

15 August 1963

PLACE OF MEETING: [] residence
DATE OF MEETING: 14 Aug 63
TIME OF MEETING: 1100 to 1745

CODED LOG FIREBOX

DATE 22 Aug 63

Debrief AEABYSS-1. Introduce []

1. **OSCAR ALAN WEDDERS:** [] phoned, naming date and place of meet
NEXT MEETING: Tentatively set for 28 Aug. [] will call Ellinghough for final date

2. **SUBSTANCES:** [] and [] arrived at [] apartment at 11 AM and talked with AE-1 over a nice lunch (furnished by Mrs. [] until 1300 when [] arrived. [] was present for the balance of the meeting. [] was introduced to AE-1 and [] as a colleague of c/o who would replace him while c/o was on annual leave. The introduction went smoothly. The highlights of the meeting were cabled to Headquarters in FROB. In addition hereto the following info was obtained (to be incorporated into dispatch or to be reported in the EGF series, as appropriate) Yuri Borisovich PRAKHOV: The Soviet accompanied AE-1 on the train ride from Ufa to Moscow. In order to ascertain the exact locations of the two sites observed by AE-1 (see cable), he enlisted Prakhov's help by betting a cigarette that they were at least ... kms from Moscow. Prakhov looked out the window (AE-1 standing in the corridor of the train or vice versa) at a kilometer marker they were passing and announced that AE-1 was wrong; that they were ... kms from Moscow. AE-1 repeated this stratagem when they were near the other site which AE-1 thought to be of interest to us. AE-1 thus obtained the exact location of the sites he reported upon. He was unable to do so during our last meeting with him in January 63. Prakhov, although known officially to the Western technicians as chief-interpreter in Salavat, holds a position of much greater authority, in fact, AE-1 believes that the Soviet is one of the most influential persons in Salavat. Prakhov now works for the SOVNARKHOZ which is responsible for the Bashkir ASSR. He was born about 1920 in Vladivostok; resides in Ufa. AE-1 on one occasion visited P. at home and met his parents. P. was once referred to by another Soviet as "major"; probably accidentally. From conversation with P. AE-1 deduces that P. has spent time on the USSR Chinese Border.

Fnu GERSHOVICH: AE-1 was not successful meeting G. personally as he had planned. While in Moscow in January 63- on his way to Salavat, AE-1 talked to G. on the phone but G. begged off from a personal meeting citing as reason that he was already engaged for the evening (AE-1 said he spoke to G. at 1530 hrs feeling that G. could have met him in the afternoon if he wanted to). However, G. dispatched a deputy to the hotel where AE-1 was staying to pick up the tapes which AE-1 had purchased in Germany as a gift for G's tape recorder. AE-1 feels that for reasons unknown G. was intentionally avoiding a face to face meeting with him.

New plant construction: SIG has received orders from the Sovs for high-pressure polyethylene plants in Ufa and Kazan. The plants are to be similar to the Salavat plant except that the new plants do not require a Linde fractionator. AE-1 said that this means that the Soviet must have plans to supply the new plants directly with the required pure ethylene. A third high-pressure polyethylene plant may go up in Salavat next to the plant already operating. AE-1 had no info as to whether SIG will also obtain this contract. The Ufa plant is scheduled for completion 18 months after construction starts in mid 1964. According to AE-1 the plant could be finished within 10 months. Construction of the Kazan plant is scheduled to begin toward the end of 1964. AE-1 named the following sub-contractors participating in the projects: Maschinenfabrik Esslingen; Werner & Pfleiderer; MAG; Siemens, Erlangen; Gfa, Essen; Beck & Henkel, Kassel; Halberg Pumpen, Frankenthal; Teufel, Nagold. All of these firms will have erectors at the new construction sites.

Status polyethylene plant Salavat: Plant produces currently 80-96 tons per day for 25 days per month (AE-1 said there are serious problems - nature unknown- at the SIG constructed low-pressure polyethylene plant in Novokuybyshevsk resulting in low production, i.e. 20 to 30 tons per day).

Source raw materials for Salavat poly plant: AE-1 can only speculate as to the sources of the raw materials used in the production of the polyethylene. He knew that the Linde fractionator (Gaszerlegungsanlage) which produces the 99% pure ethylene used, received the mixed gas from a pyrolysis plant which was Soviet built and Soviet operated and off limits to the Germans in Salavat. AE-1 believes that the pyrolysis plant draws its input from tank cars, from a pipeline believed to originate within Kombinat 18, and from a pipeline believed to originate at an unknown point - AE-1 thinks Sterlitamak- outside Kombinat 18. AE-1 said that a SIG chemist once speculated that ca. 40% of the raw materials used in the pyrolysis plant originate within Kombinat 18 and ca. 60% from without.

Chemical production in Kombinat 18 and tank cars observed: AE-1 was unable to provide any info on either subject. He said that the poly plant has now been completely sealed off from the rest of the Kombinat. Access to the Kombinat is prohibited to the Germans. In order to get to work AE-1 must drive around the Kombinat and enter the poly plant

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Urea plant under construction in Kombinat 18, Salavat: AE-1 learned from Stork-Werkspoor technicians in Salavat that the urea plant now being constructed will have a capacity of 500 tons per day. AE-1 also learned that a second urea plant - same capacity - has been built in Tula. A third urea plant is to be built at an unknown location.

