

INTELLIGENCE



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Gorkiy Oblast)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Organization of <input type="text"/> Zavod No. 96, Igumnovo	DATE DISTR.	25 February 1954 50X1-HUM
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**C O N F I D E N T I A L**

REPORT

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**COUNTRY** : USSR (Gorkiy Oblast)

**DATE DISTR.** 25 JAN 54

**SUBJECT** : Organisation of and Personalities at  
Zavod No. 96, Igumnovo

**NO. OF PAGES** : 33

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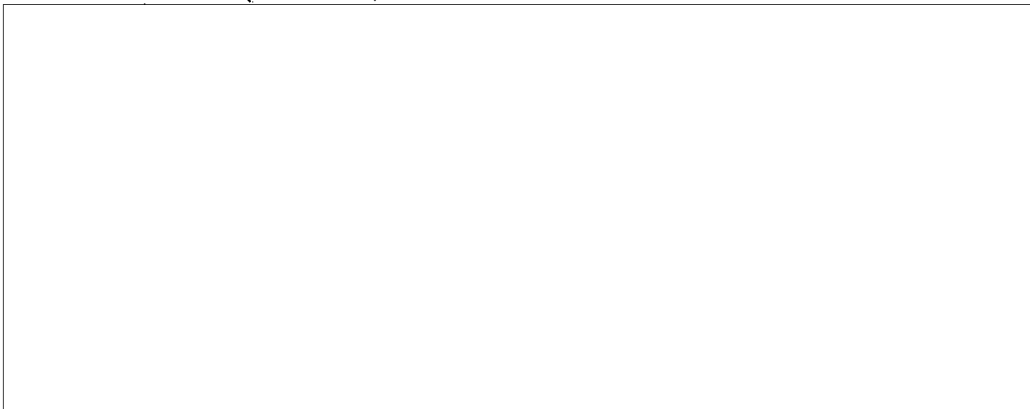
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**INTRODUCTION**

**Place of Employment**

1. Zavod No. 96, or Zavodstroy, Igumnovo (the latter designation was better known to us from the headings we observed from time to time on working papers and official correspondence forms), is a chemical research, development, and production plant subordinate to the Ministry for Chemical Industry in Moscow. This plant is located in the Dzerzhinsk industrial area, approximately 3-4 kilometers east of Dzerzhinsk (56-15 N, 43-24 E), in the Gorkovskaya Oblast. To my knowledge, Zavod 96 carried the Post-box (Pochtoviy Yashchik) number 16. This number was observed by me on official papers processed by the plant administration, and it appeared on several occasions in letters addressed to the German specialists from the ministry in Moscow. The Germans never used this number for their personal correspondence nor was this number ever assigned to them. The post office box for this number designation was located at the branch post office in Igumnovo.

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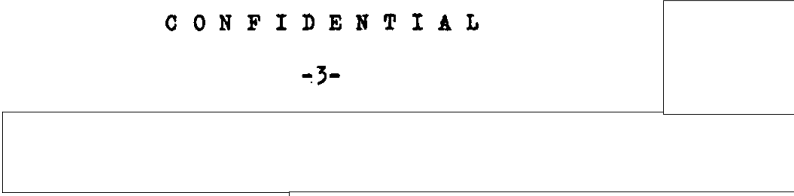
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(3) Oil Cracking Plant

This plant is supplemented by a number of auxiliary installations, such as the Linde refrigeration plant, storage tanks, gasometers, etc. It operates 24 hours per day on three shifts daily. [See numbers 16 - 18 below]. The oil cracking plant is, to my knowledge, an installation for processing of fuels with low boiling points. It contains a number of thermal cracking furnaces and distilling columns. The plant and its entire equipment do not present a modern appearance. An extensive number of pumps can be seen in the proximity of the plant and the numerous (approximately 20) distilling columns. Raw material (crude oil) is pumped in by means of a piping system leading from the petroleum refinery belonging to the neigh-

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boring Zavod 96 plant OKA [redacted] Tank cars could be observed bringing materials, presumably fuel, to Zavod 96 from other plants in the Dzerzhinsk area. It was generally said that the output volume per system was supposedly much lower than that of the equivalent unit formerly in operation at Leuna. Finished products were transported out of the plant in tank cars (railroad).

