

REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Leningrad Oblast) REPORT 25X1

SUBJECT 1. Political Attitudes of the Inhabitants of Leningrad DATE DISTR. 8 August 1955

2. The Leningrad Case of 1948-1950 NO. OF PAGES 2

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Attachment

PART VII

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THE Leningrad Case

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("LEningradskoe Delo")

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[redacted] the Leningraders constitute in certain ways a group different from the Muscovites and other Russians. They seem [redacted] more proud and self-assured, more broad-minded and intelligent, and also more outspoken in their political comments. They appear to feel they have not been given their due compared with other cities for their leading part in the Bolshevik Revolution and their great sacrifices during the Second World War. There is in Leningrad a large and politically conscious industrial proletariat, which to some extent considers itself to have been neglected by the Government in Moscow. Priority to other cities has been given in such matters as reconstruction, accommodation and consumer goods. As inhabitants of the city of Leningrad the population feels itself vaguely slighted.

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in the campaign against "cosmopolitanism" many persons (often of Jewish origin) had been removed from their posts. In addition, a faction of the local Komsomol organisation had demanded a greater measure of autonomy and independence from Moscow. They objected to a too rigid and doctrinaire political approach and felt that party discipline was becoming too harsh. It was rumoured also that the Leningrad Obkompartii had questioned some of the decisions of the Central Committee, as a result of which some of the Party officials were dismissed. The First Secretary, POFKOV was said to have stated publicly that he personally was more to thank than ZHDANOV for the organisation of excellent resistance during the siege of the city in the Second World War.