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Prepared By
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SOVIET VIEW OF CONDITIONS IN SINKIANG

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S U M M A R Y O F C O N T E N T S

Soviet View of Conditions in Sinkiang
(Doc No 302877)

This is an extract translation from a Japanese document titled "Soviet View of Conditions in Sinkiang." The Japanese original is a translation of all Sinkiang data appearing in a Russian document titled "Countries of the East," which was published in 1936 by the All-Union Trade Council.

The document deals chiefly with socioeconomic subjects in a rather brief outline form. The sections extracted and translated in this publication cover trade, industry, agriculture and animal husbandry, transportation and communications, and ethnic groups.

Pages 1 through 13

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EXTRACT TRANSLATION

Doc No 302877

SOVIET VIEW OF CONDITIONS IN SINKIANG

CPYRGHT

China Affairs Board
Political Section
September 1940

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Words appearing in upper case followed by asterisks are transliterations from Japanese.

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I. INHABITANTS

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A. Population

There are 14 different ethnic groups in Sinkiang. The total population is about four million. Since there is no official census or other general statistical data on population in Sinkiang, this figure is an estimate, as are the others throughout this document.

B. Density of Population

The average density of population is about two persons per square kilometer, but the actual density varies greatly in different regions. In the T'a-ch'eng and A-erh-t'ai areas, for instance, the density is approximately 3.6 persons per square kilometer, while in the southern cases regions it ranges from 210 to 270 for every square kilometer.

C. Ethnic Groups

<u>Ethnic Groups</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Population</u>
Uighurs	2,400,000	60.0
Chinese	480,000	12.0
Mongols (Chahars, Eleuts, Hoshots, and Torguts)	350,000	8.7
Kazaks (Kerait, Naiman, Arbun, and KIZAI*)	310,000	7.7
Tungans	240,000	6.0
Manchus	80,000	2.0
Kirghiz	60,000	1.6
Russians	30,000	
Tadzhiks	20,000	
Uzbeks	15,000	
Indians	8,000	
Tatars	2,000	2.0
TSUIGAN*	2,000	
Others	3,000	

These ethnic groups inhabit the following regions:

1. The Uighurs are the main race in Sinkiang who inhabit the important cases regions and the I-li River Basin.

2. The Mongols (nomads) are divided into the following:

a. The Torguts of the Yen-ch'i (Kara Shahr) Banner live along the Yuldus River (TN: Probably along both Yihe Yuldus and Baga Yuldus Rivers).

b. The Torguts of Shikho Banner inhabit the region between the Ma-na-ssu River and the Po-lo-ho-lo Range and the spur ranges north of the Po-lo-ho-lo.

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c. The Torguts of Khobuk-Saur Banner inhabit the area around Lake ORUFU* in the UKURASHARU* (TN: Probably Urkashar Region) and the areas around Lake JAIRA*, Lake JURENI*, Lake SARABUURUTSUI*, Lake Wu-lun-ku-no-erh and the Kara Irtis River Basin.

d. The Torguts of Pu-lun-t'o-hoi Banner inhabit the region along the Wu-lun-ku River and its upper tributaries and the Bulagan and Chingil River Basins.

e. The ECHINS* inhabit the southern slopes of the T'ien-shan and northwestern portion of Yen-ch'i (Kara Shahr) and Torgut Banners.

f. The Eleuts of DOURUBUN* (TN: Probably Dörbön) Suma inhabit the region along the upper reaches of the T'ieh-k'o-ssu and K'ung-chi-ssu Rivers.

g. The Eleuts of ZURUBAN* (TN: Probably Zurgan or Zulgan) Suma inhabit the region along the upper reaches of the T'ieh-k'o-ssu River.

h. The Eleuts of ARUBAN* (TN: probably Arban) Suma inhabit the southern slopes of Po-lo-ho-lo Range and the K'o-shih River and its tributaries.

i. The Eleuts of UOSHIMI* Suma live in the towns of UKURASHARU* and JAJIIRU*.

j. The inhabitants of HOROSHIYOTO* (TN: probably Horoshoto) Banner inhabit the area east of Yen-ch'i (Kara Shahr) and Torgut Banners and the area east of the road from Ti-hua (Urumchi) to T'e-ku-ssu.

k. The Chahars inhabit the Buura Tala River Valley.

3. Manchus

a. The Sibos live in the cities of GUI* (TN: Probably Hui-chuang) and YUANCHEN* (TN: Probably Hui-yuan-ch'eng) in Sui-ting (I-li) Hsien.

b. The Soluns live in the cities along the left bank of the I-li River, in the army garrison areas, and in Ti-hua (Urumchi), Ma-na-ssu and Chuguehak areas.

c. The DAURUS* inhabit the Sargan, ARIMUTO* (TN: Probably A-li-ma-ttu) SUARA* and KERE* Suma areas.

4. Kazaks

a. The K'erait inhabit the A-erh-tai region, that is, the areas along the BEMUZSKU* River, Khabak'e-Burchun River, upper reaches of the SUNDAL* River, K'o-lan River, Kara Irtis River, Ku Irtis River, Wu-lun-ku River and the Muz Tagh region.

b. The Naimans inhabit the O-min River Valley, the Mayli-Dzayri mountain region and the Barlyk Hills.

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c. The Arbans and KIZAI* inhabit the Muz Tagh, the Tsaguma River valley, the areas along the left bank of the K'o-shih River, the tributaries of the Te-mu-li-k'o River, the K'ung-chi-ssu River, the Te-mu-li-k'o River, the Tura River, the SU* (TN: "SU" means water or river in the Turki language and milk in Mongolian) River and the Kyz-Emchek region.

5. Chinese

The Chinese are scattered widely throughout the cities of Sinkiang, but the localities in which they have concentrated are the cities and army garrison areas around Ti-hua (Urmchi).

6. Tungans

The Tungans live in the southern part of the Kara Kol region and in the following villages of the Sui-ting area: Kuang-jen (Lu-tsao-kou), Sui-ting, Ching-ch'i-ko-tzu, CHEPAN* and ABURASHI*, ARUTSUN*, SATSUIKU-YUHI*, DARUDANTSU*, and ERUZUAN*. The Tungans also live in the cities and villages in the Ti-hua area such as Ti-hua, GUCHIEN* (TN: Probably Ku-ch'eng), Ha-mi (Kumul), and Ma-na-ssu.

7. Kirghiz

The Kirghiz live in the mountains of the Su-fu (Kashgar) region, mainly in the area from KUUCHI* Tagh to the upper reaches of the Sandju River.

8. Tadzhiks

The Tadzhiks inhabit the western portion of Su-fu (Kashgar), that is, the river valleys of the Ta-shih-ho-erh-han, Tagarma, Wa-ch'ih, and Marian Rivers. They are also scattered throughout the Yarkand River Basin from Mariong to KASARABA* and in the river valleys of Kilian, upper Tiznaf, PAFUNU* (TN: Probably Pohpu), CHIUSHI*, YORUGU* (TN: Probably Ulugh-Sai) USOSA* (TN: Probably Usos) and Gusos.

9. Uzbeks and Tatars

These people dwell in the cities of the areas formerly occupied by Russians such as Su-fu (Kashgar), Ti-hua and T'a-ch'eng.

10. Indians

Almost all of the Indians live in the cities of Khotan, Yeh-erh-ch'iang (Yarkand) Yeh-ch'eng (Karghalik), and Su-fu (Kashgar).

11. TSUIGANS*

The TSUIGANS* are scattered in small groups in the cities of the Su-fu (Kashgar) area.

12. Russians

The Russians live in the Sui-ting (I-li) region and in the cities of Khotan, T'a-ch'eng, Ti-hua, and I-ning (Kuldja).

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II. AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

A. General

The principal obstacles to the development of agriculture and animal husbandry in Sinkiang are: (1) the colonial status of this area and (2) the feudal relationship (between landowner and tenant-farmer) existing in the agricultural districts. This feudal condition is apparent in the exploitation and subjugation of tenant-farmers and herdsmen in much the same way as the serfs were subjugated under a feudal system. Most of the tenant-farmers in Sinkiang cultivate land owned by landowners, by the government, or by the Mohammedan temples. The basic forms of tenant-farming are: (1) payment of farm rent in kind or partially in kind, (2) payment of farm rent with money. The former is the more widely practiced in Sinkiang. Most of the crops which are necessary to the farmers and herdsmen are taken by the landowners in the form of rent. This and the high interest rates imposed upon farmers retard the development of the agricultural districts. Irrigation is the foundation of agriculture in Sinkiang, but the entire irrigation system is in the hands of the landowners who use it as a means of exploiting the tenant-farmers.