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Dr. GERICKE (consultant for the oil cracking plant) often hinted of production curtailments which supposedly were due to raw material (fuel) shortages, as well as the scarcity of hydrogen supplies. To my knowledge, hydrogen was not produced at Zavod 96 but delivered to the plant from the chemical plant Kalinin [redacted] in cigar-shaped rubber containers (blimps) pulled by motor and horse-drawn vehicles (during winter months by sled). These cigar-shaped blimps were suspended in the air one to two meters above the vehicles. The containers were approximately 8 meters in length and 2 meters in diameter with a volume of approximately 25 cubic meters.

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The Linde refrigeration unit [redacted], which was to my knowledge built in the middle 1930's by the German firm, Linde-Munich, presented a favorable appearance technically speaking. According to my observation of its size, this installation has a large refrigeration capacity.

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(4) Chlorine Electrolysis Plant

This is an individual plant which operates daily 24 hours per day on a three-shift basis. [redacted]

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(5) Igelite Plant

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This plant consists of various sub-sections inasmuch as it produces not only igelite but also a number of other plastic products.

(6) Lactam Department

This is the largest production department at Zavod 96. It is composed of several installations described below under numbers (12) to (15). These plants are independently operated and are directed and supervised by a Soviet chief technical engineer.

(7) Ammonium Sulphate Plant

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This plant is supplemented by a number of auxiliary installations such as vaporization, duplex pumps, storehouse (silo), etc. It operates 24 hours per day, three shifts daily.

(8) Adipic Acid Plant

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This plant consists of oxidation, crystallization, absorption, and other branches, operated 24 hours per day.

(9) Methylene Chloride Plant

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This is an individually operated plant; works 24 hours per day.

(10) Hexamethylene Diamine Plant

This is an individual plant. I have no information on this installation.

(11) Other Plants at Zavod 96

[See explanation in (2) above.]

(12) Cyclohexanol Plant

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This plant belongs to the group of lactam production installations (see (6) above).

(13) Cyclohexanone Plant

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Same as (12) above.

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(14) Distilling Plant [redacted] 50X1

This plant also includes various auxiliary installations such as H<sub>2</sub> purification, storage tanks for lactam basic liquids [redacted], and others. 50X1

(15) Lactam Production Plant [redacted] 50X1

Production of lactam end products.

(16) First Daily Shift

To my knowledge, most of the plant's installations operated 24 hours per day, three shifts daily. These were 0600 to 1400 hours, 1400 to 2200, 2200 to 0600. Each of the shifts was supervised by a Soviet chemist or engineer.

(17) Second Shift

Same as (16) above.

(18) Third Shift

Same as (16) above.

(19) Production Planning Section

This section is charged with drawing up production plans for the various production plants and installations, quality and capacity standards, establishment of production quotas, and other important planning and operational phases. It coordinates closely with all major departments and operational sections of the plant. The plant director and chief engineer are largely responsible for the overall planning operations. Annual production plans are drawn up and issued to the plant by the Ministry for Chemical Industry in Moscow. Important factors in this planning are probably the plant's productive capacity, annual reports from the plant administration, and requirements and workload of other similar plants of the USSR. The ministry keeps close liaison with Zavod 96 through various representatives who can be seen inspecting the plant at periodic intervals. The Glavagot (Main Department Nitrogene) department in Moscow [see page 35] is to my knowledge largely responsible for the direction of Zavod 96.

