

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

*Memo
Chums*

16 May 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary of State
SUBJECT: Soviet Forced Labor

The attached letter to the Secretary
of the Treasury is for your information.

Bill
William J. Casey

Attachment

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

84 - 220/2

16 May 1984

The Honorable Donald T. Regan
 Secretary of the Treasury
 Washington, D. C. 20220

Dear Don:

This letter is written in connection with your statutory responsibilities to prevent the entry into the United States of foreign goods which are produced by convict, forced or indentured labor. We have a good deal of information that the Soviet Union makes extensive use of such labor. We estimate that there are approximately 2 million forced laborers in camps. An additional 2 million or so forced laborers are not confined and are mostly involved in construction.

We have in the past at the request of the Commissioner of Customs furnished information concerning the production of goods with forced labor in the Soviet Union. Although there is convincing evidence that convict and forced labor is used extensively in the Soviet Union, it is fragmentary with respect to specific products. Our information does not enable us to estimate the proportion of total Soviet production of individual products which comes from forced labor. Nor is our information sufficiently precise to allow us to determine whether and to what extent the products of forced labor are exported to the United States.

I am also concerned that the need to make such evidence as we have publicly available, as would almost certainly be necessary for you to carry out your responsibilities, would endanger intelligence sources and methods.

Accordingly, I have to advise you that the Agency's information, while convincing as to the policy and practices of the Soviet Union with respect to forced labor, could not now be provided with sufficient precision to have probative value in a legal proceeding with respect to a particular product. You can be assured that we will continue our work in this area and will keep your Department currently advised if we are able to develop more satisfactory and precise evidence that might be helpful in preventing the entry into the United States of goods produced by convict, forced labor, or indentured labor.

Yours,



William J. Casey

cc: Secretary of State

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