B. Agriculture

The estimated minimum area of arable land is 6,200,000 hectares. The total area of cultivated land, including government land cultivated by immigrants who have come from Kansu during the past few years, was roughly 1,300,000 hectares prior to the civil-war years of 1932-34. In other words, less than 20 per cent of all the arable land was under cultivation then. This figure includes both irrigation and dry farming areas.

If we take into consideration the vast areas of the Takla Makan Desert which are covered with a sedimentary stratum of loess and the Tarim River basin of which only a negligible part is irrigated and farmed, then the total area of land suitable for cultivation becomes considerably more than the estimated 6,200,000 hectares.

C. Cultivated Land

Since 1922 there have been no official publications issued covering data on the total area of cultivated land in Sinkiang. The following information on arable land in the various regions is from unofficial sources. Local administrative offices usually withhold the actual figures for cultivated areas because of taxation reasons. Therefore, all the data on the total cultivated area, cultivated areas according to regions, and the acreage of various crops are only rough estimates.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Area Under Cultivation(Hectares)</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A-erh-tai	30,000	2.3
T'a-ch'eng	60,000	4.6
Sui-t'ing (I-li)	200,000	15.1
Ti-hua (Urumchi)	170,000	13.0
Eastern Turkestan	860,000	65.0
Total	1,320,000	100.0

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The principal agricultural districts of Chinese A-erh-tai are Ch'eng-hua and May-Kapchagay Hsien where there is irrigation. Cultivated land is limited to areas near small oases in the Pu-lun-t'o-hai and Pu-erh-ching River areas. The cereal crop of Ch'eng-hua Tao alone would not meet the needs of this region, and, therefore, a certain amount of grain is imported into this area. After the last World War, rice, wheat, and other cereals were brought in from Ma-na-ssu and Sha-wan to supplement the local crops.

In T'a-ch'eng Tao the total cultivated area up to 1928 was less than 20,000 hectares and the shortage in the grain harvest was supplemented by importing grain from other regions. However, after 1928, the semi-nomadic population of this area began to bring the government land along the foothills of Pa-erh-li-k'o, T'a-erh-pa-ka-t'ai and Wu-erh-ka-su-erh Mountains under cultivation. This increased the total area of cultivated land, and in 1932 approximately 60,000 hectares were being farmed.

Sui-ting Tao is called the granary of the T'ien-shan-Pei-lu. Almost three-fourths of the total cultivated area is located along the I-li River and its tributaries where farming is done by irrigation. The longest irrigation canal is 130 kilometers in length and extends from the Kash River to Sui-ting. Because of silt accumulation and disrepair only the 70 kilometer-section from Bayanday to Sui-tung is in use at the present time. This canal irrigates land from 5 to 8 kilometers wide along both of its banks. There is another irrigation canal in the Chapchal region which is 75 kilometers long. This canal draws its water from the I-li River and irrigates land cultivated by Manchurian immigrants. The third largest canal which also draws its water from the I-li River irrigates the Kulun area. It is 35 kilometers in length.

Judging by rough estimates, the total arable land in the Sui-ting region is about 1,100,000 hectares. In addition to this there are about 180,000 hectares of irrigable land. However, of this, only 200,000 hectares are being cultivated at the present time.

The main agricultural areas in Ti-hua Tao are T'u-lu-fan Oasis and the Su-fu, Ma-na-ssu and Ha-mi Oases in the Kunul region. In the T'u-lu-fan Oasis area, 70 per cent of the cultivated land is irrigated by water drawn from the mountains. The total cultivated area prior to 1932 was about 55,000 hectares, which is about 30 per cent of the total cultivated area in Ti-hua Tao.

As a result of the civil war during 1932-34, the several areas mentioned were heavily damaged, but they are gradually being brought back to normal.

D. Agricultural Products

Wheat, barley, rye, corn, millet and various types of beans are grown in the A-erh-tai region. The quality of the tobacco leaves raised in this area is very poor. About 3,000 hectares of poppies are cultivated for opium.

The grain harvest in the A-erh-tai region for irrigated land from 16 kilograms of seeds is: 120 kilograms of wheat, 160 to 190 kilograms of barley, 640 to 800 kilograms of rye, and approximately 1,600 kilograms of maize.

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On the whole the same crops are raised in T'a-ch'eng Tao as in the A-erh-tai region. The harvest for 1 hectare of irrigated land is: less than 2 metric tons of wheat, 1.4 to 1.6 metric tons of barley and oats, 1.3 to 2.2 metric tons of maize, 2.5 to 3.0 metric tons of millet, 5 to 8 metric tons of potatoes, and 4 to 5 metric tons of lucerne.

In T'a-ch'eng Tao, the following data for 1932 are available: 25,000 hectares of millet, 2,000 hectares of potatoes and vegetables, 2,000 hectares of melons and 9,000 hectares of lucerne.

In 1932 the cultivated acreage for Sui-ting Tao was as follows: 80,000 hectares of wheat (including 25,000 hectares of dry marshland which has been cultivated), 15,000 hectares of barley, 6,000 hectares of millet, 5,000 hectares of oats, 1,000 hectares of maize, 800 hectares of rice, 100 hectares of kaoliang, 5,000 hectares of oil-producing agricultural products (such as sesame), 5,000 hectares of lucerne, and approximately 7,000 hectares of other miscellaneous agricultural products such as vegetables, melons, beans, tobacco and poppies. In 1932, 3,000 hectares of poppies were cultivated and 6 to 10 kilograms of opium were obtained per hectare.

Cotton raising is still in the experimental stage, and only 15 or 16 hectares of it are cultivated.

The amount of winter wheat grown is very little--the reason for this being that the wheat frequently freezes during the cold weather. In irrigated areas 1.2 to 1.3 tons of wheat are obtained per hectare. When crops are good, harvests of winter wheat run up to 2.5 metric tons per hectare. The average yield for barley is 0.8 to 1 metric ton, for oats it is 0.7 to 0.9 metric tons, and for millet it is 0.8 to 1 metric ton per hectare. The average yield of rice for 1 hectare is 2.5 metric tons, for maize it is 1.2 to 1.5 metric tons, and for lucerne it is 5 to 6 metric tons.

The principal agricultural product of T'u-lu-fan (Turfan) Oasis is kaoliang and almost 50 per cent of the entire irrigated land in this area is used in raising this product. Thirty per cent of the irrigated area is used in raising wheat. Cotton, barley, hemp and vegetables are produced in the remaining 20 per cent of the land.

The principal crop in the Ma-na-ssu region is rice.

The main agricultural product in southern Sinkiang (T'ien-shan Nan-lu) is wheat, for which 40 per cent of the total cultivated land is used; 30 per cent of the land is used for growing maize. Rice, kaoliang, buckwheat, olives, hemp, flax, sesame, and oil-producing agricultural products are also grown. The quality of the cotton and tobacco raised in this area is below average.

The best fruits are raised in T'u-lu-fan Oasis. These are shipped to Kansu Province.

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E. Farming Methods

Proper crop rotation is not practiced in Sinkiang. In most areas where water is scarce, new and different fields are cultivated each season.

In Chinese A-erh-tai two crops are raised each year. Cereals are planted during April and May and are harvested in August. Crude farming implements are used.

Farming equipment imported from the USSR have been used in T'a-ch'eng Tao since 1929. These are used particularly in large-scale farming projects. In the Ti-hua and Sui-ting Tao areas, farming machinery imported from the USSR is also used.

Because of the extremely poor transportation facilities, farming equipment has not as yet been brought into southern Sinkiang from the USSR.

F. Cotton

The principal cotton producing areas in Sinkiang are T'u-lu-fan in Ti-hua Tao and the several oasis regions south of T'ien-shan. Cotton production in Sinkiang during the past 15 years has decreased tremendously--one of the main reasons for this being the deterioration of irrigation facilities.

In 1931 the average yield of cotton per hectare was not more than half a ton. Judging from this, the total yield would have been approximately 49,000 metric tons for 1931.

