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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Translated from the German Report 2/5

Dated: 10 May 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 1945. Eighty-three of these reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED] FOIAb3a

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 translator since the [REDACTED] FOIAb3a FOIAb3a 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. FOIAb3a

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10 May 1943

The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report 2/5

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

Individual Messages

1.) Personnel Situation

(1) Difficulties continue to grow. The personnel situation is so strained that a thirteen-hour day was introduced at a Erivan building site of the NK for the Rubber Industry (Compare report of December 1942 concerning the NK for the River Fleet, S. 1, with regard to the introduction of an eleven-hour day). The situation is also significant at Plant No. 4 of the Timber Supply Trust of the Artillery in Novosibirsk which has made available only 44 per cent of the required labor force. Consequently, the deliveries of special packing for munitions to Combine 179 and to Plants 65, 556, and 677 cannot be carried out. The plant still requires a minimum of 2,000 workers.

(2) The situation is still so critical in many oblasti that, for example, in Kolpashev (362 kilometers north northwest of Novosibirsk) 820 persons, who are urgently needed for fishing, can only be made available from among the youth, the aged, and second and third degree invalids.

(3) Likewise, workers are urgently needed at the Dock "Karl Marx" in Gorkij.

(4) The number of days off has been shortened and work has even been performed on high holidays in many enterprises because of difficulties.

(5) According to a decree, the first and second of May are to be considered as work days in the timber camps of the NKRF.

(6) Although the first and second of May are holidays, the work on ships is being carried out uninterruptedly in the harbors and landing places.

(7) The unfavorable personnel situation might also be traced in part to faulty organization. For example, the Employment Bureau in Barnaul was to mobilize 3,920 persons in the first quarter. However, only 389 persons were picked up because of poor organization.

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(8) The social measures also leave much to be desired. According to a message to Yakutsk, the families of the soldiers at the front who are active in the River Fleet require additional assistance. However, any special authorizations for this purpose are not scheduled.

2.) Food Situation

(9) In May larger transports of bread grain are being carried out to Moscow via water. The following is being delivered:

Gorkij	5,121 tons
Kujbyshev	35,450 tons
Molotov	15,417 tons

(10) For May the following allotments to individual oblast' trade divisions were authorized:

	<u>Flour</u>	<u>Groats</u>	<u>Rice</u>	<u>Macaroni</u>
Krasnoyarsk	12,600 tons	85 tons	15 tons	375 tons
Irkutsk	9,000	40	5	400
Ulan Ude	3,500	75	5	100
Yakutsk	3,201	215	--	20
Chita	7,900	185	5	400
Khabarovsk	13,700	280	200	300

(11) The trade divisions are instructed to supply from the directed food allotments first of all the supply divisions of the NK for Transportation, the NK for the River Fleet, the students of the trade schools and the students of the railway workshop schools.

(12) The following reports concerning seed and young cattle allotments to offices of the NK for the River Fleet confirm the early reports concerning self-supply of these offices.

(Compare report of February 1943 concerning the NK for River Fleet, S. 2 and 3).

(13) The following seed deliveries are being carried out in May:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Peas</u>	<u>Buckwheat</u>	<u>Millet</u>
Svenigovo	0.5 tons	---	---
Stalingrad	1	---	10.1 tons
Astrakhan	0.9	---	1
Kirov	3	1 ton	0.1
Molotov	2.4	1.1	0.1
Borovoe	0.5	0.2	---
Baturino	1	0.5	---
Novosibirsk	3	2.5	0.5
Krasnoyarsk	1	0.4	0.3
Irkutsk	4.5	1.3	0.25
Blagoveshchensk	3	1.5	0.5
Khabarovsk	2.7	3	0.2
Zurashevka	0.5	0.5	0.1

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(14) The following deliveries of young cattle are being carried out in May:

<u>Consignee</u>	<u>Young Calves</u>	<u>Young Pigs</u>
Kostroma Shipyard	10	--
Gorodets Shipyard	20	20
Raznezhe Shipyard	20	20
Cherdyn Shipyard	10	30
Borovaya Shipyard	10	30

(15) In addition the following deliveries are being carried out:

Astrakhan	1000 tons	salt
	1 ton	feed grain
Stalingrad	2 tons	feed grain
Kotlas	2 tons	feed grain
Molotov	150 tons	fish

(16) The following could be determined from instructions: The Oblast' Food Industry in Novosibirsk received the following production plan for factories "Krasnayasibir" and "Krasnayazvezda" for the second quarter:

640 tons	bakery products
250 tons	concentrates
150 tons	gingerbread

with a total value of 2,119,000 rubles.

