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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	The Wirow Combine of State Farms 25X1	DATE DISTR.	30 June 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Wirow Combine of State Farms, administrated from Drzenin<sup>1</sup>, (P.G.R. Zespol Wirow z siedziba w Drzeninie) is located in Gryfino District, Szczecin Voivodship. It is part of the so-called Szczecin-South, PGR region. The following state farms are part of the combine:

- a. Wirow
- b. Drzenin
- c. Sobiemysl
- d. Stare Brynki
- e. Gardno (including a mechanical workshop)
- f. Wysoka Gryfinska

2. The combine covers an area of 10,280 hectares of arable land and is managed by the following personnel  25X1

a. Manager: Jan Suleja

He comes from the Poznan region, is a party member but his attitude towards the workers is very decent.

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b. Chief agronomist: Feliks Supryniak

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c. Chief of the repair and building group: Pietraszkiewicz (fnu)

He comes from Bialystok; treats the workers very decently.

d. Foreman of a so-called brigade (Brygadziata) of the repair and building group: Zurowski (fnu)

He comes from the Warsaw region and is an agent of the Security Police (UB) in Szczecin (Stettin).

3. The following is a description of the individual PGRs:

a. Drzenin PGR

(1) Manager: Krakus (fnu)

He comes from some location in the Warsaw region, is a member of the party and treats the workers badly. Source describes him as the meanest of all PGR managers known to him. He was beaten up a couple of times by the female PGR workers for using offensive and obscene language towards them.

(2) The names of the other members of the administrative staff, like the bookkeeper, calculator of work quotas, junior agronomist and storekeeper are unknown to Source.

(3) This PGR is a former privately owned German farm, covering 2400 hectares of arable land. The farm is primarily used for the cultivation of crops, but turkeys and pigs are also bred here on a large scale.

(4) Description of buildings:

A villa occupied by the administrations of the whole combine and of the Drzenin PGR. On the second floor there are rooms for tractor operators and seasonal workers and in the left wing there are quarters for the accommodation of the children (some 20) of single women.

6 one-family (residential) houses,

2 barns,

1 large storage building, about 70 meters long,

1 stable,

1 cow shed,

1 pigsty,

1 garage,

and the following post-war constructions:

8 two-family houses,

4 large wooden sheds for turkeys,

10 pigsties.

(5) The Drzenin PGR has the following equipment and livestock:

4 mowing machines (combines)

13 tractors (makes "Ursus", "Zetor", and "Staliniec")

24 horses

90 cows (black and white)

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The number of pigs and turkeys was unknown to Source.

- (6) The permanent staff of the Drzenin PGR consists of 19 families, i.e., 40 working persons, and 13 tractor operators, making a total of 53 laborers. During the summer and fall seasons 250 to 300 farmhands are employed in addition to boys and girls of the Service to Poland brigades as well as "volunteers" from the towns.

In addition to the permanent staff some 30 farmhands are employed during the winter who are paid like seasonal workers.

On an average the basic pay of a seasonal worker amounts to 450 zł. per month plus a 6 zł. food allowance per day. Thus a farmhand has to spend at the most an additional 3 zł. for food per day and, therefore, his net pay amounts to from 300 zł. to 350 zł. per month.

A permanent worker used to earn 240 zł. to 280 zł. per month. In addition, he was entitled to buy fixed quantities of corn, potatoes, milk, etc. at minimum prices. Recently a new decree with reference to the wages of the farm workers was issued, but Source is ignorant of its contents.

Tractor operators were paid by the job. During a season they earned up to 1600 zł. per month. In winter they averaged 600 zł. per month. A milker's basic wages amounted to 250 zł. per month but, based upon the quantity of milk drawn, he received a premium, so that he actually made a total of 350 zł. to 400 zł. per month. The girls working about the pigs also earned 250 zł. per month plus a premium based upon the weight gained by the pigs.