Cotton production as follows:

<u>Oases</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Yield(Metric Tons)</u>
T'u-lu-fan, P'i-chan, Lukchun	11,000	5,400
T'o-k'o-hsiin, (Toksum) HANZUUN	4,000	2,000
K'u-erh-lo (Korla)	2,600	1,300
A-k'o-su	4,800	2,400
Merket	6,800	3,400
Yeh-erh-ch'iang	6,000	3,000
Faizabad	2,400	1,200
Pa-ch'u	2,000	1,000
Khotan, Gulakhma, Yu-tien(Keriya)	3,000	1,500
Su-fu (Kashgar Kona Shahr)	1,800	900
Others	<u>1,900</u>	<u>950</u>
Total	49,100	24,050

Approximately 4,600 metric tons of cotton are consumed yearly in Sinkiang; the rest is exported as finished commercial items to the USSR or to Kansu Province.

G. Livestock

The abundant natural pasturage of Sinkiang should have contributed to the unlimited development in livestock raising in this area, but as stated previously, the unfavorable social and economic conditions prevent the use of these natural resources to advantage. Although cattle raising is the principal occupation of

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the nomadic and semi-nomadic people, the methods employed by them are very primitive. The first plans for organized aid along veterinary and cattle-raising lines were started after 1934. Stock animals were imported and stock farms were established with the aid of the USSR.

There are no definite sources from which accurate livestock figures can be obtained. Estimated figures for livestock of the period prior to 1932-34 are as follows:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Sheep</u> (In Thousands)	<u>Mountain Sheep</u> (In Thousands)	<u>Total</u> (In Thousands)	<u>%</u>
Ti-hua Tao,				
Ha-mi Tao	2,200	300	2,500	20
A-erh-tai Tao,				
T'a-ch'eng Tao	3,500	500	4,000	31
Sui-ting Tao	1,600	250	1,850	15
Southern Sinkiang	3,800	570	4,370	34
Totals	11,100	1,620	12,720	100

The estimated total for cattle is roughly 1,445,000 head. Divided into regions they are distributed as follows:

A-erh-tai Tao	50,000 Head
Ti-hua Tao, T'a-ch'eng Tao	120,000 "
Sui-ting Tao	325,000 "
Southern Sinkiang	950,000 "

The estimated total for horses is roughly 700,000 head. Divided into regions they are distributed as follows:

A-erh-tai Tao	65,000 Head
T'a-ch'eng Tao	50,000 "
Ti-hua Tao	50,000 "
Sui-ting Tao	140,000 "
Eastern Turkestan Area	390,000 "

There are about 75,000 to 80,000 distributed regionally as follows:

A-erh-tai Tao	15,000 Head
T'a-ch'eng Tao	4,000 "
Ti-hua Tao	22,000 "
Sui-ting Tao	5,000 "
Southern Sinkiang	30,000 to 40,000 Head

Livestock and livestock products are important export items as indicated by the following table showing the proportion of these items exported to the USSR as compared to the total exports (in 1,000 chervonets):

<u>Exports</u>	<u>1930</u>	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1934</u>
	(in 1,000 gold rubles)				
Total Exports to the USSR	16,033	10,212	12,305	18,822	5,945
Livestock and Livestock Products	13,021	9,212	10,257	14,801	4,981
Percentage	81	90	83	79	83

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III. INDUSTRIES

A. General

Small family manufacturing units which process local raw materials form the basic industry of Sinkiang. These small family units which produce baskets, wool rugs and silk cloth are concentrated where the necessary raw materials can be obtained easily or for other economic reasons.

Small manufacturers are fettered by the extremely high interest rates charged for capital.

The few large manufacturing plants in existence are under government control. These are known as "Model Experimental Stations", or as "Industrial Apprentice Schools" and are under a government supervisor with 30 to 50 workers and apprentices. These "stations" and "schools" are found in such cities as Ti-hua, T'u-lu-fan, P'i-ch'an, K'u-ch'e (Kucha), Su-fu and A-k'o-su. The shoes, saddles, military supplies, and cotton and wool clothing produced by these plants are not placed on the open market but are forwarded, without exception, to the provincial army and government.

Production methods are crude and the products are of extremely inferior quality.

