CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted] 25X1A2g

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Uzbek SSR)

DATE DISTR. 28 Feb 1949

SUBJECT Industrial Installations in or Near the Town of Shorsu

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PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted] 25X1X6

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. [redacted] 25X1A2g

[redacted]

1. Of the oil wells located in area 20 on Sketch Map No. 1, (See above), only four are in operation. The rest of the wells have been abandoned because [redacted]

2. The crude oil drawn from these wells is conducted into an underground tank (No. 19) through an underground pipe. The crude oil is pumped through the pipe (casing ?) of each well into an underground pipe which descends gradually. This pipe has one branch which leads to two steel tanks (No. 18) and another branch which leads to the underground tank. When the steel tanks are full, the branch leading to them is closed with a valve; and the oil then flows into the underground tank.

3. Ivan Semen, the director of the ozocerite mill and mine, is also the director of the electric power generator, No. 13. He receives instructions and orders from the city of Kokand. The ozocerite mill utilizes steam power. The power plant has four boilers, which burn on crude oil.

4. Informant says that the oil field supplies fuel oil for the entire town of Shorsu, including the ozocerite mill, the suburbs, and the town bakery. When the amount of oil produced by the wells is insufficient, then the town as well as the ozocerite mill is supplied from the city of Kokand. The amount of fuel oil produced from the four wells in operation is about 24 tons a day. Most of this, 20-22 tons, is used daily by the ozocerite mill. What is left is used for the requirements of the town.

5. Informant does not know whether the copper sulphate (sic; copper sulfide ?) mill uses distillate or heavy oil for fuel. He says that the fuel oil used by it is received exclusively from the city of Kokand. This mill has a Russian director who also manages the copper sulphate mine and the electric power plant (No. 12). This electric power plant has no connection with

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the oil field, and its director receives instructions and orders regarding it and the copper sulphate mill directly from Moscow.

6. In the workers' village of Kim, which is located 12-15 kilometers from the city of Kanibadam and 25 kilometers from the city of Shurab, but not on the railroad line linking the two cities, there are oil wells and an oil refinery in the hills.

7. The ozocerite mill, No. 34, is directed from the city of Chkalov. This is informant's conclusion based on the fact that whenever the payment of wages to the workers in the mill and in the ozocerite mine is late, the management tells the workers, "Wait! The money has not yet come from Chkalov."

8. Informant states that the ozocerite ore is not completely processed in the mill at Shorsu. The final processing takes place in other mills or factories, probably located in the city of Chkalov. The ore is extracted by pick and shovel.

9. The quality of ozocerite shipped from the factory falls into three categories, indicated by the letters A, B, and C. Category A is shipped via Kokand to the interior of the USSR. Categories B and C are sent by rail via Kokand and Tashkent to the city of Chkalov, where there is reported to be a larger ozocerite mill for the further processing of the ore.

10. The exploitation of the ozocerite mines of Shorsu was begun by English companies between 1905 and 1917. After the revolution and until 1942, the mines were abandoned by the Soviet Government and remained closed. Only in 1942 did the Soviets begin to exploit the mines again.

11. In June 1948 the workers numbered about 500, of whom about 150 were working in the mine, while the rest were engaged in the construction of a one-story building intended to house the workers in Shorsu. Work at the mine went on 24 hours a day in three shifts.

12. Between the summer of 1944 and the summer of 1948, the work at the mine was slowed up by two things: first, by failure of the electric power plant; and, second, by damage to the underground pipes bringing water from the village Karimduvana (sic) to Shorsu. These pipes run underground for a distance of seven kilometers from Karimduvana to Shorsu. They have been installed for a long time and suffer frequent breaks.

13. In Shorsu there is an MVD officer, Yerasinko, who belongs to the unit of the village of Yaipan. He is responsible for the security of the workers. Without permission from him, none of the workers in exile can go to Kokand or leave the vicinity of the mines.

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