

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION**

**WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.**

**REPORT CLASS** [REDACTED]

**DIST:** 30 MARCH 1984 [REDACTED]

**COUNTRY:** USSR

**SUBJ:** 1. SOVIET USE OF PRISON LABOR FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING  
WORK:  
2. SALZGITTER BID ON SOVIET COAL SLURRY PIPELINE  
CONTRACT

**DOI:** 1983 - MID-MARCH 1984

**REF:** [REDACTED]

**SOURCE:** [REDACTED]

**TEXT:** 1. THE SOVIET UNION CONTINUES TO USE PRISON LABOR FOR A  
LARGE PORTION OF ITS CIVIL ENGINEERING WORK. ACCORDING TO  
COMMENTS MADE IN 1983 AND FEBRUARY 1984 TO AN OFFICIAL OF A  
WESTERN ENGINEERING COMPANY BY THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE GERMAN  
COMPANY SALZGITTER INDUSTRIEBAU GMBH (SIG) AND OFFICIALS OF THE  
FRENCH ENGINEERING FIRMS TECHNIP AND LITVIN, THE PRISONERS,  
MOST OF WHOM ARE LONG-TERM, MAINLY DO FOUNDATION WORK THAT  
REQUIRES ONLY LOW-SKILLED LABOR. PRISON LABOR WAS USED FOR  
MUCH OF THE FOUNDATION WORK, INCLUDING SITE PREPARATION,

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Approved for Release

Date 1 MAR 1997

MS [REDACTED]  
EXCAVATION AND CONCRETE POURING, AT THE LARGE PETROCHEMICAL  
COMPLEX AT NIZHNEKAMSK, USSR. THE PRISONERS WERE UNDER THE  
DIRECT SUPERVISION OF SOVIET PERSONNEL. ACCORDING TO A SIG  
CONSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT WHO WORKED ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF  
AN ETHYLENE OXIDE PLANT AT NIZHNEKAMSK, THE PRISONERS DID NOT  
APPEAR TO BE WELL-FED. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED  
THAT PRISONERS WHO DID NOT WORK WERE NOT FED. [REDACTED] COMMENT:  
SOURCE DID NOT KNOW THE LOCATION OF THE PRISON FROM WHICH THE  
CONVICTS WERE BROUGHT TO THE WORK SITE.)

2. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE CIVIL ENGINEERING PART OF A  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IS HANDLED AS A DISCRETE AND SEPARATE  
ACTIVITY IN THE USSR. THIS APPROACH, WHICH FACILITATES THE USE  
OF PRISON LABOR, OFTEN RESULTS IN A LACK OF INTEGRATED  
CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULES AND INEFFICIENCIES IN THE OVERALL  
CONSTRUCTION EFFORT. SOMETIMES THERE ARE DELAYS BECAUSE THE  
"CONCRETE WORK", WHICH CANNOT BE DONE IN THE COLDER WEATHER, IS  
NOT COORDINATED PROPERLY WITH OTHER WORK, AND THERE TENDS TO BE  
AN OVERUSE OF CONCRETE.)

3.

Handwritten: (MAY BE SENSITIVE)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]