There are no laws governing labor in Sinkiang.

B. Natural Resources and Mining

Sinkiang is abundant in underground resources, but mining is done mostly by individuals. Only a few of the minerals are mined, and these by hand methods. Government projects are limited to gold mining, quarrying and coal mining. In 1930 the economic development plan initiated by the Ti-hua Government included the purchase of machinery from foreign nations for the development of mining in Sinkiang, but this plan did not materialize.

C. Manufacturing Industries

Textiles--The manufacture of cotton items such as rugs and overcoats for farmers and herders has developed quite extensively in Sinkiang. Faizabad and Ying-chi-sha (Yang Hissar) in southern Sinkiang are the centers of the textile industry. Production of hand-woven textiles amounts to 7,500,000 tan (a tan equals a roll of cloth 5.6 meters in length). Of this, over 600,000 tan are shipped out to Kansu Province and to Tibet and about 200,000 tan to Afghanistan and India. 4,500,000 tan are consumed in Sinkiang.

The only textile plant in Sinkiang equipped with machinery was built in 1928 in Ti-hua. This plant has 26 machines with 720 spindles. The monthly production was 600 tan of cotton cloth and 20 piculs (a picul is 133.3 pounds) of thread. This factory has stopped production in recent years.

Leather--The processing of leather such as goat, horse and cow leather, the tanning and dressing of leather and the manufacturing of leather products such as slippers, shoes, and saddles are mostly done by hand. Small factories manufacturing leather

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items are most numerous in KUURIJIN* Hsien, the various hsien in southern Sinkiang and in the A-orh-tai region. The factories in I-li Tao are equipped with steam and electric power facilities. There are three factories in I-ning (Kuldja) equipped with machinery. Each factory produces from 20,000 to 25,000 large and small pieces of processed leather. These hides are sold to foreign countries, but manufactured leather products are all consumed within Sinkiang.

Furs--The fur industry includes the selection, washing and drying of furs and the manufacture of felt and felt products. The excellent Khotan felt is made by family enterprise. Rugs are made mostly in the Kashgar and Yarkand areas, (where wool only is used) and in the Khotan and Lop areas (where silk is mixed into the wool). A part of these products are exported.

Cotton--Cotton processing plants are located in T'u-lu-fan, K'u-orh-lo and Su-fu (Kashgar).

Foodstuffs--There are no large, modern plants producing foodstuffs. In Ti-hua and I-ning there is a flour mill and a vegetable oil producing plant which have machinery, but the majority of the flour mills, rice mills and such are small family affairs with crude home-made machinery.

Miscellaneous--Subsidiary to foodstuffs industries is the manufacture of soap, paste, candles, and glue. In Ti-hua and I-ning there are a few small breweries and crude facilities where a kind of wine called "Jun" is made of rice, kaoliang, wheat and maize. There are several factories in I-ning where tobacco is produced entirely by hand. The quality of the tobacco is very poor. Forestry and lumbering industries are concentrated in the thickly forested areas of Sui-ting Tao and Chinese A-orh-tai. Lumbering is by hand. There are also metalsmiths and brick makers.

IV. TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. Roads

The majority of the roads in northern and southern Sinkiang are unpaved. However, a part of these roads can be used by light vehicles. Truck traffic is difficult. The existing road system is very limited and cannot meet the needs of such a wide and vast area as Sinkiang. The rivers in western China are conveniently located and the possibility of establishing a water route in this region has been mentioned. However, this has not, at the present time, been realized.

B. Road Systems

In southern Sinkiang, roads which are not connected with outside regions run from oasis to oasis. Roads leading to Tibet, India, Afghanistan and the USSR run from the oasis regions and the industrial centers towards the mountain chain around southern Sinkiang. A road across the Gobi Desert connects southern Sinkiang and China proper. Northern and southern Sinkiang are connected by a mountain road which crosses the Muz Art Dowan and extends to the T'ieh-k'o-ssu River. There is also a motor road running through the commercial and political centers of the oasis regions and ex-

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tending to the Ti-hua area. The principal cities within each district are the nuclei for the transportation routes in Northern Sinkiang. These roads connect with the main routes which extend to outside regions and also with the extremely inadequate internal system of roads.

