

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FULLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE
REPORT CLASS [REDACTED]

DIST: 31 AUGUST 1987

COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJ: WORK TREATMENT PROPHYLAXIS CAMPS, MOSCOW

DOI: 1977-1979

REF: [REDACTED]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. ALCOHOLICS WHO DID NOT RESPOND TO CLINICAL TREATMENT FOR DRINKING OR WHO HAD BECOME INVOLVED WITH THE POLICE BECAUSE OF DRUNKENNESS WERE OFTEN SENTENCED TO SERVE UP TO TWO YEARS IN "WORK TREATMENT PROPHYLAXIS" (LICHEBNO TRUDOVOY PROFILAKTORIYA - "LTP"). A JUDGE'S ORDER WAS REQUIRED FOR THIS TYPE OF TREATMENT, PLUS A MEDICAL EXAMINATION TO INSURE THE INDIVIDUAL WAS PHYSICALLY CAPABLE OF

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Approved for Release
Date

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PERFORMING HARD LABOR. FIVE OR SIX LTP CAMPS, WHICH WERE ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS (MINISTERSTVO VNUTRENNYKH - MVD), WERE BELIEVED LOCATED IN THE MOSCOW AREA IN 1979. EACH CAMP HELD SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: SOURCE VISITED AN LTP CAMP AT AN UNRECALLED LOCATION WITHIN THE MOSCOW RING HIGHWAY. OTHER CAMPS WERE LOCATED OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS.)

2. ALTHOUGH THE LTP CAMPS WERE OSTENSIBLY DESIGNED TO ASSIST PATIENTS IN OVERCOMING THEIR DEPENDENCE ON ALCOHOL THROUGH WORK THERAPY, THEY WERE REALLY A MEANS OF OBTAINING THOUSANDS OF LABORERS AT LITTLE OR NO COST TO THE GOVERNMENT. MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE WAS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT. ON A TYPICAL DAY, A PATIENT WOULD ARISE EARLY, HAVE A SIMPLE BREAKFAST, AND THEN BE GIVEN MEDICATION WHICH CONSISTED OF ANTABUS OR A FEW VITAMIN C TABLETS. THE PATIENT WOULD THEN WORK FOR 10 HOURS ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OR OTHER TYPES OF SIMPLE HEAVY LABOR. AFTER A PLAIN DINNER, THE PATIENTS WERE SUBJECTED TO POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION BEFORE THEY RETIRED FOR THE NIGHT. THE COST TO FEED ONE PERSON FOR ONE DAY AT THE CAMP WAS ABOUT 75 KOPEKS.

3. ALTHOUGH ALCOHOL WAS SUPPOSED TO BE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN AT THE CAMPS, IT WAS EASILY OBTAINED BY BRIBING THE MVD GUARDS. THE ANTABUS MEDICATION PRODUCED A VIOLENT REACTION TO ALCOHOL IN THE PATIENT, BUT SOME INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD SERVED TIME IN LTP CAMPS CLAIMED THE JUICE OF SEVERAL LEMONS TAKEN OVER A PERIOD OF A FEW DAYS NEUTRALIZED THE EFFECT OF THE MEDICATION. AT ANY RATE, THE CAMPS WERE COMPLETELY INEFFECTIVE FOR TREATING ALCOHOLISM. [REDACTED] COMMENT: WHILE TREATING A PATIENT FOR DELIRIUM TREMENS AT CLINIC NO. 1 IN MOSCOW, SOURCE LEARNED THAT THE PATIENT HAD JUST BEEN RELEASED FROM A TWO-YEAR TERM IN AN LTP CAMP. [REDACTED] SOME PATIENTS WERE SENTENCED TO A SECOND TWO-YEAR TERM AT LTP IF THEY CONTINUED THEIR ALCOHOLIC WAYS AFTER BEING RELEASED.

4. IN 1979, IT WAS LEARNED THAT AUTHORITIES BELIEVED MORE LTP CAMPS WERE NEEDED IN THE MOSCOW AREA. AT THAT TIME, THERE WAS A CAMPAIGN TO RID MOSCOW OF ALCOHOLICS PRIOR TO THE 1980 OLYMPIC GAMES, AND IT WAS NOT CLEAR IF THIS WAS THE REASON MORE CAMPS WERE NEEDED, OR IF THE NUMBER OF ALCOHOLICS HAD INCREASED. [REDACTED] COMMENT: SOURCE ATTENDED SEVERAL MEETINGS AT CLINIC NO. 1, MOSCOW, WHERE THE NEED FOR MORE LTP CAMPS WAS DISCUSSED. HE DOES NOT KNOW IF MORE CAMPS WERE CONSTRUCTED AND HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ALCOHOLICS WERE ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM.)

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