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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Chemical Laboratory of the Nikola Pushkarov Institute	DATE DISTR.	18 May 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	3
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCE NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1

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1. The Nikola Pushkarov Institute, which is affiliated with the Bulgarian Academy of Science, is located on 9 Septemvriy Street, in the Pavlovo district of Sofia. Two chemical laboratories for soil research are affiliated with the institute, one at the institute and the other at 4 Serdika Street.
2. The laboratory at Serdika Street was established in 1947 to do soil research for Hydroenergoproekt, a planning institute of the Ministry of Electricity. Ten million leva were allocated from the budget of the Ministry of Electricity for establishing the laboratory, and the greater part of the laboratory's equipment was acquired with this sum, including the following:
 - a. Four special electric ovens for drying soil samples, two of Czechoslovakian and two of German manufacture.
 - b. Four installations for chemical examination of soil, designed by the former director of the laboratory and made in Bulgaria.
 - c. Fourteen analytic balances of 1/10,000 grams sensitivity, four of Czechoslovakian and ten of Bulgarian manufacture.
3. The staff of the laboratory consisted of the director, three agronomists, a photographer, and approximately 25 laboratory assistants, most of whom are women. Bukureshliev (fnu), the first director, was a well-known soil research expert and had written about 50 scientific books. He was arrested and tried in July 1952 and sentenced to 20 years in prison.
4. Prior to mid-1949 the laboratory's work was restricted to soil research for Hydroenergoproekt. Research was performed in various parts of the country with an eye to water reservoir and irrigation projects. In mid-1949 the laboratory was placed under the Ministry of Agriculture, under which it has since worked. It was subordinated administratively to the Nikola Pushkarov Institute.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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5. The laboratory follows the system of the Soviet scientist Kachinski in its research. The fundamentals of Kachinski's system, in order of activity, are as follows:
- a. Samples of three to five kilograms of soil are taken from each 1,000 square meters of the area under examination.
 - b. Pits are dug at the same spot where the dry samples were taken, and the sides of the pit are boarded up. The pits have a surface measurement of one or two square meters and a depth of five to ten centimeters.
 - c. A large, measured quantity of water is poured into each pit.
 - d. Absorption capacity is measured over a two-hour period, with readings being taken at frequent intervals. If absorption takes place too rapidly, the pit is covered with straw or some like material, and more water is added.
 - e. The boards are removed from the pits 24 hours later, and a ditch is dug in the moist pit. The ditch is usually 80 to 90 centimeters wide, 1.20 to 1.50 meters long, and two meters deep. Five to twelve samples are taken from each layer of soil from the pit, each sample of six cubic centimeters. The samples are put in hermetically sealed glass containers and then sent with the dry samples to the laboratory for chemical analysis.
6. All this work is carried out by experts from the laboratory under the personal supervision of the director of the laboratory. A photographer from the laboratory photographs each stage of the work at every pit, and each pit is photographed from all sides to ensure a clear picture of the different layers of soil. The photographs are then enlarged in the laboratory so that research workers may compare them with the results of the chemical analysis. Photographs are normally in black and white, but some experiments were made in 1953 to use color film.
7. From 1947 to late 1952 the following sites were examined:
- a. Extensive areas in the Samokov subdistrict in connection with a proposed reservoir.
 - b. The entire area between Kyustendil and the Yugoslav border for agricultural purposes.
 - c. The entire area within an approximate radius of 15 miles from Sofia.
 - d. Several sites near Pazardzhik.
 - e. Sites in the Stara Zagora and Kazanlık districts. The entire area between Opan (N 42-12, E 25-42) and Stara Zagora was examined.
8. In late 1953 both the staff and activity of the laboratory were reduced. The first and third floors of the building were turned over to the use of a chemical institute, leaving only the second floor for the soil research laboratory.
9. The following personalities are known:
- a. Kiril Enikov; director of the Nikola Pushkarov Institute.
 - b. Khadzhiolov (fnu)¹, director of the Institute of Histology and professor at the Medical Academy in Sofia [redacted] studied in Germany [redacted] 25X1
 - c. Dr. Kaimov succeeded Professor Stranski as professor on the Faculty of Agronomy.
 - d. Todor Pavlov, president of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, is a professor of history [redacted] 25X1


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e. Ivan Stranski, director of a second institute for soil research at
7 Moskovska Street.  studied in the USSR and Germany,

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1.  Comment: Probably Asen Khadzhiolov.

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