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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Austria (Russian Zone)

DATE:

SUBJECT Leather Industry Working for USIVA

CONFIDENTI[redacted] 50X1-HUM

DIST. 24 November 1947

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SUPPLEMENT 50X1-HUM

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1. USIVA controls a modern leather tannery and shoe manufacturing plant at Rehberg Krems, whose monthly pre-war production totaled 35,000 pairs of shoes. Because of the shortage of leather, this production has decreased to 6,000 pairs of men's and 12,000 pairs of women's shoes per month. The tannery output is limited, and leather must also be delivered by other USIVA-controlled firms, in particular by the Stadlauer Lederfabrik in Vienna.

2. The total production of these factories is turned over to USIVA, which is responsible for its distribution, though certain quantities of shoes are distributed to workers in USIVA-controlled undertakings through works cooperatives. In addition, a portion of the leather produced is delivered to firms which, though not USIVA-controlled, fill orders for it.

3. In addition to the normal production, USIVA receives delivery of a further 2,000 to 2,500 pairs of both men's and women's shoes per month, which are sent to the Soviet Cooperative in Vienna for the use of the Soviet Forces. The leather for the manufacture of these shoes is obtained from the skins of animals originally earmarked for consumption in Soviet messes and canteens.

4. A special USIVA order is for the manufacture of 15,000 pairs of shoes [redacted] These will be released to the Communist Party for distribution to PWs repatriated from the USSR. 50X1-HUM

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