Rumania. ("In 1918, taking advantage of Russia's military weakness, Rumania forcibly wrested from the Soviet Union part of its territory-- Bessarabia--and thus broke the age-old unity of Bessarabia, populated chiefly by Ukrainians, with the Ukrainian Soviet Republic.

"The Soviet Union never reconciled itself to the forcible wresting of Bessarabia, which the U.S.S.R. Government more than once openly declared for the whole world to hear.

"Now, when the military weakness of the U.S.S.R. has become a thing of the past, while the present international situation demands the speediest solution of outstanding issues inherited from the past in order to lay at last the foundations of a durable peace between countries, the Soviet Union considers it necessary and timely in the interests of the restoration of justice to take up jointly with Rumania the immediate settlement of the question of the restoration of Bessarabia to the Soviet Union.

"The Government of the U.S.S.R. considers that the question of the restoration of Bessarabia is organically bound with the question of transfer to the Soviet Union of that part of Bukovina of which the population in its overwhelming majority is bound to the Soviet Ukraine by the unity of historic destinies as well as by unity of language and national composition." Times, June 29, 1940, p. 8. Cf. June 21, supra.)

From p. 248

June 28, 1940. Rumania transferred Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina to Russia. ("To preserve the possibility of avoiding serious consequences which would result from the application of force and the outbreak of hostilities in this part of Europe,..." Times, June 29, 1940, p. 8.)