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in the Gara Belovo Area

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50X1-HUM

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Forestry Enterprise

1. The mountainous environs of Belovo, Pazardzhik district, are thickly forested with oak and pine. The exploitation of these forests accounts for the livelihood of the residents of Gara Belovo (N4212 E2401), Golyamo Belovo (QE-8509), and Malko Belovo (QE-9011), the three villages which make up the community.
2. The forestry work in the Belovo area is under the supervision of the Bulgarian Government Forest Enterprise. Until autumn 1951, lumberjacks were paid 800 leva per cubic meter of wood; in autumn 1951, the wage scale was reduced by half, although the official price of firewood remained at the old level of 1,200 leva per cubic meter. The wage reduction, combined with the fact that the average forester must work 12 to 14 hours to cut and transport one cubic meter of wood, has caused widespread resentment against the government. The people feel that the woodcutters are being cheated because the price of wood has not been reduced. At present, wages are too low to sustain even a low daily standard of living.
3. There is a sawmill in Gara Belovo which employs approximately 300 workers. A paper factory, Durzavni Knizhni Zavod, which employs approximately 250 workers, is also located at Gara Belovo.

Communist Party in the Belovo Area

4. During 1951, a TKZS (Trudovo Kooperativno Zemedelsko Stopanstvo; Labor Cooperative Agrarian Farm) was established in Golyamo Belovo. Approximately 160 families had joined the unit by late 1951, at which time it was decided that the collective was a failure and that no more members should be accepted. Plans have been made to dissolve the organization. Kostadin Kokalonov is the chairman of the collective.

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-2-



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5. Golyamo Belovo has approximately 100 Communist Party members. Georgi Terzievski is the Party Secretary.

6. Stoyan Markov is Secretary of the Communist Party in Gara Belovo.



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