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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Dated: 6 March 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 (HNW, 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 1945. Eight of these reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED] FOIA b3a

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the reports, beginning with the most recent and working backward, but omitting those already translated by [REDACTED] FOIA b3a. The numbering of the items was added by the translator [REDACTED] FOIA b3a. The Germans did this only in the last eighteen reports, [REDACTED] FOIA b3a 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.

The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

6 March 1943

More important reports

- (1) The catastrophic state of the cattle feed supply in Aktyubinsk was announced in a radio message.
- (2) According to a coded message of the Civil Air Fleet there is evidently an airport in Turtkul, large aviation repair workshops and airplane plants in Tashkent, and aviation repair workshops in Ashkhabad.
- (3) A night squadron was mentioned in a message from Tashkent.
- (4) From Sochi it is reported: In February there were 17 planes ready for take off and 21 not ready. There were 739 take offs. 11.06 tons of mail were forwarded. 21 paratroopers have been dismissed. In addition 3591 packages were made available (perhaps for partisan supply).
- (5) Evidently a large air unit is situated in Sochi, which flies sorties. Presumably it is a reference to the First Air Squadron. (See report of 28 February). Commander is Podkhozov. It is questionable whether the flight area is the West Caucasus or the Crimea. Tarlashinskij and Captain Khubulashvili were named as commanders of a flight group.
- (6) A radio link must be established between Semipalatinsk and Novosibirsk.
- (7) According to a radio message of the postal network 50 mining pocket lamps arrived in Murmansk from Tiflis.

Personnel Situation

- (8) In the area of the Omsk Steamship Agency shipping workers must be mobilized:

from the urban areas	75 men
from the rural areas	55
NKRF-Omsk must receive	200
- (9) In the area of the Semipalatinsk Steamship Agency shipping workers must be mobilized:

from the urban areas	50 men
from the rural areas	50

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in Pavlodar Kraj:

from urban areas	30 men
from rural areas	25

- (10) The wharf of Semipalatinsk must receive 50 men
- (11) In the area of Kazakh SSR shipping workers must be mobilized:

from urban areas	100 men
from rural areas	150

- (12) In Chardzhou courses for party work are being carried out.
- (13) "Volgatanker" is using for gasoline-oil pump installations:

mechanics' assistants	15
mechanics	5

Food SituationTiflis

- (14) As of 24 February the following was on hand in Chakvinsk Oblast':

packed tea	11,280 tons
dried tea	574,376
non-dried tea	448,665

In Sugdidi Oblast':

packed tea	5 tons
dried tea	391,420
non-dried tea	429,254

- (15) Baku shipped 27 tons of fish products to the Fish Sales in Tiflis.
- (16) Stocks in Tiflis as of 1 March 1942:

Grain Procurement Office

Flour	564 tons
Groats	266
Wheat	955

Flour Combine

Flour	346
Groats	39
Wheat	102

Bakeries

Flour	340
Groats	2

- (17) The established norms for the rest homes daily amount to:

Bread	600 grams
Grain	100
Fish	150
Fats	30
Sugar	30
Vegetables and potatoes	600

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(18) The remaining goods must be furnished from the stock (?).

(19) The Chief Directorate for Canning in Moscow received the report that kolkhozes are furnished with carrot and tomato seeds. The following seeds will be needed:

Beets (?)	1,082 kg. (?)
Onions	831
Cucumbers	1,154
Late cabbage	67

(20) In January/February 616 tons of barley were delivered to the breweries.

(21) According to the account of 1 March there was shipped to the oil factory:

Sunflowers	335 tons
Soya	70

(22) The canning trust will receive 40 tons of macaroni in March.

(23) The Chief Directorate for Tea in Moscow received the report that as of 3 March there was packed:

Brick tea	50 tons
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from the stocks there was packed daily:

Brick tea	40 tons
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(24) Packing material is on hand for 420 tons.

Press Report to Moscow

(25) The kolkhoz farmers of Khashuri Kraj furnished the grain stock of the Red Army with an additional 52 tons of grain.

(26) In March 170 tons of sack flour were delivered. No more flour can be delivered.

(27) During the period from 15 February to 1 March 2124 tons of goods were transported as follows:

with machines of NK for truck transport	1236 tons
with vessels of transport procurement	500
with transport means of the kolkhozes	244
with teams	144

(28) Oranges and lemons were delivered:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Lemons (units in thousands)</u>	<u>Oranges (units in thousands)</u>
Total	1835 units	2056 units
Moscow	1003	1183

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<u>Place</u>	<u>Lemons (units in thousands)</u>	<u>Oranges (units in thousands)</u>
Kujbyshev	24 units	16 units
Sochi	39	25
Azerbajdzhan	2	--
Georgia	332	162
Transcaucasus Front	63	174
Factories of Canning Trust	15	179
Local Industry	183	85
Lost	3	32

(29) According to the established plan Georgia has to dry 22000 tons of wet grain in kilns and deliver it to the processing enterprises.

Kutais

(30) The following stock balance as of 28 February was reported to the Chief Directorate for Canning in Moscow:

Peeled grain	35 tons
Beans	163

(31) Because of the lack of coal, the preparation of concentrates could not be carried out. Remaining are:

Corn grain	72 tons
Manna groats	19
Wheat grain	3
Barley concentrates	135
Fats	45
Paper	6

received:	Millet	10
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(32) The NK for the Food Industry must deliver to the Armenian Canning Trust 40 tons of macaroni for manufacture.

(33) The supply office of the Black Sea Fleet in Poti must receive 140 tons of food concentrates in March.