Maps: In attempts to fulfill our request for maps on the Bashir region and/or the USSR, AE-1 brought a local map, scale 1:600,000, from the Bashir ASSR region, showing oil and gas lines, etc. in the area. AE-1 obtained the map from fnu FINK a former guard at the German housing area. FINK has a sister who is a schoolteacher in East Germany. AE-1 has been asked to attempt to procure maps of smallest scale.

Sighting of unidentified RR freight cars: AE-1 drew a sketch of the freightcars observed. He saw them at various stretches along the Ufa-Moscow line. Train is drawn by diesel loc and has 5 to 7 such cars. He noticed as many as 20 such trains in January 63; two or three such trains he noticed again on his return trip in Aug 63. AE-1 described freightcars as follows: double axle, ca 24 m in length and about 3 m in height, sided by vertical metal slats with narrow spaces between the metal slats. AE-1 observed a diagonal structure rising from the bottom of the car to the top of the opposite end of the car along the entire length of the car. He was unable to determine whether this was a solid platform over the width of the car, or whether this was a cable, bar or railing. The cars were open on top. The diesel loc appeared to have a two axle small carriage in front of it.

Operational: AE-1 showed definite improvement in his reporting and in his understanding of our requirements. In his use of Prakhov to pin-point observation targets, and by calling Gershovich, he showed an active interest in complying with our instructions. Although the circumstances under which this meeting was held were better than on previous occasions (at least two hours were spent with AE-1 alone before A-4 appeared), it would require a much more thorough debriefing to obtain the full measure of his PI potential. Such a thorough debriefing is planned for the end of this year.

3. NEW BIOGRAPHIC DATA:

AE-1's son plans to marry Anton DRABENT's [] daughter. AE-1 is not pleased about this development.

4. ATTITUDE, MORALE, AND PERFORMANCE:

see text

5. FINANCE AND SUPPORT:

\$ 8.00 gifts (cigarettes, liquor, chocolates) for AE-1, [] and Mrs. []

6. COMMITMENTS:

None

7. SECURITY:

None - German tags used -

8. ADDITIONAL REMARKS AND COMMENTS:

FRANKS

PRAKHOV, Yuri Borisovich, born about 1920 in Vladivostok; residence UFA. Source once visited P. at dinner and met his parents. On one occasion P. was referred to by another Soviet as "major", probably accidentally. P. has now a higher function than heretofore since he is now working directly for the SOVNAKHOZ responsible for the Bashkir ASSR.

KUVIKIN (fnu) - the former chief of the Bashkir SOVNAKHOZ was promoted to a position in Moscow, allegedly as chief of the "Amt fuer Chemie" (sic)

DOB about 1923

DYNIKO, Iflasovich -/formerly KUVIKIN's right hand man, is now in charge of the Ufa and Salavat areas. (Note: check whether D. is the new chief of the SOVNAKHOZ).

Plant Construction and Status

Salavat Plant - currently producing 80-96 tons per day for 25 days/month

Kuybyshev Plant - now producing 20 to 30 tons per day.

Ufa - a new polyethylene plant will be constructed beginning mid-1964. It is scheduled for completion 18 months thereafter, but could be finished within ten months, according to Source.

Kazan - a new polyethylene plant to be constructed at the end of 1964 similar to the plant in Salavat.

~~XXX~~ Tula - Urea plant completed with capacity of 500 tons/day

Salavat - urea plant currently under construction

Unknown location - a third urea plant to be built

XXXXXXXXXX

Power Plant - Heretofore, the Salavat plant was fed by a power plant, supplemented by power taken from a 100,000 volt line running into the ~~XXXX~~ Combinat. A new power plant is under construction which will take the place of the former sources of power for the polyethylene plant. The new power plant already has a 180m smokestack completed.

Tsisin (sic) is the chief of the Plant (not clear whether the polyethylene plant at Salavat or whether he now has a new position).

MIROSHNIKOV - Plant foreman for T.

Costs - Polyethylene is sold in the Soviet Union for 2.20 rubles per kilo and 4 rubles to the Satellites (how does he know?)

