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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Translated from the German Report 2/4

Dated: 5 April 1943

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### PREFACE

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNS, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. These reports appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942-March 1943. Eighty-three of these reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED]

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the reports beginning with the most recent and working back-  
ward, but omitting those already translated by [REDACTED].  
The numbering of the items was added by the translator since the Germans did this only in the last eighteen reports, [REDACTED] inclusive. Since the original material was in Russian, an effort has been made when translating the German to determine the original Russian term wherever possible. This is facilitated by the Russian fondness for abbreviations. In these translations into English the probable meaning of the abbreviation will be given in parenthesis the first time it occurs in each report.

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5 April 1943

The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report 2/4

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

I. Total Survey

1) Personnel Situation

(1) The shortage of workers and trained technical personnel is more and more noticeable in the economy of Soviet Russia. The urban and rural population is being called into the work program in greater numbers.

2) Food Situation

(2) The Flour Industry in the Transcaucasus fulfilled only 48% of its February plan.

(3) In the harbor of Baku there are stored 2000 tons of rice which have not yet been unloaded since the storage sheds are overfilled with goods. The necessary railroad cars are lacking for transporting the rice.

(4) The collectives in the reconquered oblasti which were able to safeguard their cattle before the arrival of the Germans are not bound to deliver eggs and ewe's cheese.

3) Metals

(5) The planned collection of scrap is being pursued with greater emphasis. Within the Communist youth groups a competition is being carried out in the collection of scrap.

4) Transport

Civil Air Fleet

(6) The location of the 1st Flight Transport Division is presumably in Vnukovo (22 kilometers west of Moscow) according to a message of 28 March. Included in the formation of the civil air fleet were the 52nd Squadron in Alma Ata (Middle Asia) and the 82nd Squadron presumably in Irkutsk. The latter can not carry out any flights because of the shortage of fuel.

5) Reconstruction in  
Reconquered Oblasti

(7) For the repair of the Voroshilov Railway 48 railroad cars with technical material were shipped from Tiflis to Tikhoretsk. The Armaments Plant "Bolshevik" in Volsk received orders for "military reconstruction" in the reconquered oblasti. The fulfillment of this reconstruction is being delayed, since insufficient cement is being delivered because of the lack of railroad cars.

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6) New Construction

(8) A new electrical plant is to be erected in Karaganda (Kazakhstan).

II. Separate Items

1) Personnel Situation

(9) In a conversation between Petropavlovsk and Alma Ata women tractor brigades were mentioned.

Commissariat for River Fleet.

(10) The Chief Directorate in Moscow objects to the calling up of the chief of the production plan division of the shipyard "Mikheev" in Vozdvizhenskoe (Gorkij Rajon).

(11) The offices in Astrakhan, Stalingrad and Gorkij are to report as of 1 April the situation regarding the mobilization of the rural and urban population for shipping work and reconstruction of the River Fleet.

(12) The office in Astrakhan received from its technical school 30 ship captains and 28 ship mechanics for practical training. The office of Stalingrad received 50 transport workers for loading metal.

(13) In Saratov Rajon 35 sailors are needed for the oil ships of the Plant "Volgatanker".

(14) For practical training graduates of the technical school in Kirensk and other schools are being assigned to separate offices as follows: To Lena Steamship Agency 30 ship captains, 65 ship machinists. To the West Siberian Steamship Agency 85 machinists, 40 pilots. To the Ob Steamship Agency 15 ship machinists, 10 pilots. To the Angara Steamship Agency 20 ship pilots, 50 ship machinists.

(15) The office in Omsk needs workers from other offices, but cannot receive any since there are no personnel there either.

(16) At the office in Krasnoyarsk 425 men are being transferred from among the non-management personnel: 81 men to be skippers, 59 pilots, 20 stokers, 212 sailors, 40 shipping agents, 13 appraisers. Construction in the first quarter of the year within the office can not be carried out because of the lack of workers and means of transportation.

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(17) In the harbor of Krasnoyarsk 16 construction workers and 39 transportation workers are employed.

(18) The Water Transport Base in Khabarovsk has a labor force of 38 men.

2) Food Situation

(19) For sowing in Tiflis Oblast' the People's Commissariat for Procurement requires 5 tons of corn and 1 ton of beans.

(20) The Flour Industry in the Transcaucasus fulfilled only 48% of its February plan for flour procurement.

(21) The Eastern Trade Bureau in Baku received 2000 tons of rice which could not be stored in the storage sheds because they were overfilled. Up to the present time only 23 railroad cars were available.