C. Motor Transportation

Plans for motor transportation were first begun in 1927. At that time, the Sinkiang Administration had in its possession 50 new and old motor vehicles. Plans were made to convert the T'a-ch'eng to Ha-mi road into a motor road. Construction of a bridge was begun then on this road and completed in 1931. A school for motor car operators and technicians was opened in Ti-hua in 1930, and a government-controlled road bureau was established. This bureau kept the main roads in repair for motor traffic. Its first project was to construct a motor road between Ti-hua and Ch'i-t'ai (254 km). Motor transportation was begun between these two points during the latter part of 1930. In 1931, the work of widening the caravan route between Ch'i-t'ai and Hami (514 km) into a motor road was undertaken, but was discontinued because of the unrest in the Hami area. The new government which was established in Sinkiang in 1933 undertook the repair of the Ti-hua to T'a-ch'eng road.

D. Air Routes

Air routes were included in the plan to improve liaison between Sinkiang and eastern China. The EVURAJIN* (TN: Probably Eurasia) Company, which is under the Ministry of Communications, established a trial route as follows: T'ai-yuan, Sui-yuan, Pao-tou, Wu-yuan, Ha-mi, Ti-hua, I-ning. The first airplane trip from Peiping to Ti-hua was made during the latter part of 1931. There is no regular service as yet.

E. Water Transportation

Rivers in the A-orh-t'ai area on which navigation is possible are the Kara Irtis, Pu-orh-ching and K'o-lan Rivers.

In 1913 a special expedition made up of Russian technicians such as Moshkov proved that it was possible to navigate the Kara Irtis River from the mouth of ARUKABEKU* River to the Wu-lun-ku-no-orh (Ulyungur Nor). However, this is possible only during the months of May and June.

It is possible for steamboats to navigate the Ili River from the confluence of the T'ich-k'o-ssu and K'ung-chi-ssu Rivers to the USSR-Sinkiang border, which is a distance of 500 kilometers. From Kodjiger to the USSR border, a distance of 57 kilometers, it is possible for a vessel of 0.9 meters draught or less to navigate freely from mid-March to October.

F. Telecommunications

There is telegraphic communication between Ti-hua and all principal cities situated along main roads of every tao and hsien. Of the telegraphic communication system which existed between Czarist Russia and Sinkiang, only that between I-ning and Khorgos

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(Kazakh SSR) has been restored. Radio stations are located at Su-fu Ti-hua, and Ch'i-t'ai. There are plans for stations in other cities.

V. TRADE WITH USSR

A. General

Trade with the USSR began to develop from 1923-24. The economic dependence of Sinkiang on the USSR was not the only reason for the increased tempo of trade between the two, but the speedy recovery of the Soviet economy after the World War and the foreign trade policy of the USSR were vital factors behind this development.

B. Exports to the USSR

Wool--4,796 tons in 1935

Hides--(Processed and non-processed) (Based on Soviet tariff statistics) 2,027 tons in 1935.

Cotton--1,094 tons in 1935. (In recent years the increased demand for cotton by the Sinkiang Army and the increased exports of rugs to Afghanistan and India have increased local consumption of cotton.)

Livestock--17,361 tons in 1935.

Silk--Approximately 100 tons of raw silk produced annually. Most of this is exported to India. Sixty-two tons of raw silk were exported to the USSR in 1935 according to Soviet tariff statistics.

Wool Rugs--Fourteen tons of wool rugs were exported to the USSR in 1935. No felt is exported to the USSR.

Furs--In 1934 the USSR purchased 1,148,000 gold rubles worth of processed and unprocessed furs from Sinkiang.

C. Imports from the USSR

Cotton Cloth--2,475 tons in 1935.

Hemp Products--34 tons in 1935.

Sugar--2,501 tons in 1935.

Petroleum--3,204 tons in 1935.

Steel--670 tons in 1935.

Machinery and Electrical Equipment--1,334 tons in 1935.

Matches--146 tons in 1935.

Ceramic Ware--242 tons in 1935.

Rubber Products--15 tons in 1935.

Chemical and Medical Products--87 tons in 1935.

Spices--37 tons in 1935.

Tobacco--153 tons in 1935.

Canned Goods--17 tons in 1935.

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