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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Translated from the German Report 8/8

Dated: 26 August 1943

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PREFACE

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNW, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. These reports appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942-March 1943. Eighty-three of these reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED]

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the reports beginning with the most recent and working backward, but omitting those already translated by [REDACTED]. The numbering of the items was added by the [REDACTED] since the Germans did this only in the last eighteen reports, [REDACTED] inclusive. Since the original material was in Russian, an effort has been made when translating the German to determine the original Russian term wherever possible. This is facilitated by the Russian fondness for abbreviations. In these translations into English the probable meaning of the abbreviation will be given in parenthesis the first time it occurs in each report.

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26 August 1943

The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report 8/8

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

Individual Messages1) Food Situation

(1) In Rostov-on-Don and Krasnodar Oblasti, according to a message of 21 August, a large number of macaroni plants of the NK for the Food Industry were again placed into operation. The daily production of the plants amounts to:

Armavir	5 tons
Krasnodar	5 "
Rostov/Don	15 "
Maikop	10 "

(2) The Meat Combine in Malchik is to set aside in August 270 tons of imported tinned meat as a reserve fund.

(3) Agricultural enterprises of the NK for the River Fleet in Novosibirsk have not yet begun the grain harvest and are in arrears with the hay harvest.

(4) It is reported from Aktyubinsk Oblast' that the millet harvest has turned out poorly. The plan has not been fulfilled and the situation is considered serious.

(5) It is evident from a private conversation between Moscow and Leningrad that a lack of groats and bakery products prevails.

(6) The NKRF enterprises in Molotov caught 405 double centners of fish as of 15 August.

(7) As of 10 August 4160 tons of salt have been extracted from the Manych River.

The following authorizations were identified:

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<u>Consignee</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Consignor</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
(8) Sugar Beet Sovkhoz "Kaganovich" in Mirskaya (unlocated)	129 tons	Wheat	Gulkevichi	for the winter sowing; the de- livery is not to be changed to the established grain delivery plan
" " "	267 "	"	Sugar Combine in Korenovskaya (unlocated)	
(9) Astrakhan NKRF	1 "	Fodder grain	---	for the horses stationed at ship repair points
(10) North Caucasian Front	50 "	Potatoes	Krasnodar Oblast'	Delivery takes place in August
" " "	160 "	Vegetables	"	" "
(11) Don-Kuban, Military Reconstruction Directorate	1.5"	Seed oil	Rostov/Don Oblast' Trade Dept.	supplementary in 3rd quarter
	2.1"	Fish		
	3.7"	Meat		
	0.4"	Butter		
	0.7"	Sugar		
	0.2"	Sugar products		
(12) Machine Building Industry in Rostov/Don	3000 liters	Vodka	Pyatigorsk Liquor Trust	in August

2) Metal Supply

(13) In the 3rd quarter the following NKRF offices are to deliver scrap iron according to plan:

Blagoveshchensk	40 tons
Khabarovsk	60 "
Novosibirsk	210 "
Ulan-Ude	20 "

(14) Frunze requires from the Scrap Collection Point (?) in Voroshilovgrad the immediate delivery of 300 tons of cast iron scrap to the Pishpek Railroad Station, Turksib Railroad Line. As a result of a scrap shortage, the production of munitions is prevented.

(15) Rostov-on-Don reports that on 10 August:

	<u>Procured</u>	<u>Shipped</u>
Non-ferrous scrap	419 tons	237 tons
Scrap iron	25 "	1017 "

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(16) The Central Executive Committee of the Party in Tiflis reports that, as of 15 August, 2000 tons of scrap were shipped. 3500 tons of scrap of all types were procured. The shipment is being delayed because of a lack of railroad cars.

(17) According to a message to Novosibirsk, the scrap iron deliveries are to be handled by the eastern river fleet lines.

The following authorizations were identified:

<u>Consignee</u> (18)	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Consignor</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Moscow, Plant "Serp i Molot" (19)	2295 tons	Cast iron	Ufa - NKRF	--
Erevan, Machine Plant (20)	2 "	Rolled iron	Erevan, Metal Sales	in the 3rd quarter
Astrakhan, "Volga- tanker" (21)	50 "	Sheet metal (12 mm.)	Astrakhan, NKRF	imported sheet metal
Gorkij NKRF (22)	50 "	" "	" "	" "
Kirov NKRF (23)	8 "	" "	" "	" "
Kujbyshev NKRF (24)	30 "	" "	" "	" "
Molotov NKRF (25)	50 "	" "	" "	" "
Moscow NKRF (26)	30 "	" "	" "	" "
Ufa NKRF (27)	12 "	" "	" "	" "
Rostov/Don, Oblast' Executive Committee (28)	10 "	Nails	Saratov NKRF	--
Rostov NKRF " " (29)	1 " 2 "	Wire tacks Rivets	Saratov Metal Sales	-- --
Gorkij River Fleet Supply (30)	20 "	Steel hawsers	Astrakhan	for floating purposes
Omsk NKRF (31)	11 "	" "	Sverdlovsk	no additional allot- ment will be made in 3rd quarter
Astrakhan, "Volgatanker" (32)	35 "	Copper cable	Kujbyshev	--
Molotov, River Fleet Supply	2000 units	Manometers	Tomsk, Manometer Plant (?)	in August for 3rd quarter

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(33) Sverdlovsk delivered 2 tons of white metal to the Chief Directorate for Flour in Krasnodar.

(34) On 12 August 10 tons of nails were shipped from Moscow for the Military Okrug Construction Office in Armavir.

3) Oil Supply

(35) According to a message of 17 August, it is gathered that the River Fleet lines in Ilijsk and Semipalatinsk are delivering mazut and lubricating oil with great delay to the Waterways Directorate, as a result of which the work on the deepening of the waterways cannot be carried out in good time. The latter offices are to be supplied from August on with mazut and lubricating oil in the same way as the river ships, since an allotment of a special fund for them is not being carried out.

(36) According to a government decree of 5 August, the Reconstruction Directorate of the Don/Kuban Oblast' is to be made equal in the delivery of fuel and lubricants with the agricultural enterprises. This order is not being carried out by the Stalingrad Oil Supply so that the fulfillment of the military transport plan is questionable.

(37) The Office of the Waterways Directorate in Kujbyshev has not received the allotted 4 tons of petroleum from the local office of the CD for Oil Sales; consequently, the waterways' installations cannot be illuminated.

(38) In Gorkij the technical special ships are being insufficiently supplied with fuel. A dredge is not operating. Gorkij is instructed to set aside 20 tons of fuel for the special ships.

(39) Of the 4300 tons of mazut received Kamuste is to turn over 1500 tons to the Kama Steamship Agency in Molotov.

(40) Khodzheli NKRF received 140 tons of fuel from Aralsk.

(41) Tomsk NKRF reports for 26, 29, and 30 July the following turnover of fuel and lubricants:

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	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Receipt</u>	<u>Delivery</u>	<u>Remainder</u>
Mazut	474 tons	--	60 tons	414 tons (26 July)
Oil	5664	--	--	--
Petroleum	1735	--	6	1729
Gasoline	554	--	--	--
Ligroin	624	--	--	--
Mazut	309	--	30	279 (27 July)
Oil	5654	--	--	--
Petroleum	1696	--	15	1681
Gasoline	504	--	8	496
Ligroin	624	--	--	--
Mazut	279	198	--	477 (30 July)
Oil	5664	389	200	5853
Petroleum	1681	198	13	1866
Gasoline	496	--	8	488
Ligroin	624	--	42	582

II Lubricants

Machine oil	1928	--	40	1888 (26 July)
Motor oil	378	--	25	347
Cylinder oil	469	--	25	444
Viscosine	992	--	56	942
Solidol	99	--	11	88
Vapor †)	190	--	--	--
Machine oil	1843	--	115	1728 (27 July)
Motor "	267	--	30	237
Cylinder "	429	--	--	--
Viscosine	766	--	115	652
Solidol	67	--	53	14
Vapor †)	190	--	--	--
Machine oil	1728	368	70	2046 (30 July)
Motor "	237	--	30	207
Cylinder "	429	--	--	--
Viscosine	652	--	55	597
Solidol	14	--	4	10
Vapor †)	190	--	--	--

4) Coal Supply

(42) A delivery of 1400 tons of Donbas coal is required for the hospitals in Moscow for August.

†) Heat-resistant oil (?)

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(43) The forge in Stalinsk (Kemerovo Krai) is to ship 200 tons of coke to the Frunze Plant (Station Kabane, Moscow-Donbas Railroad) for an urgent armaments order.

(44) The brewery in Rostov-on-Don has 1000 tons of coal in storage. In the next few days it is to receive from Station Krasnodonets (Rostov Oblast') 500 tons of coal.

