

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**
 SECURITY INFORMATION
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 INFORMATION FROM

REPORT 50X1-HUM
 CD NO.

COUNTRY **USSR**
 SUBJECT **Economic - Canal construction, irrigation**
 HOW PUBLISHED **Daily newspapers, weekly periodical**
 WHERE PUBLISHED **USSR**
 DATE PUBLISHED **20 Sep 1951 - 5 Mar 1952**
 LANGUAGE **Russian**

DATE OF INFORMATION **1951 - 1952**
 DATE DIST. **7 May 1952**
 NO. OF PAGES **4**
 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE **Newspapers and periodical as indicated.**

DESCRIBES PROGRESS ON SOUTH UKRAINIAN, NORTH CRIMEAN CANALS;
 PARTY SCORES SHORTCOMINGS IN 1951 CONSTRUCTION WORK

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

The irrigation project for the southern Ukraine and northern Crimea consists of the South Ukrainian and North Crimean canals with a combined length of 550 kilometers and a dense network of small permanent and temporary canals which will supply kolkhoz fields with water. Altogether, 3 million hectares of dry steppes will be either irrigated or supplied with water in the southern Ukraine and the northern Crimea.(1) Of the 1.2 million hectares to be irrigated in the southern Ukraine, 500,000 hectares will be irrigated by gravity and 700,000 by pumping. In the northern Crimea 300,000 hectares will be irrigated, 200,000 by gravity and 100,000 by pumping. It is expected that irrigation will increase crop yields 40 to 70 million centners annually. The irrigation system will change conditions in the southern Ukraine completely. At the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th Century, 20 years out of 60 had droughts resulting in poor harvests. In the northern Crimea, 90 days of the year are dry, and the harvest has averaged 1-3 centners per hectare.(2)

The irrigation system will receive water from the Dnepr River, which has its source in Smolensk Oblast. It flows across the flat country of the RSFSR for over 400 kilometers and then through the forests and swamps of Belorussia for 600 kilometers. For over one half of its total length, the Dnepr flows through the Ukraine. In the central part of its course, where the rate of precipitation is high, hundreds of tributaries greatly increase its flow. Altogether, over 800 tributaries discharge their water into the Dnepr; 80 of them over 100 kilometers long, and eight are each 500 kilometers long. Records kept for many years indicate that the average annual quantity of water passed through the lower Dnepr is over 50 billion cubic meters. During a spring flood, about 300 billion cubic meters of water pass through the Dnepr GES, where the reservoir catches only about 1.5 billion cubic meters of it. The Dnepr GES uses only about one half of the spring flood water. When the irrigation project is completed, up to 20 billion cubic meters of the surplus spring flood water will fill the Kakhovka Reservoir on the Dnepr River and the

CLASSIFICATION		CONFIDENTIAL																		
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DISTRIBUTION														
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>															

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Molochnaya Reservoir on the Molochnaya River near the city of Melitopol'. These reservoirs will hold 16 billion and 4 billion cubic meters of water, respectively. Forestation along the projected canals will minimize evaporation losses. Scientists have calculated that, if used correctly, the Dnepr waters will be more than sufficient for all the purposes of the project.(1)

For Ukrvodstroy, the organization in charge of building the South Ukrainian and North Crimean canals, 1951 was a year of surveys, planning, and preliminary work.(3) Over 2,000 scientists, engineers, and geologists prepared plans. In September 1951, geological surveys were already completed for an area of 1,300 square kilometers by 20 planning and surveying organizations of the Ukraine.(4) During 1951, 154 kilometers of exploratory drilling and 4 kilometers of deep drilling were carried out and 600 kilometers of canals traced on the ground.

Basic specifications and plans for the Kakhovka GES and Kakhovka Reservoir, the South Ukrainian Canal, and the Upper Ingulets and Lower Ingulets irrigation systems were finished. In addition, engineering drawings and specifications for the irrigation of the Kamenskiy Pod, as well as plans for the irrigation and reclamation of the southern oblasts of the Ukraine and northern regions of the Crimea for agriculture, were completed. Three alternative plans have been completed for the dam of the Volochanskiy Reservoir, and for extending the canal into the Crimea across Sivash.(5)

The expedition of the Gidrovodkhopok of the Ministry of Cotton Growing USSR has completed a topographical survey of the sector from Sivash to Kerch Peninsula, and topographical and geological surveys on the Dzhankoy-Razdol'noye sector of the North Crimean Canal.(12) Preparation of the geological profile of the above section of the canal site and of basic specifications and plans was under way in January 1952.(6)

Construction and installation work in 1951 was completed 100.8 percent by Dneprostroy, and 108 percent by Ukrvodstroy.(5)

Construction of the Upper Ingulets Irrigation Sector of the project for irrigating 100,000 hectares of steppes beyond the Ingulets River started in 1951. The pumping station which is to be built near Snigirevka village in Nikolayev Oblast will supply the canals with water. The water will be pumped from the Ingulets River into the main irrigation canal of the system 63 meters above the river level.(7) Since there is not enough water in the Ingulets River, the 80-kilometer stretch between its point of confluence with the Dnepr and the site of the pumping station will be deepened to bring Dnepr water to the pumping station by reversing the flow of the water in this section.(8)

Construction and Installation Administration No 14 of Ukrvodstroy with headquarters in Snigirevka is in charge of the construction of this sector which also includes Oktyabrskiy Reservoir.(8) The latter will be formed by a dam built at the village of Shirokaya Bal'ka near the city of Nikolayev and will have a capacity of 20 million cubic meters. A part of the sector is to be completed in 1952, and the rest in 1954.(9) The 1951 plan for the sector was exceeded more than twice on 21 September 1951, and all the preliminary work necessary for beginning actual construction has been completed.(8)

