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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Belorussian SSR)	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1
SUBJECT	Morale and Living Conditions in Brest	DATE DISTR.	3 November 1953	
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- Most of the inhabitants of Brest "wait for war as for salvation". The White Russians and Poles have particularly strong feelings against the present regime; the Great Russians are more moderate in their views.
- Prices on the black market in Brest include the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price in rubles</u>
Man's suit	300 to 350
Man's shoes (good quality, hand-made)	150
Man's wrist watch (gold, "Dokha")	700
Woman's watch (Swiss make)	350 to 400
- Shoes were much cheaper on the black market in April 1953 than previously. Watches were more expensive in April, because most of the blackmarketeers who smuggled watches in large quantities had been arrested. Watches are purchased mainly by pilots and railroad employees. The flour supply in Brest improved in April.
- Some other prices of goods in Brest follow:¹

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price in rubles</u>
Men's unlined leather dress gloves	49 (approximate)
Man's dress cap with visor	25.10
Man's silk tie	14
Man's handkerchief, 14 cm square	7
Smoked cod, a can, 340 gm of cod	7

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC				
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