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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

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SUBJECT Methods Used by the NKVD to Obtain
Confessions from Prisoners

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1. [redacted] techniques used by the NKVD in obtaining "confessions" from prisoners. [redacted] only the Gestapo was on par with the NKVD in this respect.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted] on 16 Apr 43, [Redacted] the NKVD arrested an assistant professor of medicine at the Krasnodar Medical Institute for his anti-Communist feelings.

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[Redacted]

the NKVD headquarters in Krasnodar. This building incidentally was also used by the Gestapo during the occupation of Krasnodar by the German army during 1943, and was completely destroyed by the Germans before they were driven out of the city. The building was constructed of red brick and was three floors in height. It contained many examining rooms, wards and various types of torture chambers.

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[Redacted]

the NKVD's first line of interrogation

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is psychological in which they use terroristic methods to threaten the individual or his family in an attempt to have him confess what they desire to hear. [redacted] a ward in another section of the NKVD headquarters. The ward consisted of 20 beds which were cramped together so that sitting and standing room was at a minimum. During the night, NKVD agents came to the ward and would awaken everyone regardless of whether they were required to report to the examining room for further interrogation. As a result of these frequent interruptions [redacted] were never able to sleep, and, of course, during the day [redacted] were required to stand in a bent position with hands behind our back. This psychological treatment of the individual was designed to break his will. [redacted] required to stand for six hours during which time [redacted] being interrogated. If these psychological measures were not effective, then the NKVD resorted to violence. Special chambers were constructed which were so small that you were unable to sit or lie down in them.

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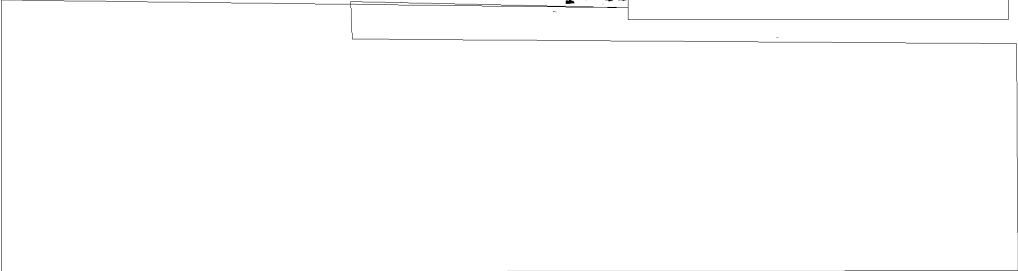
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[redacted] Another violent method used was the beating of an individual's bare feet with a rope or a rifle butt. Electric or chemical torture methods were not used because they were unnecessary, since the other methods were effective. [redacted] the NKVD has a special vaccine which rendered an individual's will helpless [redacted]

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