During 1951, Ukrvodstroy received hundreds of carloads of lumber, building machinery from machine building enterprises in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Novorossiysk, Sverdlovsk, and Khar'kov, construction materials from the Donbass, pneumatic hammers from Alma-Ata and Stalinabad, and transformers from Baku.(4)

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

About one half of the workers on the project are young workers, technicians, and engineers, 1,500 of whom are members of the Komsomol.(2) Since 150,000 persons will be working on the project at the peak of work, a large network of educational and training organizations has been planned. The first trade school combine in Zaporozh'ye started operating in September 1951, with 350 students learning to operate excavating machines or studying to become skilled workers in other branches. Another school for 300 trainees was to be opened in October in Melitopol'. The training of mechanics and excavator, dredge, and auto-crane operators was also planned in the Kherson training combine. In addition, other schools and courses including an FZU (Factory-Plant Apprenticeship) were being created.(4) Special seminars have been organized under all construction and installation administrations of Ukrvodstroy for training engineers, technicians, brigade, and other leaders. Leading personnel of Zaporozhstroy lecture to them every Tuesday.(1)

By 21 September 1951 over 8,000 square meters of living space had been provided for the workers of the project.(2) Six new settlements for 10,000 Ukrvodstroy workers each were being built in towns including Zaporozh'ye Vasill'yevka, Melitopol', Dzhankoy, and Snigirevka.(4)

The architects of the Giprograd (Ukrainian State Institute of City Planning) have designed a movable settlement for 200 builders consisting of 15 six-room houses. The houses have built-in furniture. The settlement unit has enough space to house a kitchen-mess combination with 80 seats, a store, post office, library, laundry and valet service, public bath, and showers. It is also provided with a portable electric power plant and a plant to air-heat the houses. The whole unit is loaded on three trailer trucks and can be dismantled and reassembled again 10 kilometers away within 8 hours. About 200 units are required for the project.(11)

Early in 1952 Andrianov, chief of Dneprostroy, and Bochkin, chief of the Ukrvodstroy Main Administration, reported to the plenum of the Tsk KP(b) of the Ukraine on the progress of construction on the Kakhovka GES and South Ukrainian Canal, respectively. After hearing the reports, the plenum declared that the success of work in 1951 was not as great as expected, because the leaders of the two organizations as well as the party leaders concerned had made serious mistakes. Andrianov, Bochkin, their immediate assistants, and other officials of the two organizations, as well as construction, party, administrative, scientific, and other organizations working on or assisting the project were criticized for many shortcomings. The latter included the failure to concentrate labor and machinery on important objects which prevented Dneprostroy from completing 6,000 square meters of living space, a restaurant, kindergarten, hospital, and day nurseries, and Ukrvodstroy from putting up three hospitals, two schools, and other buildings. The plenum's resolution also specified tasks for 1952 for these organizations and made it compulsory for them to fulfill the 1952 plan ahead of schedule. They were also obligated to improve the efficiency and skill of labor to enforce fulfillment of norms, and to improve workmanship. Organizations concerned with preparing plans, specifications, and estimates were ordered to expedite their work and improve its quality. It was also pointed out that all organizations must intensify cultural and educational efforts among the builders and improve their standard of living.(5)

The plan for 1952 includes beginning the excavation of the section of the South Ukrainian Canal on the watershed between the Konka and Molochnaya rivers. Construction of the Upper Ingulets and Kamenny Pod sectors of the irrigation system will begin on a large scale. Altogether, it is planned to shift 20 million cubic meters of earth and place 16,000 cubic meters of concrete.(3)

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The 1952 plan increased the amount of work on the Upper Ingulets Sector more than five times over the 1951 plan. It includes construction of 9,000 square meters of living space, a school building, hospital, public bath house, mess house, kindergarten, day nursery, bakery, a stadium, and other buildings. Building of roads, railroad spurs, and auxiliary enterprises will be continued on a much larger scale. Over 2 million cubic meters of earthwork will be carried out and a number of canals, aqueducts over ravines, overpasses, and other structures will be built. Extensive excavation will be carried out on the high bank of the Ingulets River for the pumping station and pipelines.(8)

In 1952, the entire construction will require 60 million bricks, 250,000 cubic meters of sand, 60,000 cubic meters of rocks, and 10,000 cubic meters of lime and alabaster. However, there is not enough industry either along the canals or in Zaporozh'ye Oblast to take care of the requirements. In 1951, Ukrvodstroy was obliged to import bricks from Chernovitsy, Zakarpat'ye, and Izmail oblasts, and lost 5 million rubles on the transactions. Other ministries are invited to build plants for manufacturing construction materials near the site to utilize locally abundant raw materials.(3)

It is planned to use 600 excavators, 1,900 scrapers, 500 bulldozers, 130 suction dredges, many walking excavators, and much other equipment on the project.(2)

SOURCES

1. Moscow, Ogonek, No 9, 24 Feb 52
2. Moskovskiy Komsomolets, 20 Sep 51
3. Moscow, Pravda, 28 Jan 52
4. Ibid., 21 Sep 51
5. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 27 Feb 52
6. Minsk, Sovetskaya Belorussiya, 15 Feb 52
7. Riga, Sovetskaya Latvija, 21 Sep 51
8. Pravda Ukrainy, 6 Feb 52
9. Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 5 Mar 52
10. Frunze, Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, 20 Oct 51
11. Sovetskaya Belorussiya, 5 Oct 51
12. Sovetskaya Latvija, 23 Jan 52

- E N D -

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL