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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Soviet Crop Conditions and Food Supply	DATE DISTR.	31 August 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)



The food situation in Kirovograd (N 48-30, E 32-18) is so bad that there are long lines of people standing to buy little cans of fish or any food they can obtain. Kolkhozniki who live near railroads are buying food from stores in cities along the railroads. Those not living near main lines of communication are already hungry. Sugar cannot be bought anywhere in the area. The grain grew only ten inches high this year. There is absolutely no food for the cattle; large numbers have been slaughtered, and those left are only skin and bones.

- 2. In Kiev [redacted] a large crowd waiting to buy sugar from a small store on Kreshchatik Street. The crowd was not allowed to line up on the street but was forced to jam into a courtyard off the street. 50X1-HUM
- 3. In the area northwest of Kiev, [redacted] the fields were yellow and burned out and [redacted] no haystacks or signs of threshing. Northeast of Kiev, the fields also were burned out, but conditions were slightly better in areas where there were trees or woods. 50X1-HUM
- 4. [redacted] the Galician area of the Western Ukraine [redacted] crop conditions in that area were good. 50X1-HUM

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC				
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5.




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
The entire European part of the Soviet Union is badly stricken. The Volga area, where there has been no rain and the land is dry and hard, is the worst of all. The situation in that area is much worse than it was in 1933; it is comparable only to the situation in 1921. The harvest in Siberia is good, but there are not enough men and machines to gather the entire harvest. The Government is sending train(s) east loaded with tractors and combines to harvest the grain.

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6.

a Moscow Radio announcement of a decision of the Council of Ministers to send tractors and combines east. 



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 the Party and Government recognized that there must be many more tractors and combines in Siberia and  the Minister of Agriculture was recruiting operators in the Ukraine to be sent to Siberia.

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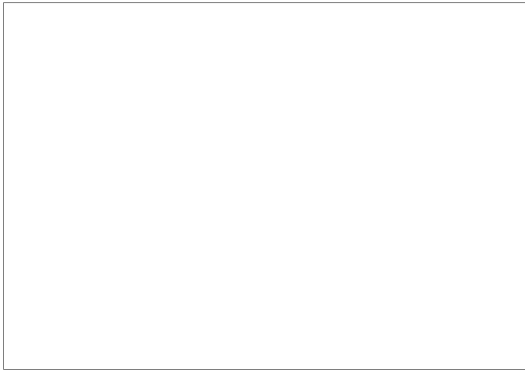
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7.

In Moscow, particularly around the Kiev Railroad Station,   kolkhozniki buying large amounts of bread.

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