Assessment of ~~Continued~~ Production under Soviet supervision

1. When asked whether the Salavat Polyethylene plant would continue at current production rate with the German technician no longer in place, Source gave the following assessment:

a. The Soviets have shown already that they are capable of improvising to overcome shortages or break-downs. While such methods of work do not produce capacity production, the plant will undoubtedly continue to function. Furthermore, as long as German technicians are in other parts of the Soviet Union, help can frequently be obtained from them.

b. Source himself has done much to assure continued production. Spare parts have been ordered, and weak parts of the machinery have been reinforced. On the subject of spare parts, Source stated that the German sub-contractors who were asked to estimate the ~~maximum~~ life-time of their parts made false estimates and ~~Soviet engineers~~ advised the Soviets to purchase larger quantities than needed. The Soviets in turn, increased the quantities suggested and then had more spare parts than they could ever use. The German firm Esslingen, for example, sold the Soviets 10 floor plates (Bodeneinsatze), when during the entire time that Source spent at the plant not one ~~one~~ needed replacement. The total order for spare parts is in the neighborhood of 5-6 million DM

2. In the Source's estimation, the Soviets have a very ~~small~~ small cadre of top flight technicians. Their best technicians are equal to their German counterparts. However, beyond the few top technicians, the Soviets have very low technical capability. There is no middle strata of skilled technicians to perform adequately the many medium level functions required in a plant such as Source had constructed. These are observations made by the Source

during his tour in the Soviet Union, and relate directly to the Salavat polyethelyne plant.

3. Source also complained about the lack of planning and ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXX~~ rationale. Work is compounded by mistakes and poor judgement, and by an attitude of disinterest. Walls are built crooked and with flaws that will reduce their life-time, if at all capable of serving their purpose. In one instance work was delayed by bricks being unloaded far from the construction site, because a faulty plan called this action. In another case cited by Source, painters insisted on carrying out their assignment despite the fact that construction was not completed, and the paint job would be ruined shortly after ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ it was done. At another time, three coats of paint were applied to one part of the plant, apparently because funds or workers were suddenly available.

Prison labor

1. Prison labor was used in the construction of the Salavat plant. They were kept in stockades complete with watch towers and armed guards. One such compound, about 200m by 200m ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ surrounded by a high wooden fence, was torn down during Source's tour. The area afterwards looked as if something was buried, and to Source it appeared as if the fence was constructed in order to secure the area for an underground installation. The location of the compound was across the way from the polyethelyne plant.

Meeting with TSITRIN

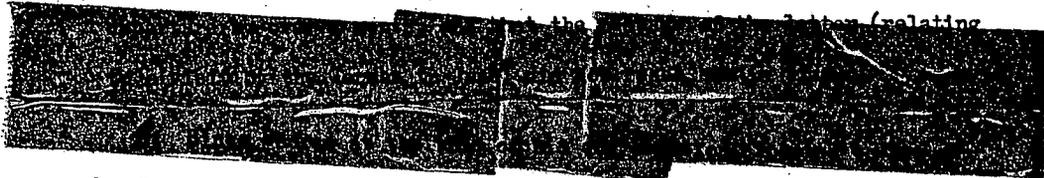
1. Tsitrin first came to the attention of Source when the Soviet caused some commotion in the dining room of the hotel in which Source was staying. Since this hotel, in Salavat, was reserved for foreigners only (at that time about 10 Dutch and 2 German nationals were staying there) the Soviet was not served. His demand for breakfast remained unanswered, and he muttered something about foreigners receiving preference over Soviets. Source stated that he was tempted to invite the Soviet to his table, but had he known that T. spoke German, would have done so.

2. Later (either that day, or several days later, but close to 18 June) Source was walking along a street in Salavat when he ran into two Soviets he knew from the construction site. They were already somewhat drunk and

insisted that Source come with them to a near-by hotel. (This is the only hotel in Salavat, which ~~Source was~~ ^{German were} not permitted to frequent in order to avoid any clashes with the local population.) At this hotel he again met with T., who came to him with an apology for his performance at Source's hotel. He explained that he had heard of Source from his chief, Prof. Dun of Leningrad, who headed the office in charge of construction or planning of chemical plants. Source knew Dun from previous visits to Salavat, and remembered having seen T. a few days earlier copying certain parts of the Linde plant.

3. T. introduced himself to Source by name. He spoke fluent native German with a slight Lower Saxon accent. Source described him as about 34 years, a Jew, about 1.72 m. tall, very skinny, full head of black curly hair.

He had no unusual marks, no glasses or beard. Although Source did not repeat his conversation with the Soviet in every detail, he had the impression that here was a man with whom one could talk, and who should be of interest to us. He spoke critically of the Soviet regime, at least guardedly, and in general spoke very openly and with enthusiasm to Source. During their discussion, T. told Source that he had a good friend, a teacher, who traveled every year to Leningrad from Germany. When he mentioned the German's address it turned out to be within six kilometers from Source's home. Thereupon the Soviet asked the German to carry a letter for him to his friend. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Apparently, the reason for the request was Source's impending departure from the Soviet Union, and the possibility of ~~XXXXXXXX~~ getting the letter to the friend faster by this means. It later developed that Source was delayed in his



for Germany within a very short time, he told T. to bring the letter to his room. (Source is staying at the house on Karl Marx ul. which now also houses Soviets. However, the Soviets are not permitted to visit enter the rooms of the Germans and are separated by a guard at front door, ^{(the} who ~~soon~~ can see by turning his head, whether a person entering the house goes toward the Soviet or the German section.) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ T. actually came to Source's room and delivered the letter ~~XXXXXXXX~~ for his German friend. Source then asked T. to give his address in Leningrad, and, after some slight hesitation, T. wrote it out on a separate ~~XXXX~~ piece of paper.