(22) The People's Commissariat for Forestry received from the Commissariat of Grain Procurement a partial delivery of 9 tons of grain feed.

(23) On 24 March a canning factory in Kutais manufactured 3.3 tons of food including 1.2 tons which were shipped. At its storehouses there are 65.6 tons wheaten grits, 19 tons grits, 2.52 tons rice, 104 tons groats, 13.4 tons fat.

(24) The collectives in the Nalchik area which safeguarded their cattle before the arrival of the Germans are not bound to deliver eggs and ewe's cheese.

(25) The Chief Directorate for Tobacco in Stalingrad made available to the office of the Commissariat for the River Fleet in Stalingrad tobacco goods worth 300,000 rubles, the office in Astrakhan tobacco goods worth 150,000 rubles.

3) Fuel Situation

(26) For April the People's Commissariat for the Timber Industry in Georgia needs 25 tons of gasoline and 200 tons of mazut. The industrial plants of Makhachkala require 27 tons gasoline, 24 tons ligroin, 162 tons motor oil, 5 tons avtol, 1 ton ligrol, 25 tons kerosene, 30 tons diesel oil, 7 tons machine oil and 1 ton of solidol.

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4) Coal Supply

(27) The Plant "Sovpren" in Erivan had a monthly requirement of 2,000 tons of coal.

(28) There were shipped 150 tons of coal for the metal plant in Alaverdy and 50 tons of coal for the plant in Zangezursk.

5) Metals

Transcaucasus.

(29) In March Georgia was to receive from Iran 225 tons of rolled steel plate and 15 tons of iron wire. The deliveries have not yet taken place.

(30) As of 20 March the People's Commissariat for the Meat and Dairy Industry in Georgia collected 10 tons of old iron, of which 6 tons were delivered.

(31) Since the beginning of March a manganese trust received 5,582 tons of ore from Chiaturi and 12,690 tons from Poti.

(32) In March the following large deliveries were carried out: From Kujbyshev to Ural Steamship Agency two drums hawser (11 and 17 millimeters), from Novosibirsk to Baikal-Zelenga Steamship Agency 300 meters seamless pipe, from Molotov to Chardzhou 20 tons of steel scrap. Kujbyshev received 8 tons of steel hawser (Consignor unknown).

(33) The scheduled collection and delivery of scrap is being defectively carried out by the offices of the People's Commissariat for the River Fleet in Chardzhou, Ilijsk and Omsk.

(34) Within the organization of the Communist youth groups there is a competition in scrap collection for the purpose of improving the supply of the metal industry.

6) Transport

(35) In Military Camp 177 in Krasnoyarsk 750 tons of oats are stored which can not be transported since no railroad cars are available.

(36) For ship repair in the year 1943-44 the offices of the People's Commissariat for the River Fleet in Gorkij were authorized 1,600,000 rubles and the office in Molotov 1 million rubles.

7) Reconstruction in the Reconquered  
Oblasti'

(37) The Chief Directorate for Machines and Technical Equipment in Tiflis reports to the People's Commissariat for Transportation in Moscow that 48 railroad cars with technical material were shipped for the repair of the Voroshilov Railway.



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(38) For the reconstruction of the Plant "Bolshevik" in Volsk 150 tons of cement are to be shipped. However, since no railroad cars were made available, the shipment could not take place.

8) Plants and New Construction

(39) A Plant #4 is located in Krasnoyarsk.

(40) A new electrical plant is to be built in Karaganda. A few railroad cars were already shipped with transformers, electric motors, electrical equipment and other machines.

(41) A new boiler with a heating surface of 150 centimeters and a steam engine of 250 hp is to be set up at Plant "Teplokhod" in Gorkij.

9) Miscellaneous

(42) The metal pits in Rachinsk and Tomsk can not fulfill the shipping plan since rubber and iron tires are lacking. 43 sets of automobile tires and 5 tons of iron for tire sections were required.

(43) In March Kujbyshev delivered 11 sets of automobile tires to Aral.

(44) The Explosives Industry in Georgia (Tiflis) is to receive explosives from the Explosives Industry in Uzbekistan. They are to be transported via Krasnoyarsk.

(45) The Technical Oil Supply in Gorkij receives 4 tons of carbide from the chemical combine in Chernorechenskaya.

(46) In April the People's Commissariat for the River Fleet in Novosibirsk is to ship 1 tank car of lacquer to Plant "Volgatanker" in Astrakhan.

(47) The People's Commissariat for the River Fleet in Krasnoyarsk established a price of 9,544,000 rubles for wintering the fleet for the winter of 1943-44.