(45) The NK for Ferrous Metals in Voroshilovgrad informs the Central Executive Committee of the Party in Moscow that the Coal Supply in Voroshilovgrad is not fulfilling the coal shipment plan for the 3rd quarter. In July, according to the plan, 12,200 tons of coal were to be delivered, but actually 4415 were shipped. In August, according to the plan, 16,000 tons of coal are to be delivered, in addition to the 7800 tons not shipped in July, making a total of 23,800 tons of coal. Up to 15 August only 5990 tons of coal were delivered. From 7 to 14 August the NK for Ferrous Metals received no coal. It is requested that the Coal Supply be ordered to ship until the end of August 1000 tons of coal per day to the plants of the NK for Ferrous Metals.

(46) Shakhty, Thermoanthracite, informs the NK for Ferrous Metals in Moscow that the Don Basin Coal Supply Office in the period from 10 to 15 August sharply reduced the shipment of anthracite. According to plan there were to be delivered in this period:

from Sulinsk	600 tons	231 tons were shipped
" Novoshakhtinsk	200 "	96 " " "

(47) Rostov-on-Don informs the "State Reserves" in Moscow that as of 12 August 21,778 tons of coal were to be delivered, of which were shipped:

Shakhty	11,110 tons coal
Krasnodon	10,668 " "

(48) The coal region in the area of the Polar Circle ("Polar Coal Basin") is sending coal in increased amounts for Leningrad.

5) Transport Situation

(49) In a message to Gorkij and Molotov, Moscow NKRF, Chief Directorate, ordered that in the sectors where the required water depth does not exist at present, ship traffic is to be carried out temporarily in only one direction.

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(50) The River Fleet Office in Omsk is not permitted to decrease the grain transports established according to plan. On the contrary, it is being instructed with special emphasis that the fulfillment of all the grain transports is of great importance. Moreover, Omsk NKRF must include the timber transports unfulfilled in August in the September transport plan.

(51) There is a lack of tug boats at the Upper Volga Steamship Agency. According to a message of 20 August, 33 barges loaded with various cargo cannot be transported. Molotov NKRF received an order to release three steam tugs temporarily to the Upper Volga Steamship Agency.

(52) The Fish Sales in Astrakhan received from the Lower Volga Steamship Agency three 1200-ton barges for the dispatch of fish products to Moscow.

(53) A tie-up of arriving barges has resulted in Ufa NKRF, since there are no transport orders at the present time.

(54) The Upper and Lower Irtysh Steamship Agencies are not fulfilling their plans for the transport of salt. Up to 16 August the Lower Irtysh Steamship Agency transported only 5500 tons of salt from Pavlodar. However, the August plan amounts to 15000 tons. The Upper Irtysh Steamship Agency has taken 3100 tons of salt from Pavlodar. However, the August transport plan amounts to 8700 tons.

(55) Yakutsk NKRF was required to ship 1856 tons of freight in July for a construction project in Osetrovo, but shipped only 760 tons.

6) Miscellaneous

(56) According to a message of 18 August, statistical calculations relative to a narrow-gauge railway are to be made at NKRF enterprises. The general sense of the message was as follows:

"In accordance with a decree of the State Executive Committee for Defense, the following statistical calculations relative to a narrow-gauge railway are to be made:

1. Gauge of the narrow-gauge railway in millimeters
2. Length of the temporary lines in meters
3. " " " inclinable " " "
4. ?

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5. Length of the main lines in meters
6. Rails, heavy type. For each type of rail must be given:
 - (a) over-all length in meters
 - (b) Length of usable line
 - (c) " " unusable "
7. Number of locomotives of Type 63
8. " " " " " 86
9. " " " " " 157
10. " " " " " 159
11. " " " " " other types
12. " " electric locomotives
13. " " motor locomotives
14. " " 4-axled open freight-cars Type Kolomenskij
15. " " dump cars
16. " " other open freight-cars
17. " " 2-axled cars
18. " " cars with non-tip flat cars Type Kostromskij
19. " " other types
20. " " flat cars Type Keller
21. " " " " " Kas jerno (?)
22. " " non-tip flat cars Type Kopnel
23. " " mining cars
24. " " other flat cars. For each group of this rolling stock must be given:
 - (a) the total number
 - (b) an estimate of the daily performance in the last month of flat cars in use
 - (c) the number of flat cars not in operation
 - (d) of the flat cars not in operation the number of those intact and the number of those requiring repair
 - (e) the number of flat cars in repair and the probable time required for repair
25. Number of heating-units Type 63
26. " " " " " 86
27. " " " " " 157
28. " " " " " 189
29. " " " " " of the other spare locomotives. The exact same estimates are to be made as for flat cars.
30. " " spare-wheel units on hand
31. " " spare wheel units on hand of Type 63
32. " " " " " " " " " 86

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