

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Bashkir ASSR)

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SUBJECT City of Ufa

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 25X1 1. Ufa (54-43N, 56E), capital of the Bashkir ASSR, was built hundreds of years ago. The oldest part of the city is the northern section. The city is surrounded on three sides by the Belaya River.
2. The city is laid out very regularly in a checkerboard pattern. The streets are straight and wide, lighted by electricity, and marked by rectangular iron plates hung at the street heads. On main streets, the street signs are electrically lighted. The principal streets are Lenin, Stalin, and Pushkin, all asphalted. Parades are held on Pushkin Street and on Lenin Street.
3. _____ some residential buildings for 20-30 families were under construction but there was no significant building activity. The buildings of Ufa are principally of stone or brick. The overnment buildings are of stone and painted yellow (sic; of yellow-colored stone?). Residential buildings are mostly one-storied and of either stone or brick. There are also some buildings of wood but none of concrete. Most of the buildings in town are two or three stories high, painted red, and roofed with sheet iron.
- 25X1 4. There are no significant buildings and no memorial. There are only three small parks. One on Lenin Street contains Lenin's bust. In Yakutov Park are Lenin's and Stalin's busts. There are cinemas in all three parks. On Lenin Street is the Ufa Restaurant, which is in a seven-storied building. Also on this street are a government building and a six-storied building in which the families of engineers and professors live.
5. The population of Ufa consists of abo t 70 percent Tatars, 25 percent Russians, and five percent others (Armenians and Georgians). There is no apparent discord between nationalities, although the Russians do not lok favorably on the other peoples. There is no important number of foreigners in the city, and those who come do not stay. The male population declined as a result of the war.
6. The native Tatars are Moslems; the Russians and other nationals are Christians. Only the elderly people are interested in religion and perform the requirements. There are two churches and one mosque. Elderly men and women attend regularly, but source does not know their number.

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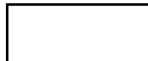
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7. The only railway station, called Ufa Station, is in the southern part of the city. It is a whitewashed one-storied building. The freight depot is in a separate building, about 200 meters west of the station. There are about 20 lines through this station, which is connected with the Transsiberian line to the east and the Moscow line to the west. Ufa is connected by rail with Chelyabinsk, Ulyanovsk (Lenin's birthplace), and Kuibyshev. The lines running in all these three directions are wide and double-tracked. About 4-5 passenger trains pass daily through Ufa. More freight trains than passenger trains pass, perhaps one freight train every hour. Trains to all directions are run by steam.
8. There is a public aerodrome 3 km east of Ufa, from which flights are made to Moscow, Bakir (sic; Baku?), Kiev, Kharkov, and Tbilisi. The field has hangars but source does not know how many. Source cannot describe the runway but states that there are no underground installations. Three or four planes a day were observed arriving and departing. There is also a training airfield at Ufa.
9. The river port is located at the end of Lenin Street. There is also an installation for the repair of ships. The port is guarded by the militia but is not separated from the rest of the city by any barrier. The city is linked by river with Kazan, Gorki, and Moscow. It is possible to go against the current of the river with small ships but there is no traffic of any importance in this direction. The principal traffic consists of grain sent out of the city of Ufa and timber brought in from the Urals.
10. Trams, buses, and automobiles provide local transportation. There are no horse carriages. The rails for trams are double and trams move in two directions. These two directions are designated as 1 and 2. These numbers and the name of the destination are written on the sides of the trams. The buses are of different colors. The fare from the center of the city to the station is one ruble. The tram fare is 30 kopeks even to the last stop. There are conductors both in the buses and in the trams who collect the fare. By regulation, everybody is supposed to pay the same amount, but soldiers do not comply with the regulations. Taxis cannot be distinguished as they do not have any markings.
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 Doctors use the hospital vehicles. Some high officials have automobiles but their number is very few.
11. The Supreme Soviet of the Bashkir ASSR is located in the government building. The President, Urazbayev, is in his early forties, healthy looking, and is married. The secretary of the Party is Vagapov. This building also houses the City Soviet and, source believes, other municipal offices. Source states that there are ZAKs, tax collectors, and welfare offices in Ufa but he does not know their locations. For draft purposes, the city is divided into four raions, each of which contains a military registration office.
12. The MVD headquarters is at the corner of Stalin and Gogol Streets. Source does not know the location of militia offices. There are two prisons. The military and civil courts are housed in the same building. There are both PW and forced labor camps in the vicinity of Ufa, but source does not know their location.
13. The militiamen usually stay singly or in teams of two at the street corners while on duty. They are more numerous in the center of the city than in the outskirts.
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 after dark everyone can move about freely. However, special certificates can be obtained on application from the security officers. It is not clear from his statement whether such documents are required or optional. Militia patrols are more frequent at night than during the day. They often do not ask any questions from a well-dressed person. Those who look dishevelled are more likely to be controlled.
14. Most of the inhabitants are workers; the others are engaged in agriculture. Government officials also engage in trading. The factories in Ufa are rather small.

