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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

FLOW OF PETROLEUM IN THE SOVIET BLOC
EUROPEAN SATELLITES
1952

CIA/RR IM-375

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FLOW OF PETROLEUM IN THE SOVIET BLOC
EUROPEAN SATELLITES*
1952

Summary and Conclusions

The European Satellites exported a total of 8,823,000 metric tons of crude oil and petroleum products across international boundaries during 1952. Of this total, 4,869,000 metric tons were shipped to the USSR; 2,062,000 metric tons, to the European Satellites; 20,000 metric tons, to the Asiatic Satellites; and 1,872,000 metric tons, outside the Soviet Bloc. At the same time, the European Satellites imported 123,000 metric tons of petroleum products from the USSR and 2,062,000 metric tons of crude oil and petroleum products from other countries in the Soviet Bloc. Imports of petroleum by the European Satellites from outside the Soviet Bloc were negligible in 1952. The net trade balance of the European Satellites with the rest of the world shows net exports of 4,746,000 metric tons of crude oil and petroleum products to the USSR, net exports to the Asiatic Satellites of 20,000 metric tons of petroleum products, and net exports outside the Soviet Bloc of 1,872,000 metric tons of petroleum products. Of the 6,638,000 metric tons of net exports, only 260,000 metric tons were crude oil.

Table 1** summarizes the exports and imports of crude oil and petroleum products made by each European Satellite and by the European Satellites as a whole during 1952.

The net exporting countries among the European Satellites during 1952 were, in order of importance, Rumania, the Soviet Zone of Austria, Albania, and East Germany. Among these, the Soviet Zone of Austria and Albania were the only exporters of crude oil. All of these countries were net exporters of petroleum products. Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland were net importers of petroleum, whereas Hungary's imports of crude oil and exports of petroleum products were very nearly equal.

* This memorandum contains information available as of 1 March 1953.

** Table 1 follows on p. 2.

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Table 1

International Flow of Petroleum in the European Satellites
1952

	Thousand Metric Tons					
	Exports			Imports		
	To the USSR	To Other Satellites	Outside the Soviet Bloc	Total	From the USSR	From Other Satellites
						Trade Balance
Albania						
Crude Oil	0	95	60	155	0	+155
Petroleum Products	94	26	0	120	40	+75
Subtotal	<u>94</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>+230</u>
Bulgaria						
Petroleum Products	0	0	0	0	215	-215
Czechoslovakia						
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	220	-220
Petroleum Products	0	0	0	0	386	-386
Subtotal	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>606</u>	<u>-606</u>
East Germany						
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	245	-245
Petroleum Products	310	86	42	438	15	+393
Subtotal	<u>310</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>+148</u>
Hungary						
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	350	-350
Petroleum Products	345	55	0	400	50	+349
Subtotal	<u>345</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>-1</u>

Table 1

International Flow of Petroleum in the European Satellites
1952
(Continued)

	Exports				Imports			Trade Balance
	To the USSR		To Other Satellites		From the USSR		From Other Satellites	
			Outside the Soviet Bloc	Total				
Poland	0	0	0	0	0	225	-225	
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	0	308	-333	
Petroleum Products	0	0	0	0	0	533	-558	
Subtotal								
Rumania	3,720	615	770	5,105	22	8	+5,075	
Petroleum Products								
Soviet Zone of Austria	200	945	0	1,145	0	0	+1,145	
Crude Oil	200	260	1,000	1,460	Negligible	0	+1,460	
Petroleum Products								
Subtotal	400	1,205	1,000	2,605	Negligible	0	+2,605	
Total European Satellites								
Crude Oil	200	1,040	60	1,300	0	1,040	+260	
Petroleum Products	4,669	1,042	1,812	7,523	123	1,022	+6,378	
Total	4,869	2,082 a/	1,872	8,823	123	2,062	+6,638	

a. 20,000 metric tons of petroleum products were exported to the Asiatic Satellites.

1. Rumania.

Rumania is by far the most important source of supply for petroleum in the European Satellites. Of approximately 6 million metric tons of petroleum products obtained from indigenous crude oil, about 5.1 million metric tons, or almost 85 percent, were exported to other countries of the Soviet Bloc and to Western Europe. These exports included 57 percent distillates and 43 percent residuals and included no whole crude oil.

Table 2 shows the shipments out of Rumania in 1952, by country of destination and by major product groups.