(20) Production Control Section and Statistics

Major functions consist of supervision of plan fulfillment, evaluation and control of production norms;

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preparation of reports to the ministry, submission of reports to the plant director on non-fulfillment of plan and production norms, preparation of records and statistics for planning operations, and other important operational guidance functions. This section is also in charge of the plant's Stakhanovite movement, direction and guidance of the socialistic competitive spirit, preparation of plan fulfillment data required by the finance section for the establishment and payment of premiums, bonuses, etc.

(21) Production Guidance Section

Major functions include investigation of the cause of non-fulfillment of norms, reasons for work stoppages and shortages of materials, assistance to production sections experiencing difficulties in plan fulfillment, adjustment of quarterly quotas by balancing overfulfillment in various production sections with deficits of others, mobilizing available manpower and materials for the completion of plans when required, and many other advisory functions. This section serves as an important link with the chief engineer's office.

(22) Office of the Chief Mechanical Engineer

This department is in charge of all of the plant's mechanical and utilities sections and important for conservation, control, and distribution of power for the plant; management of supply, repairs, and maintenance facilities.

(23) Mechanical Supply Section

Storage and warehouses for machines, mechanical replacements, repair and maintenance equipment, tools, etc. Storage and issue of cleaning materials, auxiliary accessories, transportation implements, such as bottles, barrels, sacks, metal containers, etc.

(24) Planning and Procurement Section

Planning, procurement and expansion of mechanical equipment; replacement machines.

(25) Utilities Section

Management of utilities, such as electric power, steam, gas, drinking, refrigeration, cistern waters, waste water, compressed air, nitrogene, acetelyne, solid and liquid fuels, etc.

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**(26) Workshop Management**

This section manages repair and general overhauling workshops, as well as assembly and production of new instruments, machines, and mechanical fittings. Other branches include glass-blowing, foundry, blacksmith, and other mechanical workshops, emergency repair and maintenance crews.

**(27) Fire Department****(28) Power Distribution and Measuring Section**

Measurement and distribution of power to various plant installations; establishment of power consumption standards; control of energy availability, control of power utilization quotas and distribution in accordance with the importance of each individual plant, etc.

**(29) Power Generation Section**

Water purification; waste-water clarification; gas conditioning; condensate cleaning; steam pressure reduction; compressed air oil separation; transformation of electric power, etc.

**(30) Power Maintenance and Repair Section**

Power generation plants, transformer stations, maintenance and repair crews, etc.

**(31) Power Distribution Planning Section**

Planning of power distribution in accordance with the over-all operational planning.

**(32) Central Laboratory Department**

This department comprises all of the plant research and experimental laboratories. It is under the direct supervision of the chief engineer. The ministry maintains close liaison with this department through its special representative, Prof. VARSHEVSKIY, who, during his frequent visits to the plant, acts in an advisory and controlling capacity coordinating the ministry's plans and requirements with those of Zavod 96. This department is also responsible for the control and supervision of the plant's OTK, Otdel Tekhnicheskogo Kontrolya (Technical Control Section), and its operational functions. These functions are performed by the department's subsidiary research and experimentation

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laboratories, which include the inspection, testing, and quality control of incoming raw materials, as well as approval and release of finished products.

(33) Research and Development

Central section for research and development of such products as chemical contact agents, lactam, polymerization processes, and others.

(34) Central Material Testing and Quality Control

Raw materials testing, material quality control, developing of testing methods and processes, control and security of all of the department laboratories.

(35) Lactam Plant Laboratory

This laboratory is located in the Lactam plant building [redacted]. Functions similar to those described under (33) above.

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(36) Chlorine Electrolysis Laboratory

This laboratory is located in the Chlorine Electrolysis plant building [redacted]. Functions similar to those described under (33) above, but only for chlorine electrolysis products.

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(37) Methylene Chloride Laboratory

This laboratory is located in the Methylene Chloride plant building [redacted]. Functions similar to those of (33) above, only for methylene chloride products.

