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SOVIETS ENCOURAGING POPULATION MOVEMENT FROM UKRAINE

NEW DEPORTATIONS IN USSR -- Istanbul, Cumhuriyet, 26 Jan 54

According to reports reaching here, new large-scale deportations have begun within the USSR. In recent weeks, large groups of "volunteers" have been deported from the Ukraine to unsettled areas near the Manchurian border, allegedly because of overpopulation in the Ukraine.

SOVIETS SETTLING ISOLATED AREAS OF SIBERIA -- Athens, I Kathimerini, 24 Jan 54

New reports on Soviet attempts to settle new populations in the isolated regions of Eastern Siberia reveal that a large-scale transplanting of populations is now in progress. According to official Soviet statements, people are being taken from the heavily populated areas of western Ukraine and brought to the Berobiza region near Khabarovsk on the Manchurian frontier. Khabarovsk is an important communications link on the Trans-Siberian Railway and on the Amur River.

SOVIETS ENCOURAGING MOVEMENTS OF PERSONNEL TO SAKHALIN -- Helsinki, Helsingin Sanomat, 1 Feb 54

Reliable sources report that the USSR has begun an extensive movement of agricultural and industrial personnel from the Ukraine and the Caucasus to Sakhalin Island and other non-European USSR areas. The report was attributed to radio broadcasts of 30 January 1954, from L'vov and Drogobych, offering special travel advantages and money to workers willing to move.



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The broadcast reportedly urged any farm or city family with at least two employable persons to settle in the Sakhalin or surrounding area. The workers were offered free transportation and food and financial aid of 1,500 rubles for the head of the family, with an additional 300 rubles for each member of the family.

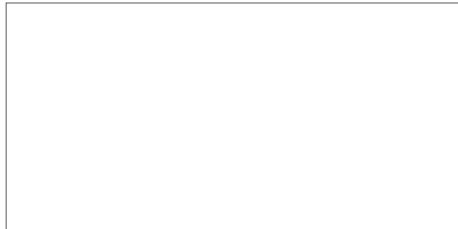
Radio stations of the northern Caucasus have made similar announcements offering comparable advantages to workers willing to settle in the Sverdlovsk and Chelyabinsk areas behind the Ural Mountains. Reliable sources report that the USSR has extensive military industries there.

Another radio broadcast from L'vov on 30 January 1954 urged the agricultural workers of the western Ukraine to move to the "rich" areas around Odessa, Stalino, and Nikolayev in the southern Ukraine. All were promised exemption from agricultural and income taxes for the beginning of the settlement period. Other advantages were cited, such as aid in building and renting of homes.

The broadcasts did not indicate how many workers were needed. The writer, however, believes that the numerous broadcasts of this type from southern and western USSR gives reason to conclude that a large shifting of people is intended.

Informed circles in London believe that this campaign of encouraging workers to scatter into many areas indicates that USSR is facing an economic crisis.

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