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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Observations Concerning the Collectivization of Agriculture

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted] 25X1

1. The Orsk area is almost exclusively [redacted] ndustrial area although [redacted] seven small kolkhozes in the immediate vicinity that were operated by the government which planted corn, potatoes, cabbage, and tomatoes.

2. [redacted] the members of the kolkhozes were not making out very well. They had plenty of potatoes and that is all. Life in the kolkhozes appeared to be very primitive. Althoug[redacted]e members of the kolkhoz had some money, it was not very much and the purchasing power was even less. 25X1

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3. The house of the kolkhozes in the Orsk were largely mud huts. Clothing was poor.

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4. One trend t[redacted] with the kolkhozes in the Orsk area was that there was an increase in private livestock. Every family was allowed one cow but there were still many members in 1949 who did not yet have a cow. One other important trend was an increase in small garden plots and there was a tendency for most of the members to develop their own small plots. 25X1

5. The morale of the peasants in the kolkhozes was poor. They had to work from five am to eight pm [redacted] It was obvious [redacted] that they were all very unhappy. 25X1

- end - [redacted] 25X1

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