(17) In April the biscuit factory in Tomsk received 30 tons of good flour for making macaroni.

(18) As soon as possible the distillery in Mariinsk (northeast of Novosibirsk) is to ship 40 tank cars of alcohol to Plant 40 to Vostanie on the Kazan Railway Line.

(19) Difficulties apparently exist in agriculture with respect to the motor equipment and horse situation. For, according to a message from Kemerovo to Novosibirsk, 16,193 horned cattle were trained for work in the spring cultivation as of 25 April.

(20) The following individual good results could be reported from the fish catch area:

50 tons	for the Lower Volga
56 tons	for Gurev

3.) Metal Supply

(21) The current metal supply appears to be satisfactory. There are scarcely any complaints with regard to the lack of metals. As in the entire economy supply disturbances have resulted with regard to metals because of the strained transport situation.

(22) As before, special attention is being given to scrap collection. The plants must collect scrap and waste metal and deliver them to the assigned offices.

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Steel and Iron
a) Raw Materials

1.) Scrap and Waste

(24) The following quantities are to be delivered:

140 tons	Omsk, NKRF	In the second quarter
30 tons	Semipalatinsk, NKRF	In the second quarter

The following quantities were delivered:

516 tons	Novosibirsk, Ferrous Metal Combine 179	In April
2 tons	Novosibirsk, Camphor Plant	

2.) Raw Iron and Steel

(25) Required:

740 tons	cast iron	for the NK for the coal industry (Plants are without cast iron)
300 tons	iron	for Barnaul, local iron industry

Authorized:

20 tons	iron	for Plant 29
20 tons	steel	for Kizel Machine Tools
160 tons	cast iron	for Kuznetsk Plant 74 (In May)
130	armor plates 45 mm. (faulty)	Nahkhodka, Far East Construction of NKVD

Delivered:

23 tons	iron	to Plant "Gurev"
60 tons	cast iron	NK for Coal Industry
240 tons	cast iron	to Balkhash

b.) Half-finished Goods

(26) Required:

120 tons	iron hoops	for Novosibirsk
100 tons	round iron	Molotov NKRF
60 tons	round steel	Kemerovo Plant 65

Authorized:

20 tons	section metal	Karaganda Factory No. 4
3.6 tons	sheet metal	Tambov Plant "Boevik"
80 tons	sheet metal	Tomsk, Storehouse (additional in 2nd quarter)
0.6 ton	tin plate	Tomsk Storehouse
6.1 ton	sheet metal	Molotov NKRF

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2.7 tons	iron hoops	Omsk Ship Repair Yard
3 tons	quality iron	Khabarovsk NKRF
67.5 tons	wire	Stalingrad (in the 2nd quarter)
1.5 ton	wire	Astrakhan "Volgatanker"
12 tons	bolts	Molotov NKRF
6 tons	bolts	Molotov NKRF
20 tons	bolts	Astrakhan "Volgatanker"
3 tons	rivets	Stalingrad NKRF
6 tons	rivets	Astrakhan NKRF
6 tons	nails	Stalingrad NKRF
50 tons	nails	Molotov NKRF
18 tons	pipes	Kemerovo
89 tons	pipes	Gorkij NKRF (In June)

Delivered: 600 tons rails, Magnitogorsk Metal Sales

Non-ferrous Metals

(27) Delivered:

220 tons	zinc	to Plant "Pobeda"
87 tons	lead	Plant 18

Authorized:

50 cars	zinc	for Yaroslavl
50 cars	lead	for Pivolskoe

4.) Coal Supply

(28) The following coal deliveries were confirmed:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Consignee</u>
30 tons coal	Plant "Metalist"
15	Plant "Gigant"
15	Plant "Spartakus"
15	Plant in Khilkovsk
15	Plant in Kuvsaisk
200 tons coke	Balakovo, Plant "Dzerzhinskij"
100	Ugolnaya, Plant 701
43	Kujbyshev, Ball bearing plant
19,800	Plant "Uralnickel"
16 tons coke	Plant 204
198	Tashkent Carborundum Plant
86	Tashkent Central Heating Plant
129	Yaroslavl
86	Nizhne Turinsk
34	Tashkent Plant for Cast iron ore
3300 tons coal	Semipalatinsk NKRF
1110	Bijsk (Southeast of Novosibirsk)
	Distillery
50	Slavgorod (Southwest of Novosibirsk)
	Motor Repair Plant
5 tons coke	Svenigovo NKRF
20 tons coal	Kostroma Shipyard "Komsomolskaya Pravda"

