



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

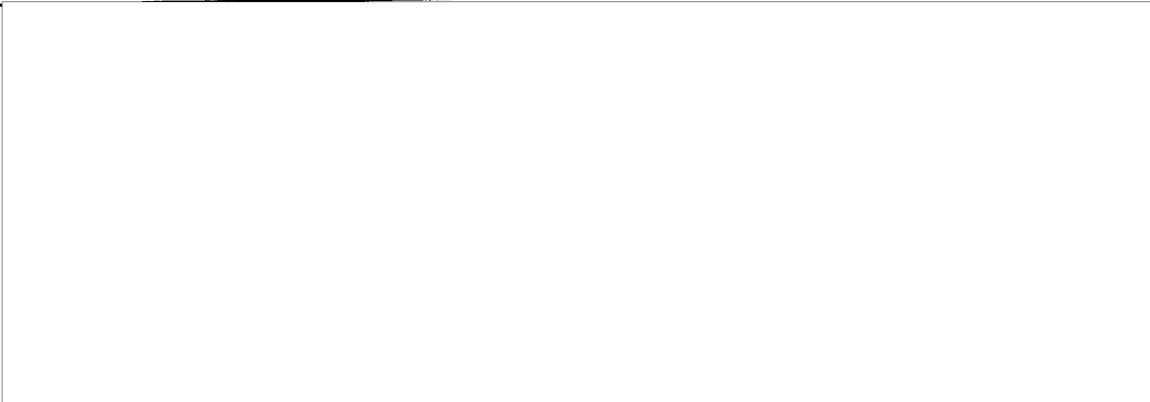
SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	<input type="text"/>
SUBJECT	1. Agricultural Cooperative at Burdarski-Geran, Byala Slatina Okoliya	DATE DISTR.	5 November 1953
	2. Miscellaneous Information, Vratsa	NO. OF PAGES	5
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REFERENCES	50X1-HUM

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

50X1-HUM



Agricultural Cooperative

- The cooperative farm at Burdarski-Geran village (N 43-33, E 23-57), Byala Slatina Okoliya, is officially known as the Trudovo Kooperativno Zemedelsko Stopanstvo "Vasil Kolarov." The village has only one cooperative farm. By law, a TKZS can have a maximum of 25,000 decares, and various surrounding villages in Vratsa Okrug have two, three, four, or even five cooperative farms. 50X1-HUM
- The Burdarski-Geran cooperative was formed in 1949, and all farmers (including kulaks) were forced to join. However, two months later, the kulaks were evicted. There were four or five kulaks in the village . Even after eviction, the kulaks were persecuted; informants stated that last agriculture year each kulak was forced to pay a duty of 200,000 leva (8,000 leva new currency). 50X1-HUM
- The TKZS has 780 members, of whom only 30 or 40 are Party members. The age of members is 15 to 55 for women and 15 to 60 for men. On joining the cooperative, each member had to contribute 11 kilograms of wheat, 200 grams of corn, 20 grams

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	EV	X	ARMY	X	NAVY		AIR		FBI		AEC		ORR	EV	X		
-------	----	---	------	---	------	--	-----	--	-----	--	-----	--	-----	----	---	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-



of beans, and 20 kilograms of straw and cereals for seed purposes. An inventory was made when farmers joined, and those who did not possess the required farm implements were required to pay in 2,000 leva (old currency) for each decare of land which was handed over to the farm. However, no matter how many decares of land each farmer contributed to the cooperative, he was still left five decares of land for his family group, which he tended privately.

4. The TKZS possessed 60 or 70 cows, four oxen, 250 horses, 700 sheep, 200 pigs (small), 500 chickens, 1,200 hens, and 50 hives.
5. Machinery used by the TKZS belonged to the MTS (Mashino Traktorno Stantsiya; Machine Tractor Station) of Byala Slatina and consisted of two Soviet combines, 350 plows, four mechanical plows, five or six Stalinets Plows (which plow 120-150 decares of land per day), three or four Fordson Plows, and a certain number of McCormick Plows.
6. In 1952, the cooperative suffered because of the tremendous dryness. Many members were recruited and transferred by the Communist Party to work in factories throughout Vratsa Okrug to earn money to feed their families. According to the Five Year Plan and the Government Agricultural Cultivation Plan, the TKZS of Burdarski-Geran is to deliver 500,000 kilograms of wheat annually to the State. However, because of the drought, in 1952, the farm produced only 800,000 kilograms of wheat, which then was distributed as follows:
 - a. State deliveries, 500,000 kilograms;
 - b. Payment to the MTS, 80,000 kilograms;
 - c. Social Aid fund (for the old people, children, and sick members) of the TKZS, 80,000 kilograms; and
 - d. Seed reserve, 100,000 kilograms.

50X1-HUM

7. The total number of working days for the year was 138,000

for which it received the following:

- a. Corn, none;
- b. Wheat, 1,200 kilograms;
- c. Sunflower seeds, 20 grams per working day;
- d. Cheese, 40 grams per working day;
- e. Wool, two grams per working day; and
- f. Beans, 48 grams per working day.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

8. This year, however, the situation is much better. In 1953, each decare of land has produced 400 kilos of wheat, and according to a rough estimate, each member of the TKZS will get eight kilos per work day. In this respect, under the private ownership system, land produced only 150 kilos of wheat per year in comparison with the 300-400 kilos per decare with the proper fertilization, mechanization, etc. available through collectivization.

