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SUBJECT Ural Tank Factory/Chirchik Chemical Factory

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. [redacted] a construction battalion of the Soviet army [redacted] the battalion was composed of officers and technicians from Leningrad and a number of Estonian enlisted men. Total strength of the battalion numbered approximately one thousand men.
2. Our battalion, along with three other construction battalions and a number of civilian workers, was sent [redacted] to the Ural Mountains in the vicinity of Chelyabinsk [redacted] During this period we were engaged in the construction of a large factory. The factory was located near the village of Chebarcul which is about 70 kilometers southwest of Chelyabinsk and situated near the main line of the Ufa-Chelyabinsk railroad. The factory itself was about five kilometers northeast of the village of Chebarcul, and was connected by several spur tracks to the railroad, being from one to two kilometers south of the main line.
3. The factory was constructed on open ground in flat country and about five kilometers southeast of the Ural foothills. Although it was surrounded by trees there was no direct attempt made at camouflage. [redacted] although most of the buildings were completed and carloads of machinery were being installed. Much of the machinery which was brought in by railroad cars had been moved from war-threatened factories in the west. The factory consisted of three large buildings, averaging from 200 to 300 feet in length and of brick construction, as well as numerous smaller shops. Electrical power was available as I noticed transmission lines being erected. I heard reports from a number of technicians and officers employed there that the factory was designed to manufacture tanks for the Soviet army but that it could be converted after World War II to make farm tractors.
4. [redacted]

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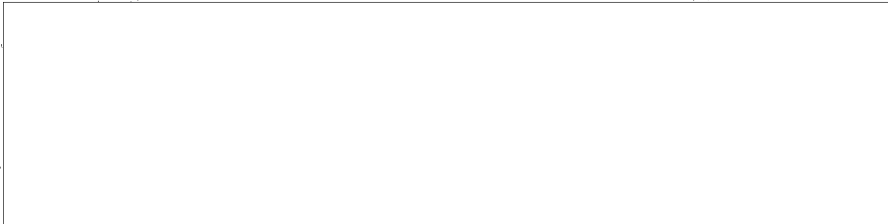


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- 2 -



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5. A large chemical factory was located about five kilometers south of Chirchik. This factory was under a tight security control and was said to be a secret plant since no one was permitted to talk about it. There was a spur track from the main railroad line to this plant although I did not observe what was transported. The only identification of this plant is that when the wind came from the direction of the plant, it carried considerable smoke and the air was filled with sulphur fumes.

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