Table 2
Exports of Petroleum Products from Rumania
1952

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Thousand Metric Tons</u>		
	<u>Distillates</u>	<u>Residuals</u>	<u>Total</u>
Albania <u>1/</u> *	36	4	40
Bulgaria <u>2/</u>	200	10	210
Czechoslovakia <u>3/</u>	90	110	200
East Germany <u>4/</u>	0	10	10
Hungary <u>5/</u>	5	10	15
Poland <u>6/</u>	100	20	120
USSR <u>7/</u>	2,200	1,500	3,700
China <u>8/</u>	20	0	20
Soviet Far East <u>9/</u>	20	0	20
Denmark <u>10/</u>	0	20	20
Finland <u>11/</u>	250	150	400
Italy <u>12/</u>	0	100	100
Norway <u>13/</u>	0	10	10
Sweden <u>14/</u>	0	40	40
Switzerland <u>15/</u>	0	200	200
Total	<u>2,921</u>	<u>2,184</u>	<u>5,105</u>

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Railroad tank cars and seagoing tankers were the major means of carrying these exports to their destinations. Over 45 percent of the total was shipped out by tanker from Constanta and an additional 35 percent was exported by rail. The remainder left the country by pipeline to the USSR and by river barge on the Danube River.

Imports into Rumania were negligible. Small quantities of high-octane aviation gasoline, jet fuel, and special lubricants were supplied by the USSR. In addition, some bitumen was imported from Albania. The total from both countries probably did not amount to 30,000 metric tons in 1952, less than 1 percent of Rumanian exports.

2. Soviet Zone of Austria.

The Soviet Zone of Austria is the second largest exporter of petroleum among the European Satellites. Only about 10 percent of the estimated 3.2 million metric tons of crude oil produced in 1952 remained in the Soviet Zone of Austria. Of more than 2.6 million metric tons moved out, 43 percent was in the form of crude oil; 32 percent, distillates; and 25 percent, residuals. It is possible that as much as three-quarters of these exports left the Vienna area by way of the Danube River and that the remainder was carried away by railroad tank cars. By the terms of the occupation agreement, the Russians supply the entire Austrian economy with the necessary petroleum products. The Western Zones of Austria are the only areas outside the Soviet Bloc that received any of the exports from the Soviet Zone of Austria in 1952.

Table 3* shows the amounts and destinations of crude oil and petroleum products exported from the Soviet Zone of Austria in 1952.

As far as is known, there were no imports of petroleum products into the Soviet Zone of Austria, with the possible exception of small quantities of aviation fuels for the supply of the Soviet air units in the area.

3. East Germany.

Seventy percent of the nearly 440,000 metric tons of petroleum products exported from East Germany went to the USSR. Of the total

* Table 3 follows on p. 6.

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exports, 99 percent was in the form of distillates, with the remaining very small amount in the form of lubricants. Table 4 shows the destination of East German exports.

Table 3

Exports of Petroleum from the Soviet Zone of Austria
1952

Thousand Metric Tons				
<u>Destination</u>	<u>Crude Oil</u>	<u>Distillates</u>	<u>Residuals</u>	<u>Total</u>
USSR <u>16/</u>	200	200	0	400
Czechoslovakia <u>17/</u>	220	130	45	395
East Germany <u>18/</u>	245	0	0	245
Hungary <u>19/</u>	350	20	15	385
Poland <u>20/</u>	130	40	10	180
Western Zones of Austria <u>21/</u>	0	400	600	1,000
Total	<u>1,145</u>	<u>790</u>	<u>670</u>	<u>2,605</u>

Table 4

Exports of Petroleum Products from East Germany
1952

Thousand Metric Tons			
<u>Destination <u>22/</u></u>	<u>Distillates</u>	<u>Residuals</u>	<u>Total</u>
USSR	309	1	310
Poland	73	2	75
West Germany	42	0	42
Czechoslovakia	11	0	11
Total	<u>435</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>438</u>

Virtually all these exports left East Germany by rail. There were, however, occasional shipments by tanker by way of Stettin (Szczecin) in Poland.

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East Germany imported 245,000 tons of crude oil from the Soviet Zone of Austria in 1952. In addition, approximately 25,000 metric tons 23/ of high-octane gasoline were shipped in from the USSR, together with about 20,000 metric tons of lubricants from the USSR, Hungary, and Rumania.