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(38) Igelite Laboratory

This laboratory is located in the Igelite plant building [redacted]. Functions similar to those of (33) above, only for igelite products.

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(39) Oil Cracking Laboratory

This laboratory is located in the Oil Cracking plant building [redacted] and (3) above. Functions similar to those of (33) above, only for oil cracking products.

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(40) Other Laboratories at Zavod 96

See explanations under (2) and (11) above.

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(41) Central Measuring Process Control

Planning of measuring equipment and instruments for the various installations; development of measuring techniques; evaluation and analysis of testing and measurements; and others. It contains workshops for precision instruments and low-voltage techniques testing and measuring.

(42) Office of the Chief Designing Engineer - YONISHEV

This section consists of mechanical and technological branches responsible for the preparation and development of plans for minor projects and expansion of installation capacities. (Major projects were worked on by the special brigade of the Project Institute No. 3 in Moscow). [See (78) below]. YONISHEV served as assistant to the chief engineer, KHRULOV.

(43) Mechanical Branch(44) Technological Branch(45) Patent Section

Processing of inventions, improvements, suggestions for better working methods, etc. Suggestions and innovations are processed at this section and forwarded to the ministry for study and evaluation.

(46) Office of the Manpower Director - FROMICHEV

FROMICHEV also serves as deputy to the plant director and was considered the administration's "strong arm". In addition to his department, he controls many other activities at the zavod, such as workers productivity, Stakhanovite movement, distribution of scarce materials, placement of personnel, utilization and exploitation of manpower, etc. An influential and feared position at the plant.

(47) Manpower Allocation Section

Allocation and placement of manpower; labor control and planning; wage estimates and management control; mobilization and shifting of manpower. (In 1949, approximately 100 administrative personnel were shifted from office positions to various operational sections of the plant because of personnel decrease and non-fulfillment of quotas at some of the installations.)

(48) Technical Working Standards Section

Establishment of quotas and working standards; control of Stakhanovite movement; establishment and control of the

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so-called "progressive working methods"; organization of production conferences at individual working sections; raise of workers' productivity; stimulation for better production, etc.

(49) Transport Section

Management of rail and motor transportation facilities; motor dispatch system; supervision of loading and unloading work; traffic control within the plant; investigation of transportation difficulties and shortages, etc. This section employs and supervises a number of male and female labor crews.

(50) Office of the Chief Construction Engineer

The person vested with this function serves at the same time as deputy to the plant director. Important position at the plant inasmuch as Zavod 96 is still in the process of expansion. The meaning of "Zavodstroy" (plant or factory construction) largely corresponds with the actual expansion trends in process at the plant. This office controls and supervises technical assignments performed by the sections listed under (51), (52), and (53) below.

(51) Design and Computation Office

Design, computation, and analysis of building constructions, structures, roads, drainage, etc.; plotting and surveying techniques.

(52) Construction Management

Supervision of construction projects; procurement of materials; supervision of labor, etc.

(53) Road and Drainage Construction Section

Maintenance of roads, sewage system; construction and repairs.

(54) Office of the Personnel Director - KAMENCHEV

Chief of personnel and assistant to the plant director. KAMENCHEV is a very important and politically influential personality at the plant and a trusted representative of the ministry concerning state security matters. Political supervision of personnel and labor, especially the technical intelligentsia; entrusted with judiciary and disciplinary authority. This office directs and supervises a number of administrative and security sections. The personnel director is responsible directly to the plant director.

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(55) Employment Office

Interviews, registration, hiring, and release of personnel.

(56) Pass Section

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Processing of employment applications, preparation of pass photos, installation passes.

(57) Personnel Files and Records

This section performs important functions within the Soviet industrial and economic system. It maintains up-to-date records on each individual employee which contain all pertinent information concerning personal data, training (professional and political development), rewards and punishments, political reliability, military service, degrees of relationship to Soviet citizens under arrest or banishment, connections with persons outside the USSR, and many other positive and negative informative points. Personnel are evaluated, placed, promoted, and/or kept under surveillance in accordance with the information available in these records. Party and trade union functionaries are thus able to recruit or supervise individuals falling within their field of influence.

