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Excerpts from S/W Message No. 8 from AECOB/3

On the return trip from Moscow, there was a group of agricultural workers on the train, who were returning from a conference in Moscow. In listening to their conversations, I overheard them saying that in several regions of Russia, such as Kazakhstan, Altay, Siberia, and other Eastern regions, the growing of corn had failed and it had not been possible to obtain good corn crops. This is partly true in Latvia also. In many kolkhozes the entire area which had been planted with corn was plowed over, and in most cases the crops were so poor that the results of the planning were nil. In this way valuable land areas became worthless.

There was great satisfaction among our people over the release of German POW's. We consider this a great political achievement of your country, but most Russians feel that these prisoners should not have been released and that this fact is a definite political loss for Russia in the eyes of the West. -----

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