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CURRENT SUPPORT MEMORANDUM

SOVIET AUTOMATION VISITORS

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED
1998

This report represents the immediate views of the
originating intelligence components of the Office
of Research and Reports. Comments are solicited.

W-A-R-N-I-N-G

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SOVIET AUTOMATION VISITORS

The Soviet team on automation currently visiting the US includes Kazanskiy, Member of the Collegium, Ministry of the Radiotechnical Industry, and Lukin, Engineer, Ministry of Machine and Instrument Building.

During a 23 November 1955 conference in Washington the Soviet team stated as the primary objectives for the remainder of their visit, discussions on the following topics:

1. Recent advanced developments in the field of radio navigation, with particular reference to aircraft aids. As an example, the TACAN system was suggested.
2. Means of generating 20-megawatt pulse powers.
3. Means of generating 3 mm and 8 mm wavelengths.
4. Review of color television technology, with a comparative analysis of different systems.
5. Study of an automatic factory in which mechanical or chemical processes are actually controlled through the use of electronic systems.
6. Study of a highly-mechanized factory producing tubes and transistors.
7. Study of an automatic factory system for producing electronics equipment, printed circuits and "Tinker-toy" units (fabricated electronic modules).

Comment: An obvious difficulty in implementing US - Soviet exchange of information in this instance results from confusion in terminology. Of the seven Soviet agenda items, only two might be considered as directly related to automation.

The first three topics are subject to US security restrictions. Little substantive matter can be discussed, although any exchange of a very general nature would be of great interest to the US intelligence community. Reports derived from Soviet discussions with qualified US personnel on any or all of the proposed topics may have great intelligence value.

All of the proposed topics indicate an interest only in the most advanced techniques. Conventional subjects, or developments dating back but a few years, do not appear to be important to the Soviet team.

It is believed that the specific definitions of the first three topics may be good indicators of actual Soviet intentions and trends in these fields:

- a. In particular, there has been speculation relative to the status of Soviet progress in producing 5-to 10-megawatt pulse powers for long-range radar application. Specific interest in 20-megawatt developments could imply accomplishments at the 5- to 10-megawatt levels, with probable intentions at the higher levels.

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- b. Soviet development efforts at 8 mm wavelengths have been reported for at least seven years; the proposed discussions may indicate a greater capability in the millimeter radar field than has been confirmed previously.

Analyst:
Coord:

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