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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT The Kliment Voroshilov Equipment Plant/  
State Machine Plant/#12 Military Plant/  
Vulko Chervenkov Auto Repair Plant/  
Georgi Dimitrov Locomotive Plant/ 6 Sep  
Streetcar Plant/ 9 Sep Shoe Factory

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1. The "Kliment Voroshilov" Low-Current Equipment Plant in Sofia manufactures the following items with capacities up to 220 volts:
  - a) Telephones for the Ministry of Post, Telegraph, Telephone, and Radio and for the Ministry of Defence.
  - b) "Rodno Radio", "V-504", and "Admiral" radio receivers.
  - c) Automatic electric exchanges
  - d) Dial telephones (numerator1)
  - e) Electric meters
  - f) "Kliment Voroshilov" X-ray equipment
  - g) Quartz filament lamps
  - h) Electric bells for the home
  - i) Signal lamps
  - j) Intercommunication sets
  - k) Transformers with capacities up to 220 volts
  - l) Telegraph relays
  - m) Transmitting stations
  - n) Various switches, plugs, amplifiers, powdered iron, etc

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## 2. Personnel in the plant:

- a) Ivan Papov - Director of the plant, about 40 years of age, native of Turnovo, skilled engineer, has specialized in the USSR, Communist, trusted by the Party, has no direct contact with the plant workers.
- b) Draganov - Assistant Director of the plant, about 45 years of age, native of Sofia; tall, thickset, wears glasses, Party member, performs administrative duties at the plant, looks after the living quarters of the plant workers.
- c) Engr Bradvarov - Chief of the section which examines the quality of products, about 30 years of age.
- d) Engr Petko Stoyanov - Technical director, about 50 years of age, medium build, very active as a Communist, formerly chairman of DOSO (Voluntary Organization for Defense Cooperation) at the plant.
- e) Engr Todor Todorov - Rationalizer, very capable engineer, apparently not a Communist.
- f) The plant has about 50 engineers, several of whom are Party members who specialized as engineers in the USSR. They treat workers poorly.

## 3. The plant employs about three thousand workers, including about 700 Party members.

- a) Kosta Blagov - Party secretary in the plant, about 30 years of age, native of Radomir, a former political prisoner and partisan, holds close friendly relations with the young workers, a painstaking and industrious Party member, does not have an unpleasant or evil personality, criticizes all shortcomings at Party meetings, workers do not fear him.
- b) Minka Kaleeva -- 22, Party activist in the plant, chief informer, employed by the State Security and by the Party to spy on unreliable workers who behave as security risks for the regime and for the plant.
- c) Petkov Germanov - about 40 years of age, division [otdeleniye] chief, active Communist, very evil, treats workers poorly, imposes and seeks punishment for the smallest infractions and irregularities, especially for those committed by non-Party personnel.

## 4. The professional committee in the plant helps the Party to propagandize socialistic construction, USSR aid to Bulgaria, the strength and invincibility of the Red Army, Bulgarian-Soviet friendship, etc.

## 5. The members of the trade union committee are agents of the State Security, even the plant engineers fear them.

- a) Tsoto Parov - Chairman of the trade union committee, 45 years of age, from Sofia, maintains good relations with the workers.
- b) Stoyanov - Secretary of the trade union committee, very dangerous Communist, a former political prisoner, very active as a propagandist.

## 6. Some workers who are not Party members are DOSO members. As such they are considered as candidates for membership in the Communist Party. The evening political programs are conducted purely for Communist re-education. The propagandists train the youth to become a robot who fulfills their orders automatically. The DOSO has a wicked influence on its young members who under the "guidance" of the organization turn against their friends and relatives.

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- a) Giolchev - Chairman of DOSO in the plant, age 40, active Communist.
- b) Boris Nongchev - Secretary of DOSO in the plant, age 40, active Communist.
- c) Lazar Penchev - DOSO member, age 30, active Communist, Komsomolets member of Dimitrov's Union of People's Youth?/.

The names of four other DOSO activist-members are not known since they do not work at the plant. However, they often attend evening political gatherings.

- 7. The DOSO, consists chiefly of young people.
  - a) Nikolov - Cadre chief in the DOSO Central Council, appoints instructors and leaders of local organization or units (edinitsei), receives and provides character references on cadre members, transfers instructors, and supervises the training of members.
  - b) Iyubenev - Member of the Central Council and direct assistant to Nikolov.
  - c) General Ivan Kinev - in charge of military training at the DOSO Central Council.
  - d) General Dobri Turpeshev - Chairman of DOSO Central Council.