- (7) [redacted] the production quota of the Drzenin PGR. He knows, however, that the obligatory corn quota was fully delivered to the State, but that the potato quota could not be fulfilled because the major part of the crop rotted.

b. Wirow PGR

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- (1) Manager: name unknown

- [redacted]
- (2) The names of the other members of the administrative staff of the PGR, such as the bookkeeper, a woman, the calculator of work quotas, a storekeeper and a foreman are also unknown to Source.
- (3) The Wirow PGR, which covers 1600 hectar of arable land, is generally in good condition and is used for the cultivation of crops only.
- (4) The following is a list of the buildings:

A small villa occupied by the administration of the Wirow PGR

2 large barns

1 pigsty

1 stable

1 cow shed

1 grain silo

2 large houses (quarters for the workers).

- (5) Equipment and livestock of the Wirow PGR:

7 tractors (makes "Ursus", "Zetor", "KDK")

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16 horses

40 cows

number of pigs [redacted]

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- (6) The permanent staff of the Wirow PGR consists of seven families, i.e., 20 working persons, plus seven tractor operators, making a total of 27 farmhands. During the seasons 100 to 150 seasonal and a number of SP brigade workers are employed. This PGR does not utilize seasonal workers during the winter.
- (7) The wages of the workers are the same as those for the Drzenin PGR workers mentioned above.
- 25X1
- (8) [redacted] that this PGR fulfilled its obligatory delivery quota towards the State with 120%.

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## c. Sobiemysl PGR

- [redacted]
- (2) The names of the bookkeeper, calculator of work quotas, agronomist, storekeeper and foreman are unknown to Source.
- (3) The Sobiemysl PGR covers an area of 700 hectares of arable land which is used for the cultivation of crops only. It is in rather good condition.
- (4) The following is a description of the buildings of this PGR:
- 1 house - ground floor: Administrative offices  
2nd floor : quarters for seasonal workers.
- 2 barns
- 1 stable
- 1 cow shed
- 1 house accommodating four families, built after the last war.
- (5) Equipment and livestock of the Sobiemysl PGR:
- 4 tractors
- 8 horses
- 17 cows.
- (6) The permanent staff of the PGR consists of five families, i.e., 15 working persons, plus four tractor operators, making a total of 19 workers. During the busy seasons only 20 additional workers are hired, since most of the SP brigade and most of the "volunteers" from Szczecin and Gryfino are assigned to this PGR.
- The wages are the same as outlined for the other PGRs.
- (7) As to the produce, [redacted] that the grain crops are inferior, since the manager is not a skilled farmer, and, therefore, does not know which grain thrives best on which soil.

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## d. Gardno PGR

## (1) Manager: name unknown

A young man, about 26 years old, who comes from some location in the Lublin region. He was assigned to Gardno in December 1952 subsequent to attending a course for PGR managers. PZPR member, reserved and even-tempered towards the workers.

- (2) The names of the bookkeeper, a woman, calculator of work quotas, a woman, agronomist, storekeeper, and the two foremen are unknown to Source.
- (3) The Gardno PGR is the largest agricultural farm in the Wirow combine with 3280 hectares of arable land. Everything is in very good condition.
- (4) Description of buildings:

1 large villa occupied by the administration. In addition there are rooms for a kindergarten school, and for the tractor operators and seasonal workers on the second floor.

9 individual houses, quarters of permanent workers and their families. These houses belonged to individual farmers prior to 1949 who later on had to give up their farms when the PGR was established. Some are still working on the PGR as farmhands.

11 barns (2 large ones on the PGR itself, and seven small ones which belonged previously to the private farms).

1 cow shed with a grain storage on the second floor.

A couple of small buildings used as garages, stores, etc.

## (5) Equipment and livestock of the Gardno PGR:

19 tractors (makes "Ursus", "KDK" and "Staliniec")

40 horses

50 cows.

- (6) The permanent staff consists of 22 families, i.e., 48 working persons, plus 19 tractor operators making a total of 67 persons. During the seasons many SP brigades are employed as well as seasonal workers. The wages are the same as outlined for the other PGRs.
- (7) As far as Source knows this PGR always fulfills its delivery quotas to the State with more than 100%, thus improving the reputation of the whole combine.

## e. Stare Brynki PGR

## (1) Manager: name unknown

An elderly man, about 60 years of age, who comes from some location in the Poznan region. Before the war he was administrator of a large farm near Poznan. Party member. Treats the workers well.

