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SOURCE Sopuk Sinmun

WONSON SHIPYARDS REPAIR USSR WAR VESSELS

SOVIET ENGINEERS ASSIST KOREANS -- Sopuk Sinmun, 10 May 50

The Wonsan Shipbuilding Company of North Korea has converted all of its peacetime shipbuilding operations into the repairing of war vessels of the USSR and the coast guard vessels of the People's Republic.

The above company was taken over by the USSR from the Japanese at the time of liberation, and remained under Soviet control even after the withdrawal of the USSR troops from North Korea. The company operates as a subsidiary to the Russo-Chosun /Shipbuilding/ Company. Soviet citizens of Korean extraction are in the managerial positions, assisted by seven Soviet engineers. Seven or eight vessels can usually be seen docked here. A strict guard is placed around the yard by the North Korean coast guards.

HARBIN REPORTEDLY BEING REBUILT -- Sopuk Sinmun, 10 May 50

Recently, large-scale construction has been taking place in the Manchurian city of Harbin. A large labor force and materials collected from Manchuria and North Korea have been mobilized for the project. The nature of construction is not known.

After the occupation of Manchuria, the USSR made this city into a military base as well as a base for expansion of her influence in the Far East. The city's population has been increasing rapidly as a result of a large number of Soviet immigrants. Among the laborers mobilized are the Japanese prisoners of war and Manchurian coolies. Large quantities of lumber and cement are being transported from North Korea. Trains are shipping lumbers manufactured by the mills in Kanggye and Sinuiju, P'yongan Pukto, to Harbin via Andong (near Sinuiju) each day. Most of the cement produced in Munch'on, Hamgyong Namdo, and in Komusan, Hamgyong Pukto, has also been shipped to Harbin.

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