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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FULLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE
REPORT CLASS [REDACTED]

DIST: 28 AUGUST 1987

COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJ: CORRECTIVE LABOR ESTABLISHMENT NO. 9, BAKAL

DOI: 1981-1984

REF: [REDACTED]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. IN 1984, CORRECTIVE LABOR ESTABLISHMENT NO. 9 (ITU-9) WAS LOCATED IN A HEAVILY WOODED AREA APPROXIMATELY 45 KM IN AN UNKNOWN DIRECTION FROM BAKAL (54 56' N, 33 14' E). THE CAMP, WHICH WAS A "GENERAL REGIME" (OBSHCHLY) FACILITY, HOUSED APPROXIMATELY 2,000 PRISONERS.

2. THE CAMP TERRITORY WAS GENERALLY PEAR-SHAPED, WHILE THE

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PRISONER LIVING/WORKING AREAS WERE LAID OUT IN THE FORM OF A RECTANGLE. TROOP BARRACKS, WHICH HOUSED ABOUT 200 MVD TROOPS EQUIPPED WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, WERE LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FENCED-IN AREA AS WAS THE CAMP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. THE ENTIRE PRISONER AREA WAS SURROUNDED BY THREE FENCES. THE FIRST FENCE WAS CONSTRUCTED OF WIRE AND WAS ELECTRIFIED. THE SECOND FENCE WAS BUILT OF WOOD, WHILE THE THIRD WAS CONSTRUCTED OF REINFORCED CONCRETE. EACH FENCE WAS APPROXIMATELY SIX METERS (M) HIGH. GUARD POSTS WERE LOCATED EVERY 20 M BETWEEN THE WOODEN AND CONCRETE FENCES.

3. THE PRISONER COMPOUND WAS DIVIDED BY A FENCE INTO A LIVING AREA AND A WORKING AREA. THE LIVING AREA CONTAINED 14 ONE-STORY BARRACKS, EACH OF WHICH HELD AT LEAST 120 PRISONERS. THE PRISONERS SLEPT ON DOUBLE-DECKED BUNKS AND, DURING PERIODS OF OVERCROWDING, TWO OR MORE PRISONERS WERE ASSIGNED TO A BUNK. EACH BARRACKS WAS SEPARATED FROM THE OTHERS BY A WIRE MESH FENCE. THE LIVING AREA ALSO CONTAINED A THREE-STORY BRICK GUARD TOWER, A VISITOR CENTER, A MESS HALL, AND A JAIL. PRISONERS WHO BROKE THE CAMP RULES WERE THROWN INTO THE JAIL AND WERE FED ONLY EVERY OTHER DAY. FOR RECREATION, THE PRISONERS HAD ONE BLACK AND WHITE TELEVISION SET WHICH WAS ROTATED BETWEEN THE BARRACKS FOR ONE WEEK AT A TIME. THE SET HAD ONLY ONE CHANNEL, WHICH CONSISTED BASICALLY OF POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS. THE WORKING AREA OF THE CAMP CONTAINED SIX WORKSHOPS, A SUPPLY BUILDING, AND A RAILROAD SPUR, WHICH DELIVERED LUMBER TO THE CAMP AND HAULED AWAY THE FINISHED PRODUCTS. THE PAINT STORAGE BUILDING WAS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FENCED AREA.

4. THE TYPICAL PRISONER WORK DAY BEGAN AT 0600 HOURS WHEN MUSIC WAS BROADCAST FROM THE GUARD TOWER. AT 0630, THE PRISONERS ASSEMBLED IN THE COURTYARD FOR A HEAD COUNT AND WENT TO BREAKFAST AT 0700 HOURS. BREAKFAST USUALLY CONSISTED OF OATMEAL (KASHA), WEAK TEA, AND BLACK BREAD (ONE 850 GRAM LOAF FOR FOUR PEOPLE). AT 0800, THE PRISONERS WENT TO THE WORKSHOPS AND WORKED UNTIL 1200 HOURS WHEN THEY HAD 30 MINUTES FOR A LUNCH OF CABBAGE SOUP WHICH WAS BROUGHT FROM THE MESS HALL IN THERMOS CONTAINERS AND EATEN IN THE WORKSHOP. WORK CONTINUED UNTIL 1700 HOURS, AND THE PRISONERS ASSEMBLED FOR A HEAD COUNT AT 1730 HOURS. DINNER, WHICH CONSISTED OF MORE SOUP AND BREAD, WAS SERVED IN THE MESS HALL AT 1800 HOURS, AND LIGHTS OUT OCCURRED AT 2200 HOURS. AT 0200 HOURS, A BARRACKS HEAD COUNT WAS CONDUCTED. A SECOND WORK SHIFT WORKED FROM 2200 HOURS UNTIL 0600 HOURS.

5. FOR THEIR LABOR AT THE CAMP, THE PRISONERS RECEIVED ONLY 50 RUBLES PER MONTH. AFTER DEDUCTIONS FOR FOOD AND CLOTHING, THE PRISONER RETAINED ONLY 15 RUBLES, SEVEN OF WHICH COULD BE SPENT EACH MONTH FOR CIGARETTES, COOKIES, MARGARINE, JAM AND CANNED FISH.

6. THE ONLY ITEMS PRODUCED IN THE SIX WORKSHOPS AT THE CAMP WERE WOODEN AMMUNITION BOXES. THESE BOXES WERE CONSTRUCTED IN ABOUT 15 DIFFERENT SIZES AND SHAPES. THE LARGEST SIZE BOX BUILT WAS ABOUT 2 M IN LENGTH AND 60 CM SQUARE AND DESIGNED TO HOLD ONE ITEM, POSSIBLY A

SMALL ROCKET. THE ORDER NUMBER (ZAKAZ) FOR THIS BOX WAS 581. ORDER NUMBER 593 WAS FOR A BOX 140 CM LONG AND 70 CM SQUARE AND DESIGNED TO HOLD TWO ITEMS. APPROXIMATELY 150 OF THE LARGER BOXES AND 250 OF THE SMALLER BOXES WERE CONSTRUCTED DURING ONE EIGHT HOUR SHIFT. COMMENT: SOURCE WORKED IN THE SUPPLY BUILDING WHICH ISSUED METAL HINGES, NAILS, SCREWS, AND TOOLS TO THE WORKERS AND WAS ABLE TO CALCULATE THE NUMBER OF BOXES BUILT BASED ON THE NUMBER OF HINGES ISSUED DURING ONE SHIFT.) ALL BOXES WERE STRONGLY CONSTRUCTED AND THEN PAINTED GREEN. NO IDENTIFYING MARKS OR LOGOS WERE PLACED ON THE BOXES TO DESIGNATE THE PLACE OF MANUFACTURE.

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