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(29) The following offices require the following quantities of coal:

1,000 tons	of coal	Novosibirsk, Plant "Utes"
30 tons	coal	Gorkij, Plant "Sverdlov"

In general a conclusive picture regarding the coal supply cannot be drawn. It has the appearance of being satisfactory as far as the transportation situation permits.

5.) Timber Supply

(30) The following deliveries were carried out in the second quarter:

<u>Material</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Consignee</u>
Shipbuilding timber	500 cu. meters	Gorkij, NKRF Plant "Teplokhod"
Shipbuilding timber	50,000	Stalingrad, NKRF
Firewood	3,000	Raznezhe, Shipyard "Gorkij"
Lumber	1,200	Molotov NKRF
Firewood	600	Molotov NKRF
Firewood	23,000	Belaya Steamship Agency
Firewood	5,000	Oblast' Waterways Directorate of the Kama Steamship Agency
Shipbuilding timber	1,400	Semipalatinsk, NKRF
Round timber	1,500	Ansherskaya, for reconstruction of the plant
Sawn timber	15,000	

(31) Tomsk. The ball bearing plant is to procure 8,000 cubic meters of timber for its own use in 1943. This report shows that in the timber supply areas considerable difficulties also occur which can be traced back to the transport situation.

6.) Clothing Supply

(32) Tomsk. On 2 May 1943 the clothing factory shut down because of the lack of wool and cotton. In addition the free delivery is being requested of 38,000 meters of wool which are still in the clothing factory.

(33) In April the following deliveries of footwear were identified:

<u>Material</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Consignee</u>
Felt shoes	2,000 pair	NK for Aviation Industry
Felt shoes	3,590	NK for Munitions
Felt shoes	2,600	NK for Weapons Industry
Felt shoes	4,330	NK for Land Defense
Felt shoes	500	Novosibirsk Light Industry
Shoes	3,000	Novosibirsk Light Industry
Leather shoes	100	Irkutsk NKRF for the Lower Amur Steamship Agency
Leather shoes	200	Blagoveshchensk NKRF for Lower Amur Steamship Agency

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In addition the following were delivered:

Half furs	1,960	NK for Land Defense
Half furs	200	Novosibirsk Light Industry

7.) Production & Construction

(34) In spite of the difficulties brought on by the war, construction for production expansion is being carried on in Siberia and in the Caucasus. The NK for the Rubber Industry can report that at a construction project in Erivan the digging work for the foundations and the machinery equipment, with the exception of the autoclaves, is 80 per cent completed. The foundations for the cylinders and accumulators are also ready. 11 cars with main parts for the cylinders and synchronous motors have arrived. The remaining cars are being loaded in Baku and sent to Erivan. As usual, these difficulties resulted from the strained personnel and transport situation. For example, 15 cars were lost which must be absolutely found.

(35) A coal-refining factory is being built in Kuznetsk. The personnel situation is strained since 800 transportation people are being drawn into the program. The plant cannot do without these people and is insisting on an extension of the deadline. The Oblast' Executive Committee in Kemerovo has not yet come to any conclusion.

(36) On 1 May the spray basin installation of the industrial building was completed at the construction project in Stalinsk. In addition, the assembling and packing of the pipe lines as well as the testing of the pumps have been completed. Digging 38,000 cubic meters; gravel 5200 cu. meters, concrete 970 cu. meters, tar concrete 14,000 sq. meters, tar pitch concrete 14,500 sq. meters. The assembly of 505 tons of suction, rising and drain pipes, two pumps with a total capacity of 10,000 cu. meters per hour, assembled and tested; 1 kilometer of cable laid. Still to be settled: gravel, 2100 cu. meters, concrete 130 cu. meters, tar concrete 7,000 sq. meters, tar pitch concrete, 7,000 sq. meters and 145 tons of pipelines. Number of workers 1258 men.

