

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Carpatho-Ukraine)	REPORT	
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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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The following changes should be made therein:

1. Okruzskom should read Okruzhhkom throughout.
2. Izmailski Oblast, page 2, should read Izmailskaya Oblast.
3. Surte, page 4, should read Syurte.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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DATE DISTR. 31 Aug. 53

SUBJECT Agricultural Conditions Around Uzhgorod

NO. OF PAGES 4

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1. To get the proper picture of the agricultural conditions around Uzhgorod [N 48-40, E 22-18], USSR, it should be noted that the northern area is mountainous and largely covered with forests. On these mountain slopes oats, potatoes, apples, pears, plums, and grapes were produced. Southward from the city is a very rich plain, where the main agricultural products were wheat and corn. Before 1945 the yield of wheat averaged 10-12 centner per acre, and oats and potatoes yielded an excellent average annually.

2. [redacted] in 1948, independent farmers were being forced to pay extremely high taxes and deliveries. This was the first indication that the time had arrived for the Soviets to start organizing the independent farmers to establish the kolkhoz system there. They arrested a couple of the best farmers in each village and ordered peasant youths from 17-22 years old to "volunteer" for work in the Dombas coal mines. Then they spread the rumor that the youths would be returned to their homes if the parents would join a kolkhoz. After 50% of the village independent farmers joined the kolkhoz, the Soviets spread another rumor that those who refused to join would be deported to

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Izmailski Oblast. Thereupon, of course, the remaining 50% joined.

3. The kolkhozes around Uzhgorod were directed by the Uzhgorod Okruzsom. This office, which had available all the necessary figures on kolkhozes, worked out a production plan and gave it to the various kolkhozes. The presidents of the kolkhozes were responsible for the execution of this plan, and they received orders from the Okruzsom. The annual agricultural plan contained orders as to type of crop and the amount of the yield to be delivered to the state storage warehouses at fixed prices. Based upon the agricultural plan of the Okruzsom, the leaders of the kolkhoz (approximately 15 persons) decided what they would plant in their fields. In being able to determine what to grow and where, the kolkhoz leaders were able to exercise a little independence, and had the opportunity to make the most suitable choice of crops.
4. The Okruzsom also submitted norms for the kolkhoz members. members of the kolkhoz were required to work at least 120 days annually. If individuals did not work 120 days annually, they were brought before a people's court on charges of economic sabotage. Kolkhoz members received their income partly in cash and partly in agricultural products, according to the number of working days during the year. Kolkhoz members received their salaries only twice a year, after deliveries had been made to fulfill the obligatory order to the state warehouse.
5. After harvesting, deliveries were made to the state warehouses first, and, if the kolkhoz still had a quantity of their crops left after that, it was divided as follows: first, a portion was stored for seeds for the next year; second, a reserve was set aside for unforeseen emergencies; and third, the remainder was divided among the kolkhoz workers. In addition the kolkhoz members had to keep part of the yield to feed the kolkhoz animals. An example of this system: If a kolkhoz had 2,000 kg. of wheat left over after delivery to the state, and the kolkhoz members worked 1,000 days altogether, then the dividend of the members would be two kilograms of wheat each for each day worked. Thus, the members who worked 50 working days would receive 100 kg. of wheat, and members who worked 20 working days would receive 40 kgs. of wheat. The total amount a kolkhoz member could receive from the remaining quantity of a crop was regulated. At best, a kolkhoz worker could receive yearly five centner of a cereal crop, six centner of potatoes, three centner of corn-on-the-cob, and a small quantity of such vegetables as cabbage, tomatoes, paprika, cucumbers, beans, peas, etc. The old people and children who were unable to work received nothing.
6. Anyone who owned a cow was required to deliver 240 lit. of milk yearly to the state, for which he was paid 18 kopeks per liter. The state made butter from the milk. People were required to deliver 80 eggs per year per hen, for which the state paid them 12 kopeks per egg. These eggs were resold in the state shops for 95 kopeks each. Kolkhoz members owning a pig had to deliver 12 kg. of lard annually. The received 3.80 rubles per kg. for this, and the state resold lard for 38 rubles per kg. Each member was required to deliver 35 kg. of meat. The state paid 2.50 rubles per kg. for meat, and resold it for 14-20 rubles per kg. If a member could not fulfill his quota, he was forced to pay in cash.
7. The kolkhoz members were supposed to be paid two rubles daily out of the cash received for deliveries to the state, but because of the obligatory subscription to the state loan and high taxes on their privately owned houses and vegetable gardens, they never saw

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any cash. Kolkhoz members were permitted to own a house, vegetable garden (maximum size 25 sotek), one or two cows, pigs, and fowl, all of which were subject to tax. [redacted] worked a total of 650 days in 1951, for which they received from the kolkhoz:

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Cash 1,200 rubles
 Wheat 1,200 kg.
 Potatoes 1,600 kg.
 Corn 600 kg.
 Hay 120 kg.
 Straw 300 kg.

and in the same year they paid:

Tax on house 150 rubles
 Tax on only cow 120 rubles
 Tax [redacted] being childless 300 rubles
 State Loan 1,200 rubles
 Cash instead of lard delivery 400 rubles
 Cash instead of meat delivery 300 rubles
 Cash instead of milk and egg delivery 100 rubles

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8. The introduction of the kolkhoz system brought two results. In one way the system was favorable to the Communists, because the kolkhoz workers were dependent on salaries received from the kolkhozes. Furthermore, a kolkhoz worker who was anti-Communist had his obligatory deliveries increased. On the other hand, kolkhoz workers lacked interest in cultivating the fields and in maintaining machinery, and the constantly decreasing yearly agricultural yield reflects this fact. Compared with the prewar years, the yield of 1951 showed a 30 % decrease. The livestock of the kolkhoz was inadequate, and this in turn caused a lack of fertilizer. Further, since the supply of artificial fertilizer was very poor, the soil was deteriorating from year to year.
9. Kolkhozes in the immediate area produced 60% wheat, 15% potatoes, 15% corn, and 10% vegetables yearly. In 1949 the yield was average. In 1950-51 the yield decreased slightly and in 1952, because of the extremely dry weather, the yield was very poor.
10. Before World War II the Carpatho-Ukraine region was famous for fruits. The region produced mostly apples, pears, plums, cherries, apricots, and grapes in large quantities and of very good quality. After the war the Soviets introduced in the orchard regions the so-called Sovkhoz, the members of which received their income in cash only. Because of the poor income, Sovkhoz workers did not take care of the orchards properly and the quality of the fruit, most of which was delivered inside the Soviet Union, became poor. Consequently, the introduction of the Sovkhoz system also affected the production of wine in the Carpatho-Ukraine, and the fine wines produced there before the war were no longer available.

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11. In 1950 the Soviets introduced a new grain in the Carpatho-Ukraine called "chumiza," which was like millet. This grain had a larger yield than millet and was less dependent on care and favorable weather, but the quality and nutritional value was less than millet grain. After grinding, the grain was used for bread, which had a yellow color similar to corn bread.

12. The Soviets pressed the kolkhozes to produce more tobacco and as of 1952 the Carpatho-Ukraine was producing 10 times more tobacco than the prewar standard. However, the quality of the tobacco was 10 times lower. Every leaf of tobacco had to be delivered to the state.

13. After World War II the livestock of the population decreased as much as 25% as a result of lack of fodder, carelessness of kolkhoz workers, and overwork of the animals in the fields. Animal diseases also caused a great decrease in livestock. For example, in the summer of 1952, 15-20 pigs died daily in the area from a disease known as "pigs' pest". The number of fowl decreased also. People who had 60-80 hens before the war, when I left had only 8-10. Before the war in the village of Palov there were approximately 3,000 geese

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In the Spring of 1952 the Palov kolkhoz received 2,500 one-day-old chicks from the Uzhgorod incubator and they all died in six weeks. In the Spring of 1952 in Koritnyany the secretary of the CP in anger kill 25-30 small chickens with his own hands, the last which remained alive from 2,500 chickens. The state offered them another 2,500 chickens which they refused because they were afraid they would be charged with economic sabotage if the chickens died. Since 1951 every kolkhoz has been required to raise sheep for wool.

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14. Agricultural machinery and tools used by kolkhozes consisted of the former property of independent farmers. These tools were old and needed constant repair.

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there were tractor stations in Uzhgorod and Surte, approximately 10 km. south of Uzhgorod.

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