50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

-3-

9. At the end of the agricultural year, the State pays the TKZS 0.45 leva per kilogram for the 500,000 kilograms of wheat required for the State stockpiles. At the same time, farmers were selling their wheat at the official rate of 2.40 leva. It is interesting to note that there are no official fixed prices for the payment of wheat to the TKZS, either when purchasing the 500,000 kilogram quota, or when purchasing it from the farmers directly. Prices depend upon the quality of the wheat as well as the quantity which the farm is able to produce; in this way the government can help the farmer by purchasing wheat at higher prices when the crop is poor, or can pay lower prices when the crop is plentiful, as it is in 1953.
10. Members of the TKZS, including even kulaks, were permitted to purchase goods from the cooperative of the TKZS, at the following prices:
- a. Tomatoes, 0.05 leva per kilo;
 - b. Peppers, 0.02 leva per kilo; peppers are so plentiful that children play with them in the streets;
 - c. Fresh beans, 0.20 leva per kilo;
 - d. Watermelons, 0.50 leva per kilo;
 - e. Lettuce, 0.02 leva per kilo;
 - f. Bread, from 1.96 to 4.20 leva per kilo;
 - g. Yogurt, 1.20 leva per kilo;
 - h. Skimmed milk, 1.10 leva per liter;
 - i. Eggs, 0.60 leva each;
 - j. Sugar, 10.00 leva per kilo; and
 - k. Meat (veal), 6.00 leva per kilo.
11. All farm work in 1953 has been conducted on a 24-hour non-stop basis, i.e., on three 8-hour work shifts. There are 13 brigades at the Burdarski-Geran TKZS, each composed of 40 men and four work chiefs. Group chiefs do the same work as the others, but receive an additional two percent of the produce at the end of the year. There are brigades for different tasks, such as building, gardening, blacksmith work, carpentry, etc. Brigadiers allocate work by calling at the home of members in the evening and telling the head of the house what the schedule will be for the following day.
12. Harvesting was begun during the early days of July 1953. The TKZS organized public kitchens in the fields, and issued three meals a day. Deductions for the meals will be made at the end of the year when the goods are distributed. Normally, farmers eat bread and onions.
13. Among the personalities of the TKZS and village of Burdarski-Geran,

50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

-4-

- a. Dimitŭr Angelov, [redacted] elected in May 1953 as the president of the committee supervising the TKZS (there are seven or eight members on this committee);
- b. Todor Paranchev, [redacted] secretary of the Party of the village, lives in the village; [redacted];
- c. Zeko Zekov, [redacted] is president of the Village People's Council; and [redacted]
- d. Petŭr Blasov, [redacted] member of the People's Council committee (sic), [redacted] in charge of arranging the roster of farmers for the special village and TKZS guard.

50X1-HUM

14. The special night patrol was organized throughout all Bulgarian villages and is part of the "war psychosis" which the Party is pushing into the minds of the people. Unarmed guards (ordinary TKZS members) mount patrol throughout the streets of the village and around the fields of the cooperative farm. There were a total of 52 farmers on duty in Burdarski-Geran every night. This service is known as "na post" (mounting guard). Assignment of duties is made through the head of the house. Guards request identification papers from all travellers, look into bags, etc., and are generally organized against "political enemies of the regime."
15. [redacted] during the current year members of the TKZS are satisfied because of the larger distribution they will receive. Concerning morale, [redacted] farmers have the general attitude of lowering their heads and working, resigned to their fate. The motto of the village TKZS is "Bogata Dŭrzhava - Sŭstoyatelni Grazhdanini" (Rich State - Rich Citizens). On the occasion of Stalin's death, farmers were gathered for five minutes of silence, but there have not been any demonstrations of reaction in any part of Vratsa Okrug.
16. [redacted] there has never been any reaction against the regime, since no one has the courage to react or to be a partisan. [redacted] The people have been cut off for too long from the West, have lost all hopes of liberation, and now are doing their best for Communism. The only world news the farmers get is from Otechŭstven Glas (Fatherland Voice), edited and printed in Vratsa, and circulated throughout the entire okrug.
17. Farmers are naturally not pleased with the situation, but do nothing against it. They merely take orders and pray that the weather will be good and that the distribution of goods will be plentiful. Farmers fully realize that they are no longer land owners and that they are fully at the mercy of nature, since the government does not provide for them in case of emergencies (as in the crop failures of 1952). The fact that the State has greatly increased productivity is meager consolation for the lack of individuality imposed upon them. Another objection is that there is a lack of clothing, that is, not a lack of clothing per se, but a lack of money to buy clothing because of the high price.
18. [redacted] the sugar situation seems to be improving. [redacted] [redacted] the situation to be "rather bad" in the provinces, however.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY



SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

-5-



Miscellaneous

19. Many of the copper mines in Vratsa Okrug are being reactivated.  50X1-HUM
 a mine at Mezdra, now being operated on a 24-hour basis; this mine formerly belonged to an Italian who has been repatriated.
20. There are serious lacks of spare parts for all Soviet-type machinery at the Machine Tractor Stations. 50X1-HUM



50X1-HUM

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STAT

Page Denied