

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

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SUBJECT Soviet Inland Waterways

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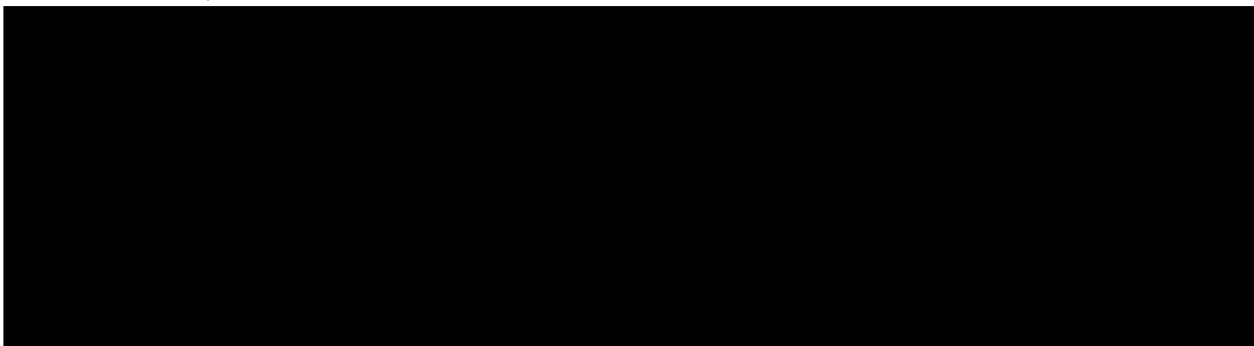
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



1. Following are the depths of various Soviet canal systems as of 1 October 1949:

Northern Dvina system - 1.0 to 1.6 meters.

Derezhna system - 0.6 to 1.7 meters.

Merinsk system - 1.0 to 1.8 meters. \*

Tikhvin system - 1.0 meters for its entire length. \*

Vyshny Volochek system - 1.0 to 1.8 meters. \*

2. As of 1 October 1949, various river depths were as follows:

Volga - From Rybinsk to Gorki: 1.4 meters

Ittysh - From Semipalatsinsk to Guck: 1.05 meters

Dnepr - From Kalach-na-Donu to Tsymblyanskaya: 1.0 meters

Sheksna - In the free area, 1.4 meters; in the canal, 1.95 meters.

Oka - From Koloman to Gucki: 1.0 meters

3. Eight large locks have been constructed to overcome the high, 60-meter ascent of the Moscow-Volga canal. In addition to the so-called Moscow Sea covering 330 square kilometers, created by the upper Volga dam, three large reservoirs have been built as water power installations alleged to have a capacity of 70,000 KW. All power is furnished for Moscow industries.

4. At present work is underway for the improvement of the Volga system. There are two large double locks with powerful water power installations at Rybinsk and Uglich. The one at Uglich dams the upper Volga as far as the Moscow canal. The two Rybinsk dams connect the second stretch of the Volga

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and the Shkerna, creating a giant reservoir. The aim of this construction work was to maintain the water level - almost six meters deep - from Moscow to Rybinsk and the succeeding Volga level at 2.75 meters.

5. In European Russia, all wooden locks have been replaced by steel and cement locks. The entire canal system is supposed to be so reconstructed that vessels slightly more than 100 meters long and with 5,000 tons total tonnage per ship may travel anywhere.

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Comment: We have taken these to indicate: Mariinsk system - the Mariinsk canal running between the Vytegra and Kovzha Rivers south of Lake Onega; Tikhvin system - running S and E of Tikhvin (59° 39'N, 33° 30'E) and emptying into the lake by Sosino; Vyshny Volochlak system - the canal north of Vyshny Volochek.

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