(58) Apprentice Training Section

Supervision of the plant's training media; control of the FZU activities. (The younger Soviet apprentices wear black uniforms.)

(59) Social and Medical Insurance Office

Administration of the plant's dispensary; sanatoriums and workers' rest centers; etc. Zavod 96 owns a few sanatoriums and rest centers which are located in the Crimea and in the Caucasus. The Komandirovka (duty assignment) to these centers is allotted to personnel in accordance with the established Soviet rest, recreation, and medical system.

(60) Plant Security Section

Management of the plant's police detachment; planning and establishment of the plant's security measures in coordination with the MGB staff, etc., [redacted].

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(61) Plant Police Detachment

Management of a guardhouse and orderly room; supervision of such functions as guard duty assignments, inspection of posts, pass control, arms training, etc.

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(62) Archives Section

Secret files and records, archives, safes, authentication of signatures on documents and working papers, etc.

(63) Legal and Disciplinary Section

Administers and pursues all matters requiring legal and/or disciplinary action within the domain of the plant. It has authority to impose fines or imprisonment for a variety of transgressions, including thefts, absenteeism, breach of security, etc. This section is known to have direct contacts with the MGB.

(64) Safety Department

This department is directly subordinate to the plant director who is, in accordance with Soviet laws, responsible for all accidents and damages occurring within his domain. This department is responsible for the planning and establishment of safety and accident prevention measures; investigation of breakdowns, damages, accidents, sabotage, etc.; testing of installations, buildings, machinery, and equipment, pertinent to the safety of plant functions.

(65) Office of the Business Director

The business director serves also as the plant's comptroller. This office is largely responsible for all business and economic aspects of the plant operations. On its skillful control and management of the operational funds greatly depended the payment of premiums, wages, etc.

(66) Finance Section

Bookkeeping, plan controls with regard to financial possibilities, budget estimates, quarterly and annual audits, conservation and balancing of funds, etc.

(67) Statistics and Computation Section

Statistical evaluation and analysis of all financial data, price controls, control of accounts and investments, depreciation of property and equipment, etc.

(68) Sales Section

Management of sales, deliveries, contracts, legal matters, etc.

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(69) Procurement Section

Procurement of materials, estimates for material requirements in accordance with established annual plans, etc.

(70) Chief Cashier's Office

Financial "strong arm" of the plant; controlling factor in funds utilization and credits; authorized bank agent.

(71) Accounts and Payroll Section(72) Cashier's Office

Payment of wages, salaries, premiums, etc.

(73) Plant Facilities Manager

In charge of numerous plant facilities, installations, and personnel.

(74) Facilities Administration Section

Administration of facilities and installations listed in the organizational chart under the same number [see page 34].

(75) First Secretary of the Partkom

The Partkom through its functionaries guides and governs the entire political and economic life of the plant. The Partkom is largely engaged in the furtherance of political propaganda, dissemination of directives and literature, organization of political meetings, stimulation and encouragement of workers for better production, etc. The position of First Secretary of the Partkom is the most important and authoritative at the plant.

(76) Chairman of the Zavkom

In my opinion, the Zavkom, a subsidiary of the Soviet State Trade Unions, does not represent the Soviet working class as such, but serves more the interests of the government, and in this case, the plant director. The major functions include encouragement of workers for better productivity, calls for socialistic pledges for raise in production, organization of sporting events, Stakhanovite competitions, soliciting for State bonds, and others. To my knowledge, considerable numbers of Soviet workers belong to the trade unions. Apparently, the workers derive certain advantages from membership.

