

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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PLACE & DATE ACQ.	Belgium, Brussels (January 1963)	FIELD REPORT NO.	

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: Ukrainian emigre who recently traveled to Brussels (B); from fellow Ukrainians who visited the Soviet Union in the early fall of 1962. Appraisal of Content: 3.

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1. In the fall of 1962, there was a shortage of practically every type of consumer commodity in the Ukrainian SSR. In particularly short supply were leather and woollen materials. The Ukrainians do not believe that Khrushchev will do any more for the people than he has done to date and they continue to criticize "the system".
2. The young people in the villages seem to feel particularly bitter about the CPSU and its drive to either keep them in the kolkhozy or send them to the Virgin Lands or construction sites in distant places. After completing 10 or 11 years of schooling everyone, including the best students, must work for two and one-half years in a Kolkhoz. During that period even the best students forget most of what they learn and virtually forfeit their chances to pass university or institute entrance examinations. People discuss openly the fact that this system prevents admission of the young from the rural areas to universities with the exception of the children of a kolkhoz chairman or school director who might be talented. One of the most effective instruments for keeping people in the rural areas is the refusal on the part of the local authorities to issue them the appropriate papers without which no one can move from the kolkhozy.
3. The people on the kolkhozy work very hard for, although there are more tractors and farm equipment than there were before the war, much of the labor is still done by hand. The chairman of the kolkhoz frequently has a hard time persuading his workers to complete their work on schedule and it sometimes happens that the chairman will report the completion of a job which is still to be done. The "crash brigades" frequently organized, particularly during late harvests, help to some extent but generally their accomplishments fall below the claims in the Soviet press.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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	CA/PROP	1	WE/RE	1	SR (1/3BBB269F)	13	
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