

Handwritten initials/signature

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

~~C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L~~

COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	50X1
SUBJECT	Uniforms of Soviet Military and Civilian Railroad Personnel	DATE DISTR.	MAY 27 1955	
		NO. OF PAGES	5	
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REFERENCES	<input type="text"/>	50X1
DATE ACQUIRED				

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: 50X1

50X1

Comment: In paragraph 3, "Ministry of Railways" should read, "Ministry of Transportation". 50X1

LIBRARY SUBJECT AND AREA CODES (18)

3-02-0406 5/55

235 N

235.29 N

~~C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L~~

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI	#	AEC		50X1
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")												

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

REPORT NO. [redacted]

50X1

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 17 Feb. 1955

SUBJECT Uniforms of Soviet Military and Civilian Railroad Personnel

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF INFORMATION [redacted]

REFERENCES:

50X1

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1

SOURCE [redacted]

50X1

Note: During the period [redacted] 50X1 the personnel listed below. He divided them into three main categories which correspond to three separate Soviet governmental entities: the Soviet Army, the MVD, and the Ministry of Railways (Ministerstvo Putey Soobshcheniya). The latter is a civilian agency.

Army Personnel

50X1

1. [redacted] source saw Soviet Army EM who were called railroad troops or work battalions. They laid rails and performed railroad construction work. He only remembered that they had black shoulder boards but insisted they were not engineer troops. They wore a metallic device on their shoulder boards but source could not remember any of its details.

MVD Railroad Militia (Zheleznodorozhnaya Militsiya) Personnel

50X1

2. [redacted] saw these personnel in many places, particularly Michurinsk (N 52-54, E 40-30). He believed they were a part of the regular militia and that they were subordinate to the MVD. Their uniform is described as follows:

50X1

Trousers: Black with dark magenta seam-piping.

Blouse: Black with a dark magenta cuff-band; in the front, there was a whistle on a white cord. Yellow service chevrons were on the left sleeve.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

50X1

- Shoulder boards:** Those of the EM were dark magenta, but source did not remember those worn by the officers.
- Cap:** The entire crown was dark magenta and the cap band was black with a red star cockade.
- Overcoat:** Black with two rows of buttons. The black collar tabs were framed with dark magenta piping and decorated with a button.

They also wore black boots with spurs, a saber, and a belt with a pistol. Source could not remember any other metallic insignia or devices which were worn by these troops.

Ministry of Railways Personnel

3. Source divided the Ministry of Railways rail personnel (zheleznodorozhniki) as follows: workers, service and administrative personnel, and railroad protection or escort personnel.
- a. The workers (rabochii) included such personnel as signalmen, locksmiths, (slesary) and repairmen. They could wear either civilian clothing or the following uniform:
- Trousers:** Black with green seam-piping.
- Tunic:** A black pullover-type.
- Cap:** Black with a black visor and band, green piping between the crown and the band and around the crown; a red star cockade was centered between the band and crown and a brass crossed-hammer-and-wrench insignia was centered on the band.³
- Because the workers had no assimilated rank, they wore no shoulder boards.
- b. Service and administrative personnel (sluzhashchii) consisted of executives or "chiefs", white collar workers, various mechanical and technical engineers, and foremen. Although they were civilians, they were distinguished by military ranks from junior lieutenant upward. Source never saw anyone with a rank higher than lieutenant colonel but assumed that higher ranks did exist. The personnel of this category were addressed by their civilian title and their rank, e. g., "comrade engineer lieutenant", "comrade construction engineer captain", "comrade technician major", etc., never by their rank alone. Their uniform consisted of the following:
- Trousers:** Black with green seam-piping. The quality of the trouser material was better than that of the workers' trousers described above. White trousers were optional for summer wear.
- Blouse:** Black with green cuff-bands and green piping around the collar. There was a single row of white buttons which bore the crossed hammer-and-wrench railroad insignia. A white blouse was optional for summer wear.
- Cap:** Black, the same as that worn by the workers but of a better quality. A white cap was optional for summer wear.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-



Overcoat: Black, with two rows of buttons and black collar tabs framed with green piping.

50X1

Shoulder boards: Silver with black longitudinal stripes or stripes framed with green piping.

c. The railroad guards and escorts (zheleznodorozhnaya okhrana) personnel escorted freight trains and protected them from theft and pilferage. Source thought they were subordinate to the Ministry of Railways and were not considered as military personnel but volunteer civilian workers who contracted to serve for a certain (unknown) number of years. The uniforms they wore were designed after World War II and were very similar to those worn by Soviet Army personnel. Their uniform consisted of the following:

Breeches: OD or blue.

Tunic: An OD pullover-type.

Cap: The entire crown was light green with yellow piping on the top. The band was yellow with a cockade of crossed rifles with bayonets, covered in the center (at the crossing point) by a red star.

Overcoat: Gray which was similar to the Soviet Army overcoat but had, instead, two rows of buttons which also bore the crossed-rifles-and-star emblem. The coat had green collar tabs with yellow piping. Source believed that the coat was the regular-issue Soviet Army coat with the hooks removed and replaced by the buttons.

Belt and Boots: Black. The belt buckle also had the crossed-rifles-and-star emblem.

Shoulder boards: Light green with yellow piping around the top. The band was yellow.⁴ A cockade with the crossed-rifle-and-star emblem was on the band.⁵

Arms: These guards normally carried a rifle when engaged in guarding freight trains. Those that source saw guarding station areas normally carried pistols. He believed that these individuals carried about 15 rounds of ammunition.

50X1

Comments:

1. These battalions were probably labor battalions.

2.

50X1

3.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

-4-

50X1

4. This is the first instance of yellow-bordered, green shoulder boards and yellow hat bands known to the interrogator.
5. Source never saw railroad guards and escort personnel who might have been officers.

CONFIDENTIAL