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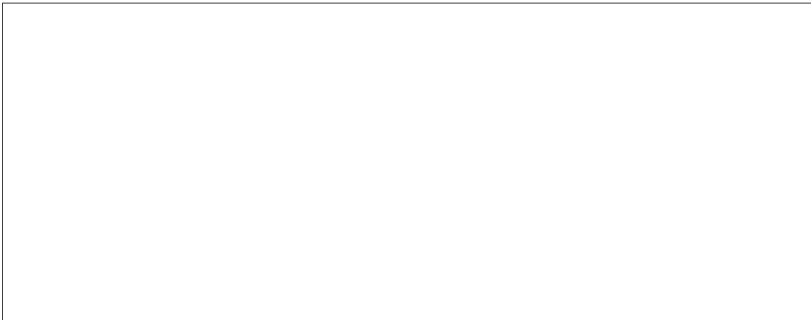
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(77)



(78) Special Brigade at Zavod 96

This brigade, consisting of a number of technological, design, and calculation offices, was known to us as temporarily attached to Zavod 96 in connection with the redevelopment and reconstruction of the Leuna dismantled plants brought to the USSR in 1946. At the plant, the brigade worked under the technical supervision of the plant's chief engineer, KHRULOV. However, the special brigade is directly subordinate to the Project Institute No. 3 in Moscow. This institute functions as a planning and design department of the Ministry for Chemical Industry. The largest group of the German specialists, then headed by Dipl. Ing. LOETZSCH (deceased), was placed to work at this brigade. Specifically, this brigade was primarily engaged in controlling and compiling plans and designs of projects prepared by the German specialists. These materials had to be translated, redrafted, and prepared, in accordance with the specific requirements of the Soviet reporting system, for shipment to the Project Institute No. 3. My second chart [see page 35] illustrates the relation of the brigade to the organizational structure of Zavod 96, the parent ministry and its respective departments, and also shows the placement of the German specialists within the plant installations.

GERMAN PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT ZAVOD 96

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Functions of the German Specialists

4. Upon arrival in the USSR the German specialists were assigned the task of redesigning and reconstructing the various dismantled plants and installations brought to the USSR from three chemical centers in Germany. The dismantled plants and machinery are listed below in Para. 7. During the period of our employment at the plant the German engineers and designers were engaged in the preparation of new designs and plans involving machinery and installations documented at Leuna in 1946 and brought to Zavod 96. Although based on the documented records, this work required a number of modifications and adjustments to suit the Soviet specifications, requirements, and facilities. Because of the Soviet system of shifting the prepared materials from one department to another where, seemingly after careful study, new changes, suggestions, and added specifications were made, the completion of the various projects under development at the plant could not be accomplished in less than 1 1/2 to 2 years.
5. In the beginning, the Soviets were primarily interested in the development of two major projects, namely, the Lactam and Adipic Acid processes. However, during the later years of our employment at the plant, many other processes and reconstruction phases were under development requiring close work and coordination of the various German groups. Four of the Leuna chemists, headed by Dr. LOEWENBERG, were engaged in the research and development of lactam products, which also included cyclohexanol, cyclohexanone, catalysts, and various polymerization processes. Dr. BERNDT, one of the four chemists, was primarily engaged in developing chemical contact agents for such products as lactam, methylene chloride and others. These chemists worked during the entire stay at the plant in the main laboratory together with many of the Soviet chemists employed at Zavod 96. In addition to their laboratory activities, the four German chemists acted as consultants for the various reconstruction projects in process at the plant.
6. The largest group of the Leuna specialists, 17 engineers and designers, was assigned to a special brigade, known as "the Brigade" at Zavod 96 See number (78), Para. 2 above.

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The remaining specialists, the majority of whom belonged to the Bitterfeld group, were placed in various plants and installations in accordance with their professional knowledgeability. They worked on individual projects under the supervision of the chief engineer, KHRULOV.