(37) The NKRF office at Osetrovo could report an excellent achievement with regard to completing its shipbuilding program by 146 per cent. On the other hand, however, according to a message to Gorkij, there were ships delivered which were not yet completed and on which work of poor quality was carried out.

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(38) Gas generators were produced in Anshero-Sudshensk. In April 47 plants were delivered as follows:

To the NK for the Coal Industry	24 plants
Kuznetsk Basin Coal	12 plants
Moscow Coal	10 plants
Ship Repair Yard Prokovievsk	1 plant

(39) Boilers with ventilators for exhausting plants for steam are being produced in Bijsk.

(40) Plant 617 in Novosibirsk is producing miner's lamps.

(41) Plant No. 90 is processing superphosphate.

(42) A sulphuric acid plant is located in Sverdlovsk.

8.) Civil Air Fleet

(43) According to a message of 7 May from Novosibirsk to Moscow, the Chief of the Civil Air Fleet, who was known as Major General Astakhov, now holds the rank of supreme-general.

(44) In the last period messages have increased concerning the building of installations of the Civil Air Fleet. It is to be noted that the Civil Air Fleet is being enlarged, especially in Middle Asia, the Caucasus, and Siberia. Aviation buildings are to be built in Yakutsk and Sejmchan.

(45) According to a message to Novosibirsk, 364,000 rubles are being made available in the second quarter for the construction of an airdrome (Novosibirsk ?). Of this amount, 130,000 rubles are to be used for illuminating plants. In addition, new buildings are to be put up for which significant sums have been expended.

(46) Flight Harbor Khabarovsk is also to be built up. For this purpose, 538,000 rubles are being procured in the second quarter which are to be used in part as follows:

For the building of the airdrome	150,000 rubles
For the erection of direction finders	75,000
For Radio Central	42,000
For feed lines	40,000

(47) The installations of Flight Harbor Aktyubinsk are also being expanded. 785,000 rubles were authorized for construction. However, complaints are being registered that the work is progressing too slowly.

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(48) In the second quarter renovation work is also being carried out at Flight Harbor Baku.

(49) The Civil Air Fleet has one of its own polyclinics in Moscow.

(50) The following workshops or bases were identified or confirmed again:

PARM 2 in Kalinin, mentioned for the first time, awaiting confirmation
ARB 406 in Aktyubinsk, confirmed
Truck repair factory in Arsamas mentioned for the first time
Plant for aviation motors in Sverdlovsk confirmed.
Plant 183 in Nizhne Tagil confirmed

(51) The aviation factory in Sverdlovsk procured the following new aviation motors

M-62:

For the Moscow Directorate	5 units
For the West Siberian Directorate	3
For the WWS of the Leningrad Front	1
For the First Flight Transport Division	1
For Plant 183	1

(52) An aviation motor factory in which M-62 motors are being produced is presumably also located in Novosibirsk.

(53) A depot with spare parts for JU-52 is located in Rosozhka (cannot be located on maps in this country).

(54) Special attention is being directed to the training of special workers. In various areas courses are being given, for example, in Tashkent for the training of new pilots. Personnel of the WWS are taking part in these courses. Likewise, radio courses are being conducted.

(55) In Sverdlovsk 161 men have arrived for a course, including 95 participants from Issyk Kul.

(56) The following troop units were confirmed or identified for the first time:

The First Independent Flight Regiment	identified in the Ashkhabad area
The Ninth Independent Flight Regiment	Commander is Zegedin, Chief of Staff is Alekhin.
	The planes of this regiment are being repaired in Aktyubinsk
Squadron Konovalov	Mentioned for the first time. Location presumably Sverdlovsk.
Squadron Korostelev	Mentioned for the first time. Location presumably Sverdlovsk.
47th Squadron	Confirmed.
83rd Division	Mentioned for the first time. Location presumably Irkutsk.
111th Flight Squadron	Mentioned for the first time. Location presumably Novosibirsk.

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A training squadron in Taldy Kurgan was mentioned for the first time.

(57) According to a message of 8 April from Alma Ata to Moscow the Flight Group Kluson was to submit as of 9 April a precise report concerning the situation of equipping the planes in which special attention must be directed to weapons. It is obvious that the group will be set up shortly.

(58) As of 1 April the Fourth Flight Regiment, (location Khvojnaya) mentioned having 74 planes which could take off and 2 planes which could not take off. The Fourth Flight Regiment is also to be considered as a strengthened regiment.