

TELLOFAX 85

50X1

50X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

COUNTRY	USSR (Gorkiy Oblast and Belorussian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Communications and Transportation in Dzerzhinsk Area, Gorkiy Oblast 2. Transshipment at Brest, Belorussian SSR	DATE DISTR.	26 February 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	5
PLACE ACQUIRED			50X1-HUM

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC				
-------	----	------	----	------	----	-----	----	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated by "X", Field Distribution by "#")

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY : USSR (Gorkiy Oblast and Belorussian SSR)  
SUBJECT : 1. Communications and Transportation in Dzerzhinsk Area, Gorkiy Oblast  
2. Transshipment at Brest, Belorussian SSR

DATE DISTR. 13 JAN 54

NO. OF PAGES 4

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

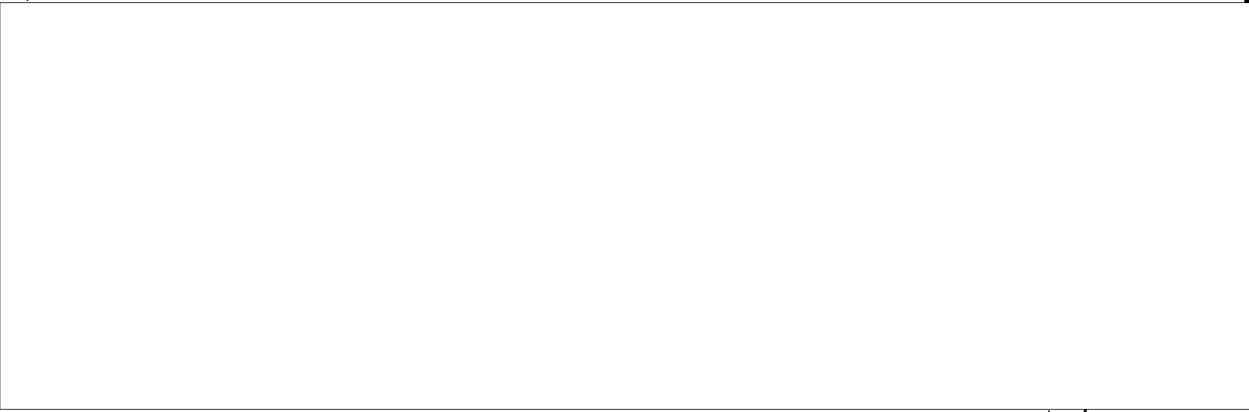
DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFO

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM



Communication Centers

1. To my knowledge, the city's communication facilities were located at the main post office and Gorkom buildings [redacted] Local and governmental announcements and the daily news service presumably originated at some office located in the Gorkom building and were disseminated to the population by means of the local wired loudspeaker outlet system. The location of the city's radio station was unknown to me. However, I have indicated [redacted] the location of an amateurs' radio club and a micro-wave station [redacted]. I have no concrete information regarding the last two installations. A number of antennas are visible on the roof of the Gorkom building.

50X1

50X1

Telephone and Telegraph Facilities

2. The telephone system in this area is not automatic, and local and long distance calls must be made through the telephone operator. There are no telephone booths available on the city's streets and squares. A few open telephones for public use are located on the ground floor of the post office. Long distance telephone calls could be made from the three or four telephone booths available on the second floor of the same building. I never placed a long

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-



50X1

distance call while in the Soviet Union, but I was told that the necessity for placing such a call had to be justified by the caller. Registered calls between Dzerzhinsk and Moscow were frequently delayed from one to one and a half hours. I also observed that the callers had to shout into the instrument in order to be understood or to hear the replies of the participant on the other end of the line. Presumably, the rate for a three minute call after 2000 hours was about 15 kopeks. Telephones for public use are also available in the restaurants, stolovaya, and the city's only hotel [redacted]

[redacted] I believe that few of the Soviet residents make extensive use of this public facility. To my knowledge, few of the local homes, excepting of course those of the privileged class, such as the city and government officials, party functionaries, etc. contain telephones. I have little or no information at all concerning the Soviet telegraph service. I believe that the rate per word amounted to 50 kopeks each. The overhead telephone and telegraph wires were strung on wooden poles.

50X1

Radio Reception and Jamming

3. I have already indicated the possible location of the local radio and micro-wave stations [redacted]

50X1

[redacted] In general the reception [redacted] broadcasts as well as short-wave programs from [redacted]

50X1-HUM

[redacted] was satisfactory. As early as 1948 I was able to receive the above-named countries on the smallest of the Soviet radio receivers, the Rekord (price range about 700 - 800 rubles). I know of no laws restricting the purchase of short-wave or other receivers and the listening of foreign broadcasts.

4. In my opinion the crowded living conditions in the USSR do not allow open and unrestricted listening to foreign broadcasts. However, the wave lengths of foreign stations, and especially [redacted] are well known to the Soviet radio listeners. As [redacted]

50X1-HUM

[redacted] 90 per cent of the private homes in the Dzerzhinsk area are equipped with wired loudspeaker outlets. I have no specific knowledge concerning the present wired loudspeaker expansion program or of any change in the broadcasting system in the USSR. I was told by [redacted] acquaintances that during WW II all privately owned receivers were confiscated, and therefore, I would say there is a certain reluctance on the part of the Soviets to acquire new radio apparatuses. However it is quite possible that many of the Soviets cannot afford this particular expenditure.

50X1-HUM

5. I have very little information on jamming activities in the Dzerzhinsk area. We experienced the worst period of jamming in 1948. At that time it seemed as if the Soviets were battling against all other wave lengths. However during the last few years of our stay in the Dzerzhinsk area the jamming [redacted] particularly the newscasts heard by us in the evening hours, approximately from 2030 - 2100 local time, was comparatively ineffective. The jamming

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

50X1

signals resembled a long fluctuating, high-pitched, whistle sound. I attribute the ineffectiveness of the jamming of our short-wave receptions to the particular geographic location of the Dzerzhinsk area. The city of Gorkiy has an institute for radio and radar techniques. I have no information of this institute.

Railroads

6. I traveled between Dzerzhinsk and Gorkiy, and along the Dzerzhinsk-Vladimir-Moscow-Smolensk-Brest routes on my return trip to Germany. In the Dzerzhinsk area the lines were double tracked. I believe that the roadbed was of sand with gravel. The wooden ties were fastened with ordinary metal spikes, which frequently became loose from the constant vibration. The trains were pulled by steam locomotives in Dzerzhinsk as well as during our return trip. The railroad gauge changed only in Brest where I observed eight meter wide platforms for loading and passenger traffic. Freight was transloaded from one type of train to another by working crews equipped with carts and wheelbarrows. In this case, during our to and fro trips, I observed Soviet soldiers supervising and assisting in the transfer of the heavy baggage and furniture. I have no information concerning freight cars and locomotives. Freight trains arriving at the plant were unloaded and cleaned by special working crews. I observed frequently that freight trains and motor convoys were accompanied by armed guards.

Water Transport

7. The Oka river is used as a freight and passenger traffic route between Moscow-Dzerzhinsk-Gorkiy and other points located along the river. I observed freight and passenger boats which I estimate were close to 500 tons capacity. The travel lane was marked with buoys and was being constantly dredged in many places along the route. The depth of three meters along the travel lane is only an estimate. Many sand banks obstructed navigation outside of the traffic lane and along the river banks. The types of water crafts observed were tugboats, paddle (wheel) steamers, steam boats, tow barges, etc.

50X1

Highways and Roads

8. During the period from 1946-1951 I traveled on roads connecting Dzerzhinsk-Igumnovo-Gorkiy and the Igumnovo-Rulon plant. The road between Dzerzhinsk and Igumnovo is paved with asphalt on an approximate stretch of one to one and a half kilometers in the vicinity of the Kalinin plant. Other parts of the same road are paved with cobblestones. It is a two lane road. The traffic flow is heavy. During the winter months traffic is largely impaired by snow drifts and ice. The road between Zavod 96 and the Rulon plant is in good condition, and is used only for internal (inter-plant) traffic. The road running from Dzerzhinsk to Gorkiy [redacted] is in good condition and is partly asphalt and partly hard dirt surfaced. There is heavy traffic on this road. [redacted]

50X1

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-4-



50X1

Vehicles

9. Vehicles observed in this area were commonly used types. A number of repair garages, which also presumably served as gas stations, were located in the city and along the country roads. (The bus exclusively used for the transportation of the German specialists, was new but was under major repairs regularly every four weeks.) Food supplies from Gorkiy to Dzerzhinsk and bread from the Dzerzhinsk bread factory to various points of the area were generally transported by motor vehicles. I have no information on the air transport system in the USSR.

CONFIDENTIAL