DISMANTLED GERMAN EQUIPMENT BROUGHT TO THE USSR

7. I have listed below a number of plants and installations which to the best of my recollection were dismantled and transported to the USSR from the following industrial areas in Germany:

a. Leuna Werke

- (1) Adipic Acid Plant, dismantled 100%, taken to Zavod 96.
- (2) Ammonium Nitrate Plant, dismantled 50%, destination in the USSR unknown.
- (3) Ammonium Sulphate Plant, dismantled 50%, taken to Zavod 96.
- (4) Distilling Plant (lactam), dismantled 100%, taken to Zavod 96.
- (5) Lactam Production Plant, dismantled 75%, taken to Zavod 96.
- (6) Cyclohexanol Dehydrogenator Plant, dismantled 75%, taken to Zavod 96.
- (7) Cyclohexanone Plant, dismantled 75%, taken to Zavod 96.
- (8) Nitric Acid Plant, dismantled 50%, destination in the USSR unknown.
- (9) Storage Tanks Installations, dismantled 80%, taken to Zavod 96.

Note: Various installations belonging to the Organic Department South (SUED), Leuna, including the Benzine Processing Plant, were dismantled to approximately 75% and shipped to an unknown destination in the USSR.

b. Bitterfeld

- (1) Chlorine Electrolysis Plant, partly dismantled, taken to Zavod 96. I had no direct connection with this project.

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- (2) Methylene Chloride Plant, completely dismantled, taken to Zavod 96. [redacted]

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- (3) Igelite (Plastics) Plant, partly dismantled, taken to Zavod 96.

c. Rodleben Chemical Plant

Adipic Acid Plant, completely dismantled, taken to Zavod 96. [redacted]

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d. Agfa Wolfen

From correspondence between Dr. HENNIG and a Dr. SCHUSTER, (who, I believe, was located in Rubezhnoye in the Ukraine), I learned that color film and color photo plants were transported from Agfa Wolfen probably to this location in the Ukraine. To my knowledge, personnel belonging to this plant were returned to Germany sometime in 1949/50.

GERMAN PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT THE CHEMICAL PLANT OKA

8. In the middle of 1948, the so-called ASINGER group, consisting of six German specialists from Leuna, arrived in Dzerzhinsk and was assigned to the chemical plant OKA (number unknown). This plant, one of the six or seven chemical plants of the Dzerzhinsk area, adjoins Zavod 96 to the east. The OKA plant is known to me as a research and production plant, but the nature of work performed by the German specialists employed there is unknown to me. However, it was known that a new research laboratory was established there in 1948 for the use of the newly arrived group. This group, upon arrival in the USSR, was originally placed at the Karpov Institute in Moscow and continued working there until the time of transfer to Dzerzhinsk in 1948. The Karpov Institute is known to be a scientific research and experimentation institute of the Ministry for Chemical Industry in Moscow. The names and biographic data of the members of this group are listed in Para. 12 of this report.

LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE GERMANS

9. During the period of employment at Zavod 96 the German specialists resided in Dzerzhinsk in housing blocks belonging to the zavod. In these houses the German families and bachelor specialists lived in apartments intermingled with those of the Soviet residents. In general, the

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living standards in this area can be considered as primitive in comparison with Western standards. The komendatura, an administrative unit assigned by the plant for the German specialists, assisted us in certain administrative procedures required by the existing Soviet system. These included medical care, civil registrations, escorts, interpreters, etc. There was no system of restrictions curtailing the movements of the Germans within the city limits of Dzerzhinsk. However, if we desired to visit Gorkiy, or points located outside of Dzerzhinsk, the komendatura had to be notified, and when required, would then provide us with guides or escorts. Although we enjoyed a comparative freedom of movement in Dzerzhinsk, it was a known fact that the komendatura at all times kept an eye on our movements, visits, associations, etc. During the first year of our stay in the USSR we were in possession of a temporary residence permit known as the Pasport Dlya Inostranykh Rabochykh (Temporary Residence Permit for Foreign Workers). This document was withdrawn from us in the latter part of 1947 because of an incident which involved two of our compatriots, Dr. MEIER and Dr. STRIEGLER. Both men took a trip to Moscow on their own initiative without prior consultation with the komendatura or the plant administration.