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25X1 [redacted] workers are free to look for jobs, that there is no labor
 25X1 exchange, and that many jobs were available during his stay in Ufa although
 25X1 wages were small. [redacted]

15. The government determines all prices. Consumer goods are obtained from the government stores against cash. There are no ration coupons at present. Source does not know the places where coupons formerly were issued. Everything desired can be obtained on the black market. Mostly those who have been fired from their posts as officials are engaged in black marketing. The militia is used to combat such activity but often an agreement is made between the operators and the militia. Mostly novelty goods and consumer goods such as sugar are imported into Ufa, and in return grain is exported.
16. The local headquarters of the Communist Party is in the green three-storied building attached to the government building. Source believes that Party meetings are held once or twice a week. Members pay dues of 50 kopeks (presumably per month), which is deducted from their wages. The local headquarters of the Komsomol is in the government house. There are no women's clubs, peasants' organizations, or atheists' clubs in town, as far as source knows.
17. A local newspaper, Krasniye Bashkiri, is published daily, in Russian, at an editorial office on Karl marks Street. Another, published in the same building, is the Tatar-language daily Bashkirdistan. Both are propaganda instruments of the Party.
18. There are two local radio stations. One is rather large but source does not know its power. Infantrymen guard its approaches. Its broadcasting time, from 0600 to 1400 hours, is mostly allotted to propaganda. Foreign stations cannot be heard because they are not clear. Besides, it is forbidden to listen to foreign stations. The local station is heard through loud speakers. Individual receivers exist and can be purchased freely, but they are very expensive (650 rubles). In the purchasing of a receiver, the formalities are met at the post office and the duty is paid.
19. It is very difficult to find a place to live in Ufa but [redacted] it would be possible if a lot of money were offered. Application for billeting is made to the municipal authorities. The Bashkiri Hotel is three-storied. Persons of high rank stay at this hotel but persons of other classes too may stay there. [redacted]
20. Employers do not provide accommodations for their workers. Separate houses for one family exist throughout the city. Apartment houses are located in one central part of the city; most of the people live in these. Barracks are surrounded by high walls and contain two-berth iron bedsteads. The camps are surrounded by barbed wire. Conditions in them are very bad. The living conditions of the factory workers are the worst. The artists and Party secretaries stay in the most comfortable buildings. The workers may be obliged to live with their families in one room, but members of the other classes stay in better places, according to their grades. There are larger houses occupied by the Party officials. All the houses are illuminated by electricity. Persons other than Party officials have only a few chairs of the simplest kind and a bed. There are all kinds of vermin in the houses occupied by the ordinary people.
21. Health conditions in general are good in the city. There are many hospitals, including a military hospital, a civilian hospital, a hospital for contagious diseases, a mental hospital, and polyclinics. If one has money, one receives medical treatment. When paid for, medical treatment is also given outside working hours. Contact can be made with a doctor by going to a clinic. In 1948 there was a cholera epidemic all over the Bashkir ASSR. Many died but their number was kept secret. The dead are buried rather than cremated. There are three cemeteries on the outskirts of the city.

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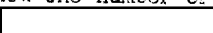

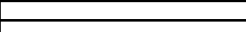

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22. Educational institutions in Ufa include the School of the Theater, the medical Institute, the Pedagogical Institute, and the Statistics Technical Institute. All are coeducational and source believes that there are no restrictions on admission to them but he does not know the number or ages of the students. The only scientific establishment  is the Medical Research Institute on Lenin Street 
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23. Theaters include the Bashkiri Theater on Lenin Street and the Russian Theater on Gogol Street. Each has a square lobby and boxes "in the higher floor". Plays of propaganda nature are presented in the Bashkiri Theater. In addition, there are three cinemas which very rarely show American love films. Other places of amusement are the Ufa Dinamo Team football stadium on Tugayevsk Street and the Dinamo swimming pool on the riverbank west of the city.
24. One artillery brigade and one MVD division headquarters are located in Ufa. The regiments of the latter unit are stationed in the surrounding towns. The artillery brigade is located at the corner of Stalin and Karl Marks Streets. The MVD division headquarters is at the corner of Stalin and Gogol Streets. Commander of the artillery brigade is General Rishkov.
25. In December 1948, the 1928 class of recruits was being called, and rumors that the 1929 class also was going to be called were circulating 
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