(34) Chelyabinsk received from Sugdidi 1 carload of concentrates.

(35) The Buryat Consumers' Cooperative will receive 35 tons of green tea for the first quarter.

Metal Supply

(36) Saratov NKRF reports the following stock as per 1 March:

Coils of copper wire	7500 units
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Cast iron	90 tons
Graphite (black)	0.35
Graphite (silver)	0.45

(37) 36 tons of steel are stored on a barge wintering in Kujbyshev. It was addressed from the Saratov office "Tankosnab" (Tank Industry Supply) to "545" Stalingrad.

(38) Krasnoyarsk must receive 15 kilograms of copper telegraph wire.

(39) Novosibirsk NKRF was to receive from Plant "Molotov" in Stalinsk (?) 47 tons of steel plate, which could not be delivered because of the lack of freight cars.

(40) The Steel Trust in Irkutsk received 4 tons of nails from Moscow for distribution to the steamship agencies:

Upper Amur Steamship Agency	1 ton
Selengak Steamship Agency	1/2
Enisej Steamship Agency	1/2
Angar Steamship Agency	1/2
Osetrovo Shipyard	1 1/2

Material Supply

(41) Tiflis received 25000 sacks. The soap factory needs 120 tons of fat.

(42) Moscow asks the factory in Mizur (?) to deliver 100 tons of cement to the combine in Sadonsk (?).

(43) For the repair of the combine in Beslan 4 cars of glass will be needed.

(44) On 1 March NKRF reports the following stock:

Lubricating grease	3.8 tons
Firebrick (inferior quality)	5.5

(45) Plant #5 in Kujbyshev needs 50 dry cell batteries and 30 saw-frames.

(46) The editors of "Vodnyj Transport" delivered 500 kilograms of paper to NKRF Astrakhan for distribution.

(47) Barge #603 lies in Yaroslavl with a load of firebrick. It must be unloaded immediately. Railroad cars are to be made available.

(48) Moscow has no fishing equipment ready. For the spring catch there is to be distributed through the Upper Volga Steamship Agency:

To the Oblast' Waterways Directorate	5 tons	linen thread
To the wharf in Kazan	5 tons	linen thread

Chemical SupplyTiflis

(49) For the control of various insects in the vineyards 2000 tons of sulphate of copper are required for the current year. In the first quarter only 200 tons were delivered.

(50) The Georgian Food Supply must receive 6 tons of varnish from the Georgian Bureau of the Chief Directorate for Oil and Fat Distribution.

(51) In February 5.5 tons of household soap were delivered to the organization "Workers' Pool".

Erivan

(52) Erivan must receive 3 cars of carbide. 1.5 tons of SO₂ were authorized.

(53) The shipment will take place March-June. The carboys are to be sent to Dzerzhinsk to the chemical factory.

(54) In March receipts included:

Sangesursk (?) - Copper Combine	for 12500 rubles household soap
Copper factory in Alaverdy	for 3750 rubles household soap
Ore Directorate, Alaverdy	for 3750 rubles household soap

(55) The Rubber Industry requests 2 tons of linseed oil for the purpose of soaking the electrodes.

(56) The NK for Health must receive from the Druggist Directorate in Novosibirsk:

from Sverdlovsk	Akrichin (?)	0.1 ton
	Quinine	0.2

(57) On 22 February there was shipped from Baku to Poti:

Varnish	18 tons
Kuzbass-lacquer	15 tons

(58) Batum shipped 12.9 tons of bitumen to Iran-Soviet Oil.

(59) The medical institute in Baku is to deliver via air to the Oblast' Health Department in Krasnodar:

Cerebrospinal meningitis serum	3000 doses
Diphtheria serum	10 mil. ampules
Dysentery serum	3 mil. ampules
Other vaccines	230 l.

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(60) As of 1 March NKRF Saratov reports on hand:

Sulphite	0.1 ton
Dextrine	0.48
Varnish	1.5
Lacquer	0.6

Coal Supply

(61) NKRF-Ust Usa must deliver 3 cars of coal suitable for coking to Kaninos and Kotlas.

Because of the lack of coal, casting work there could not be carried out and also other work threatens to come to a standstill.

Timber Supply

(62) Ordzhonikidze asks from the Chief Directorate for Canning in Moscow the supply of the following materials:

Small box boards	2460 cbm.
Planks for barrels	520
Boards	1240
Milled boards	849
Firewood	3440
Staves	1800000 units

Production

(63) NKRF-Chardzhou reports the possibility of producing a granular powder for membranes. It concerns apparently a technical innovation, since Chardzhou will wait for the judgment of the technical commission.

(64) The NKRF office in Ust-Ussa is directing the Waterways Directorate to deliver 3 steamers and 4 wooden barges of 300 tons. The base for Water Transport must deliver a steamer to the Pechora Steamship Agency.

Reconstruction

(65) On 2 March 50000 rubles were allotted to the Military Reconstruction Division of the Upper Don in Voronezh and 50000 rubles to the Military Reconstruction Division of the Lower Don in Konstantinovskaya.

(66) Ships' workers from Stalingrad must be drawn in without delay for securing the fleet in the area of Kamyshin before the ice break-up.

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Miscellaneous

(67) NKRF-Saratov reports that on 2 March the supplying of electricity to a factory was completely discontinued.

(68) Three radio installations of the Vyborg Steamship Agency, which is in Molotov, must be delivered to the Irtysk Steamship Agency. (New evidence that the evacuation of the Russians is proceeding very cautiously.)

(69) On 25 March a conference of the NKRF-editors will be held in Moscow.