4. Hungary.

Hungary's estimated total exports of petroleum in 1952 amounted to 400,000 metric tons, with over 85 percent going to the USSR. It is believed that these shipments were carried about equally by rail and by river barge on the Danube River. Table 5 shows the destination of these exports by type and quantities.

Table 5
Exports of Petroleum Products from Hungary
1952

Thousand Metric Tons			
<u>Destination</u>	<u>Distillates</u>	<u>Residuals</u>	<u>Total</u>
USSR <u>24/</u>	285	60	345
Poland <u>25/</u>	50	0	50
East Germany <u>26/</u>	0	5	5
Total	<u>335</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>400</u>

In 1952, Hungary imported 400,000 metric tons of petroleum from the other countries of the Soviet Bloc. Nearly 95 percent of these imports were in the form of crude oil and residuals for processing in the Hungarian refineries. As shown in Tables 2 and 3, Austria supplied Hungary with 350,000 metric tons of crude oil and 15,000 metric tons of residuals in 1952, and Rumania furnished 10,000 metric tons of residuals. In addition, Hungary received 25,000 metric tons of distillates from Austria and Rumania and a small quantity of lubricants from the USSR.

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5. Albania.

Almost 60 percent of Albania's 275,000 metric tons of exports of petroleum in 1952 were in the form of crude oil, with the remainder in the form of bitumen. All of these exports were handled by tanker out of the port of Vlone. Table 6 shows these shipments by destination and type.

Table 6

Exports of Petroleum from Albania
1952

<u>Thousand Metric Tons</u>			
<u>Destination</u>	<u>Crude Oil</u>	<u>Residuals</u>	<u>Total</u>
Poland <u>27/</u>	95	13	108
USSR <u>28/</u>	0	94	94
Italy <u>29/</u>	60	0	60
Rumania <u>30/</u>	0	8	8
Bulgaria <u>31/</u>	0	5	5
Total	<u>155</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>275</u>

In 1952, Albania imported about 5,000 metric tons of aviation gasoline and other special products from the USSR and 40,000 metric tons of petroleum products from Rumania.

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APPENDIX A

METHODOLOGY

In most cases the flow of crude oil and petroleum products has been estimated directly from intelligence reports giving monthly shipment figures. The import-export pattern for East Germany was derived by utilizing intelligence on the movement of tank cars through the border-crossing points and from information on planned imports and exports. Exports to the USSR from the European Satellites were estimated on the basis of intelligence on the traffic on the Danube River, port information, and information on the capacities of rail transfer points and pipelines. Available information on movements of both tanker and railroad tank cars was also utilized.

The export and import data presented in this memorandum are compiled on the basis of the final destination of movements. The data, therefore, do not include estimates of crude oil and petroleum products in transit through intermediate countries.

The year 1952 was chosen for analysis because data for this year are superior to data available for earlier years.

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APPENDIX B.

GAPS IN INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence information on East Germany, on the Soviet Zone of Austria, and on the tanker shipments out of Constanta through the Bosphorus is believed to be good. Information on Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Albania is only fair. The most critical gaps exist in information on Bulgaria and on shipments by rail and pipeline from Rumania. Except in the cases of East Germany and the Soviet Zone of Austria, reliable intelligence on the flow of petroleum between the European Satellites and the USSR is almost completely lacking.

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APPENDIX C

SOURCES AND EVALUATION OF SOURCES

1. Evaluation of Sources.

Taken individually, most of the sources used in preparing this memorandum are considered to be at least possibly true (as indicated below). The over-all consistency of the results obtained by using these sources in a critical fashion is considered sufficiently good to justify the conclusion that the resulting estimates are accurate within a margin of error of plus or minus 10 percent.

2. Sources.

Evaluations, following the classification entry and designated "Eval.," have the following significance:

<u>Source of Information</u>	<u>Information</u>
A - Completely reliable	1 - Confirmed by other sources
B - Usually reliable	2 - Probably true
C - Fairly reliable	3 - Possibly true
D - Not usually reliable	4 - Doubtful
E - Not reliable	5 - Probably false
F - Cannot be judged	6 - Cannot be judged

Evaluations not otherwise designated are those appearing on the cited document; those designated "RR" are by the author of this report. No "RR" evaluation is given when the author agrees with the evaluation of the cited document.

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