- (2) The names of the bookkeeper, calculator of work quotas, storekeeper and foreman are [redacted]
- (3) This PGR covers 1300 hectares of arable land. It is used exclusively for the cultivation of crops. It consists of several small, formerly privately owned farms. It is the most unproductive farm in the combine because of its location in a hilly area, which is very difficult to cultivate with machines. Another handicap is that the area was mined during the war and in spite of repeated searches conducted by military units several explosions occurred, in one of which one person was killed.

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## (4) Description of buildings:

7 individual houses now occupied by the farmhands and their families, tractor operators and seasonal workers. One of these houses serves as an administration building.

1 stable

1 cow shed

1 large barn and a number of small ones on the former private farms.

The buildings on the 15 individual farms which were incorporated into this PGR were completely destroyed or burned down during the last war.

## (5) Equipment and livestock of the Stare Brynki PGR:

8 tractors

14 horses

16 cows.

## (6) The permanent staff of this PGR consists of 6 families, i.e., 18 workers, plus eight tractor operators, making a total of 26 persons. During the summer and fall seasons some 100 seasonal workers as well as members of the SP brigades are hired while only 20 seasonal workers remain on the PGR during winter. The wages are the same as outlined for the other PGRs.

## (7) The rate of production of the Stare Brynki PGR is very low. Its plan is never fulfilled and never are the obligatory quantities delivered to the State.

## f. Wysoka Gryfinska PGR

## (1) Manager: name unknown

He is about 46 years old and comes from some location in the Lublin region. He is a former private farmer whose farm was incorporated into the combine. He treats the workers very badly and acts as a UB informer.

## (2) The names of the bookkeeper, calculator of work quotas, the foreman and the so-called "zoo technik" (in charge of the poultry yard) are unknown to Source.

## (3) The Wysoka Gryfinska PGR covers 900 hectares of arable land. All prewar buildings were completely destroyed and burned down during the last stage of the war, and only in 1949 was reconstruction started upon special order from the Ministry of Agriculture. Most buildings were still under construction [redacted] This PGR is to be principally used as a poultry farm for ducks, geese and chickens.

## (4) Description of the buildings:

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1 newly constructed administration building

2 two-family houses

2 four-family houses

2 one-story houses to be used as quarters for the members of SP brigades

1 cow shed

1 stable

1 barn

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The poultry coops were still under construction at the [redacted]

(5) Equipment and livestock:

13 tractors (makes Ursus and Zetor)

workers.

2 bulls (1st class)

The wages of the above workers range from 1000 zl. per month to 1500 zl.

72 cows

products, and 1000 zl. per month for the year quota.

6 horses.

The workshop was only used for the Mirow contract, but since the 1st of August

(6) The permanent staff consists of three families, i.e., ten working persons,

plus three tractor operators, making a total of 13 workers. In addition

13 seasonal workers are employed the year around. During the harvest

season more seasonal workers are hired in addition to the members of the

SP brigades assigned to this PGR. The wages are the same as outlined

for the other PGRs.

(7) The Wysoka Gryfinska PGR is not in a position to fulfill the obligations

towards the State, since its production quota was calculated according

to the total amount of arable land (900 hectares) and in reality only

600 hectares are cultivated. The remaining 300 hectares are still lying

fallow because of mines and other explosives still embedded there since

1945.

g. The mechanical workshop at the Gardno PGR

25X6

(1) Manager: Sowe (fnu)

[redacted]

(2) Equipment of the workshop:

3 large lathes

1 lathe (Karuzelowka)

2 lathes (Rewolwerowki)

1 grinding machine

3 milling machines

2 electric welding burners

1 acetylene welding burner

1 oxygen welding burner

5 drilling machines.

(3) The workshop employs the following skilled workers:

5 turners

15 locksmiths

2 electricians

1 automobile electro-mechanic

3 tractor mechanics

1 welder

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1 blacksmith

plus a number of apprentices and helpers, making a total of about 40 workers.

- (4) The wages of the above workers range from 600 zł. for unskilled workers to 1800 zł. for the turners per month and depend on the work done, premiums, and fulfillment of the work quota.
- (5) The workshop not only works for the Wirow combine, but often also accepts orders from other combines in the neighborhood, since it is better equipped than the latter's own mechanical workshops.

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1.  Comment: The name of the combine is reported as received. It is unusual for the combine to take its name from a member farm other than the one in which its main administrative unit is located.

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