#### REPATRIATION

10. The largest group of the Dzerzhinsk Germans, comprising 25 specialists from the Leuna Werke and Bitterfeld, was returned to Germany in May 1951. A group of seven, six from Zavod 96 and one from OKA (Dr. ASINGER), were detained in the USSR and transferred from the Dzerzhinsk area to some location in the Ukraine in the latter part of 1951. Three specialists died during the period 1946 - 1951.

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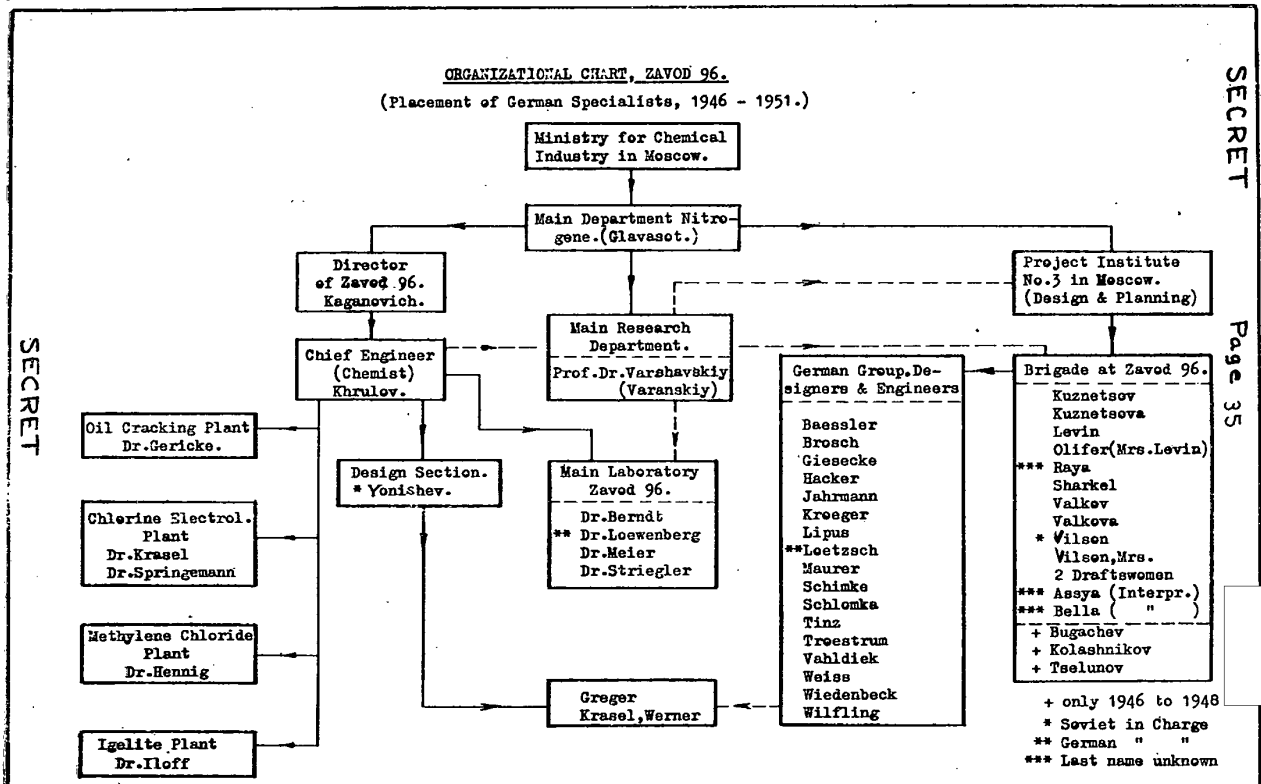
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