The DOSO in the "Kliment Voroshilov" Plant has about one thousand members. DOSO training is conducted after work and lasts from one to two hours. Sometimes training is given on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

- 8. The training consists of the following:
  - a) Antichemical defense and gas mask drills.
  - b) Rowing, swimming, and operation of sailboats and other sailing vessels.
  - c) Building of model airplanes, parachute training, glider training, driving.
  - d) Shooting with various types of firearms, rifles, pistols, submachine guns, and machine guns; grenade throwing; and mine detecting.
  - e) Medical training, similar to that given by the military
  - f) History of the BKP (Bulgarian Communist Party) and the KPSS (Communist Party of the Soviet Union).
  - g) Biographies of eminent USSR and Soviet bloc Communists, including Stalin, Lenin, G Dimitrov, Malenkov, Beria, Molotov, and Voroshilov.
  - h) Information on discipline, obedience, and punishment. This training is similar to that given by the military, however it is given purely along Party lines.
  - i) Information on guarding secrets, passing of all information to the chief. This information includes family affairs, all incidents, and manner in which the incidents happened.

For training purposes each DOSO member receives a weapon with cartridges, which is returned to the DOSO storeroom after each training period. DOSO members wear uniforms during demonstrations, holidays, and meetings. The uniform consists of a green jacket with two breast pockets, green trousers, and a green military cap. A DOSO emblem with the design of an anchor, a

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propellor, a rifle, and a five pointed star decorates the front left side of the jacket.

9. DOSO members receive naval training at a special naval club at Stalin and at a special camp at Evksinograd Palace. The course of study includes the following:

- a) Swimming with clothes, bearing of arms, training with various naval signals, Morse code, and use of flags.
- b) Political party propaganda training is increased here because the young trainee might deviate from the party line and forget the training which he received at the plant, in the factory, in the TK2S, or in the MTS.

10. Personalities:

- a) Tonchev - In charge of the camp at Stalin, native of Sofia.
- b) Cherney - Assistant naval training instructor, about 35 years of age, native of Sofia.
- c) Dimitur Aleksandrov - Instructor of general naval training, about 29 years of age, native of Sofia.
- d) Puryan - Camp supply officer, about 35 years of age, native of Stalin.

11. The "Kliment Voroshilov" Low-Current Equipment Plant is located west of Sofia among the Moderno Predgradie (Modern Suburbs), Sugar Factory, and Nadezhda areas. The plant is in the Sugar Factory area. There is a field near the plant. Military depots and commissary (Intendant) buildings including shoe shops, tailor shops, warehouses for army clothes, ammunition, cowlings, etc are located west of the plant.

12. Since the "Kliment Voroshilov" Plant builds radio transmitters and radio receivers, military personnel visit it every day. The radio sets are built according to the series-production method, that is, the set passes from one worker to another through a series of fifty assembly workers. Since the radio sets are already packed when they are loaded from the plant warehouse, it is difficult for anyone outside of the plant to know their size. In addition to this, the plant builds smaller manual sets measuring 20 by 40 centimeters which are handy for carrying by DOSO and military personnel.

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13. In [redacted] there was only one permanently employed Soviet instructor in charge of the plant laboratory. New Soviet specialists visited the plant every day. Bulgarian engineers Todor Todorov, Ranov, Nikolov, and others worked with this instructor in the laboratory. This laboratory experiments with and tests the products manufactured by the plant. The Soviet specialist-engineer is tall, has a long nose, is a little stooped, and about 45 years of age. His salary is as large as that of four Bulgarian chief engineers. Soviet engineers, Stakhanovites, USSR delegates, specialists and officers visit the plant every day.

14. Cadres in the "Kliment Voroshilov" Plant:

- a) Madzharov, chief engineer of the telephone section
- b) Nikola Draykov, chief of the 2nd assembly shop
- c) Tsolov, engineer, technical chief [otgovornik] of the 2nd assembly shop
- d) Boncho Tsolov, engineer, chief of the dial telephone section of the 2nd assembly shop, 29 years of age, brother to the first [Tsolov]

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- e) Krushkov, member of Party leadership in the plant, has his own office in the plant.
  - f) Tozhev, Party official in the 2nd assembly shop, skilled workman in the dial telephone section.
15. First assembly shop produces the Rodno radio, 504 model radio, and Admiral radio sets; radio equipment; Eliment V. oshilov X-ray equipment; radio transmitters and receivers; portable manual radio sets; current rectifiers; and equipment for electrical installations such as switches, electric light bulb holders, knobs.
  16. Second assembly shop produces IB (local battery) dial telephones, TsB (central battery) dial telephones, automatic telephone exchanges, telephones using local batteries, etc.
  17. Third assembly shop produces electric motors, radio transformers, X-ray equipment, and other semifinished goods.
  18. This is the first plant in Bulgaria to manufacture high frequency powdered iron for radio coils. This powdered iron is also exported. The plant imports wire from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and USSR, and radio tubes from Czechoslovakia.
  19. The plant employs about three thousand workers of which about 10 to 15 percent are Communists. All of these Communists are not active propagandists and Party officials. Many workers are restrained in their relations with the local Party leaders and with the Communist regime, which they consider as temporary in Bulgaria. All the workers hope for a turn of events and a change of regime in Bulgaria. Nobody criticizes or publicly discusses the Party, the government, or the disorder in the plant because this would lead to punishments, loss of work, and expulsion to a camp for hard labor. Frequently the Party employs State Security and militia agents as informers and provocators who threaten the workers. These informers are active on the cooperative farms, in the offices among the officials, and in the army. All the workers listen to foreign radio broadcasts, especially the "Voice of America". The workers' sympathies are with the US. They are eager to receive information about the Bulgarian National Committee and its director, G M Dimitrov, whom they remember as a great anti-Nazi, an anti-fascist, and a true democrat, and one whom they trust. Most of the workers would join an active resistance movement but they desire a guarantee that they will not come under dictatorship because they resist Communism. They do not want to return to the old regime of unemployment, camps, continuous arrests, and apparent freedom but actually a dictatorship. This fear drives the people to become, if not Party members, at least sympathizers of Communism.
  20. Because of the secret active resistance in the plant, production plans are almost never fulfilled despite the fact that the plant is subordinate to the Ministry of Defense and manufactures products for the army. The hope of the people lies in receiving aid from outside /of Bulgaria/. People who were fanatical Communists a year ago do not believe anymore in Communism, however, they are forced to remain with the Party since they are punished more severely than non-Party members for becoming traitors and instruments of G M Dimitrov (Gemetovism) and of the Petkov followers (Petkovism).
  21. The "Vasil Kolarov" High-Current Equipment Plant is located near the village of Iliyantsi on the outskirts of Sofia and east of the Nadezhda area. This plant produces electric motors, transformers, flat irons, electric heaters, etc. The High-Current Equipment Plant in Ruse produces electrical equipment such as electric light holders, switches, flat irons, electric motors, and parts required for electrical installations.

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22. The DMZ (State Machine Plant) in Sofia is located near the village of Iliyantsi, Sofia Okoliya. The plant employs over one thousand workers who work in three shifts. The plant produces planing machines, boring machines, and shaping machines.
23. The No 12 Military Plant is located on Totleben Street (ulitsa) near Aleksandrova Hospital and on the right side of the road running to Knyazhevo. The plant produces the Model 1949-50 Dimitrovs trucks, cabs for the trucks, [truck] bodies, portable military kitchens, storage batteries, metal assault boats, pontoon boats, and repairs motor vehicles which were damaged during World War II. The plant is subordinate to the Ministry of Heavy Industry, but its products are designed exclusively for military use.
24. Engineer Petruncov is the director of the plant. Technician Zefirov, about 45 years of age, native of Sofia, Communist, is the chief of the automobile repair section and the deputy of the Sofia People's Soviet. He is a Stakhanovite rationalizer who introduced the rapid Soviet method of cutting.
25. The No 12 Plant employs many military engineers including Soviet specialists who are paid much higher salaries than the more highly skilled Bulgarian specialists, whom they consider as assistants. The plant employs over 3,500 workers. All the work and production in the plant is guarded under a veil of strict military secrecy. The main gate of the plant has the following inscription: "When you leave the plant, do not talk about its operation".
26. In [redacted] the plant was awarded the "Banner of the Council of Ministers" for attaining the highest production and highest fulfillment of the production plan in Sofia. However, during the first three months of [redacted] the plant fulfilled the production plan by only 30 percent because of frequent reassignments of workers and specialists, irregular deliveries of materials, poor treatment, and low pay to the workers. Many workers were dismissed from the plant for sabotage and for unconscientious work. Many of these were tried secretly in court and only their imposed sentences were announced so as to intimidate the other workers. Despite this, the plant does not operate according to the norms established by the Communists.
27. The "Vulko Chervenkov" Automobile Repair Plant is located at gara Iskur near the "Geo Miliv" Combine. This plant is well equipped and operates exclusively for the requirements of the Ministry of Defense. It is not easily accessible because of its distance from the populated center. The plant assembles and repairs transport vehicles.
28. The "Georgi Dimitrov" Locomotive and Railroad Car Plant is located near the Sofia Central Railroad Station in the direction of gara Poduene. This well-equipped plant manufactures railroad cars, locomotives, railroad installations, railroad signaling equipment, electric motors, and repairs railroad cars and locomotives. This large Bulgarian plant employs over 5,600 workers, who work in three shifts.
29. The morale in this plant is not very high because most of the workers are old specialists who in the past have been Communists and have participated in the strikes before 1944 and therefore they are not willing to be subordinated to the new leaders (Communists after 1945). They sabotage production in the plant. Many of them are brought into the courts to stand trial.
30. Sometimes the repaired locomotives break down immediately after leaving the plant.
31. The "6 September" Streetcar Plant is located in Krasno Selo near Sofia on the right side of the road to Knyazhevo near Pavlovo. The plant produces streetcar bodies, trolleybuses, and streetcars.

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32. Engineer Stanchev is the production chief of the plant. The plant employs 1,100 workers, who work in three shifts. In 1948 and 1949, the majority of the workers were Communists, but now the number of Communists has decreased to 18 percent because many of them have been charged with resistance and sabotage and were sent to hard labor camps. The plant builds new streetcars for the city of Sofia. The streetcars are equipped with radio loudspeakers which announce the Party propaganda and the news.

33. The workers secretly sabotage production. During [redacted] a sabotage conspiracy was discovered in the "Kliment Voroshilov" Plant and important Party members were replaced because of their diversionary activities and sabotage of production. Some of these were convicted and others were dismissed. The following Communists were among those belonging to the conspiracy:

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- a) Boris Naghev, Communist, native of Sofia, chief of the automatic-revolver section in the plant, dismissed from the plant and sent to a camp.
- b) Khristo Tashin, Communist, native of Sofia, secretary of Dimitrov's Union of People's Youth in 1949 in the plant, imprisoned for sabotage and resistance activity.
- c) Goran ....., chief of the nickel polishing section, Communist, native of Sofia, dismissed for disciplinary reasons, sentenced, sent to a Sofia prison, and later transferred [to another prison].

The plant replaced over 15 workers including engineers, Communists, and those on the opposition who were accused of being followers of G M Dimitrov and followers of Petkov and of trying to reestablish in Bulgaria a capitalist regime supported by US imperialism.

- 34. The "9 September" Shoe Factory is located near gara Serdika in Sofia near the old Bureau of Sanitation (Byuro za chistota). The employees in this large factory work in three shifts. The workers consist chiefly of shoemakers whose shoe building machines were nationalized and whose shoe shops were closed. The shoemakers working in this factory come from all parts of Bulgaria.
- 35. The quality and quantity of production in this factory receives much criticism. Neither the Party nor the trade union have organized any Party or work discipline in the factory. Since there is much sabotage in this factory, leaders and workers are arrested every day by the State Security.
- 36. Important shoe sections in the factory:
  - a) Machine-made shoes for the Narmag [People's store]
  - b) Hand-made shoes for Communist officials and USSR citizens in Bulgaria.
  - c) Factory-made rubber shoes for the people. These shoes are glued with a special glue and sewn with thread.
  - d) Sport shoes for DOSO members, athletes, frontier guards, militia, and skiers in the army or in the Federation of Sports [Sportnata federatsiya]
  - e) Sandals for peasants working on agricultural projects
  - f) The material left over from the manufacture of shoes is used for making shoe soles, belts, sandals, and leather pieces for industrial uses.
- 37. This factory never fulfills its production plan. The shoes are of such poor quality that they cannot withstand moisture during rainy weather. The soles and leather of the shoes are processed inadequately before and in leather factories and because of this, they scuff, absorb moisture, and break down after three days [of wear] in the rainy weather or on agricultural projects where one walks on moist or wet ground. The rubber shoes fall apart because the glue or thread does not hold.

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