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COUNTRY GERMANY <i>C/S Only</i>	REPORT NO. 52A-5331	(LEAVE BLANK) <i>EP139032</i>
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT Sociological and Political Requirements in USSR (INTERVIEWER) (EDITOR) GOGROEF, Helmut (FN) CANTOR		
AREA REPORTED ON TAYSHET, USSR	FROM (Agency) 7050th AISW (USAFE)	
DATE OF REPORT 11 Mar 54	DATE OF INFORMATION Sep 50 - Dec 53	EVALUATION F-6
PREPARED BY (Officer) SHIRLEY A. KOLPIN, Lt Col, USAF	SOURCE 226330	

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

1. SOURCE was born on 25 Nov 25 in GROSS WALTERSDORF/East Prussia (coordinates unknown), had elementary education for eight years, apprenticed as automobile mechanic, which is his civilian trade today. He acquired his Russian language knowledge when with the SD (SICHERHEITSDIENST - Security Service, an SS organization used during World War II as political police). SOURCE was trained and used for partisan counter-intelligence and therefore spoke Russian fluently.

2. As a member of the SD, SOURCE was held in various punishment camps, jails and houses of correction in the SZG, he was held in ALT STRELITZ (5319N-1306E) from Oct 45 to Oct 45, in NEUBRANDENBURG (5334N-1316E) from Oct 45 to Jul 48, and, finally, in concentration camp BUCHENWALD (5100N-1120E) from Jul 48 to Sep 50, when he was transferred to USSR and arrived in the penal district of TAYSHET (5557N-9802E) in Sep 50. On his way there he was held in prison in BREST LITOVSK (5205N-2342E), in transit prison in ORSHA (5430N-3025E), in transit prison in MOSKVA (5545N-3735E), transit camp in CHELYABINSK (5509N-6125E), transit camp NOVOSIBIRSK (5502N-8255E). The first forced labor camp in TAYSHET was Camp #025, located in town of TAYSHET. He stayed there for six weeks, was put on an intra-camp lumber detail, had daily contact with Soviet prisoners and guards. He then was transferred to Camp #020, located about 60 km east of TAYSHET near the RR line TAYSHET - BRATSK (5605N-10140E), stayed there till Mar 51, was a forced labor camp, lumber processing, daily contact with Soviet citizens held there as prisoners and guards. In Mar 51 SOURCE was transferred to Camp #028, forced labor camp (in 1952 it was renumbered 046), lumber detail, some work in a wood processing fcty making ammunition boxes and RR ties, daily contact with inmates and guards. In May 51 re-assigned to Camp #025, stayed till 15 Jan 52, then transferred to hospital Camp #03, located about 55 km east of TAYSHET. Stayed there till 1 Apr 52, then re-assigned to Camp #028 (046). Current contact with Soviet free workers in TAYSHET area.

a. SOURCE was tried and sentenced in WEIMAR (5059N-1119E) in Aug 50, charges having been "membership in a criminal organization" (SD). Sentenced to death, pardoned to 25 years at hard labor in USSR. It had been a "long-distance trial", as SOURCE was called into a room where a Soviet Air Force major and a Soviet Army interpreter were stationed, he was familiarized with the fact that "a court in MOSKVA had sentenced him to death", the major requiring him to sign the verdict and immediately file an appeal. SOURCE signed and filed his appeal with the result, that his sentence later was commuted. There was no difference as to

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workers took great pride in pointing out that it had not been a "simple robbery", but an act of revenge against an oppressive party bully.

22. SOURCE heard quite a lot about deportations of Volga-Germans who were said to have been expelled from their original homelands along the VOLGA River and dispersed in small groups all over Siberia. SOURCE met many of them personally. Jewish prisoners in TAYSHET claimed, that many Jews were trapped by a phony promise. The Soviet government had promised all Jews desirous of emigrating to Palestine, that they would be afforded assistance to do so after due enrollment and registration. After the Jews complied, about 15,000 of those having given their names were arrested and deported to various punishment districts in the Siberian part of the USSR. At least this was the version given by Jewish inmates, the time was mentioned as lying before SOURCE's arrival in the USSR, either 1949 or 1950. An engineer, named Fritz KAISER, whose son resides in HANNOVER (5222N-0943E), deported to TAYSHET in spring 1951, informed SOURCE, that he knew of 70 German families of engineers who, during World War II, had worked on important aircraft constr, guided missile projects (V1, V2) etc., were deported under fair conditions to the USSR (area of KIYEV (5028N-3031E). KAISER said that they had signed up for three years in 1945, terminating their tour of duty in 1948. Russian authorities failed to comply with the terms of the contract after expiration of the time, which caused resentment among the engineers. KAISER was thereafter sentenced to 25 years and sent to TAYSHET. Fate of the engineers unknown.

E. FORCED LABOR CAMPS:

23. Camp #025, interned in fall 1950, inmates then 800, nationalities: Germans, Russians, Ukrainians, Latvians, Estonians, Rumanians, Hungarians, Mohammedans (Azerbaijans), Gruzinians, Kalmyks, Poles, Czechs, Japanese, North Koreans and South Koreans, all were political prisoners. Were assigned to different details, constr of huts, improvement of RR lines, forest work, etc. About 200 inmates were female. Camp still active and enlarged in Dec 53, population changed. Camp #020, interned, observed till Mar 51, about 60 km east of TAYSHET on RR line TAYSHET - BRATSK, total camp population, all-male, about 1,600, same nationalities plus Yugoslavs, all political prisoners, same type of work, was dissolved in May 51 and, according to rumor, prepared for reception of unknown number of American prisoners of war taken in Korea. In Mar 51 SOURCE was assigned to Camp #028, re-numbered 046 in 1952, about 197 km east of TAYSHET, all-male camp, population about 800, only political prisoners, same nationalities as mentioned before. Status of camp in Dec 53 was active. Hospital camp, number 03, about 55 km east of TAYSHET, all-male inmates over 1,000, cap over 2,000. SOURCE knew of a total of 58 forced labor camps between the 300 km stretch TAYSHET - BRATSK. In particular he learned of Camp #037, about 6 km west of Camp #046, all-male camp population of mixed nationalities as mentioned estimated at about 1,700 to 1,800, de-activated to a remainder of 300 prisoners in Dec 53. SOURCE estimated about 50,000 prisoners in the greater area of TAYSHET in Dec 53.

24. In May 52 SOURCE learned from newly arriving inmates of Camp #020, who were assigned to Camp #046, that they had to make room for expected American PWs from Korea. These rumors were steadfastly circulated thereafter, although SOURCE himself did not see or speak to any of the alleged US prisoners. On 5 Dec 53, SOURCE met a Latin American national very briefly, his name was Helmut ROTH, in Camp #046, born in 1920, he was referred to as the "American", SOURCE forgot his life story, he was about 1.82 m, dark blond hair, slender. One Frenchman, name unknown, was met by SOURCE in hospital Camp #03 in Jan 52. The man had black hair, 1.65 m, lean face, skinny, details unknown.

25. Since summer 1952 Russians made it a practice to kill prisoners by shooting. They had established "death zones" and caused prisoners to step on them to have a reason to shoot them. At least nine prisoners were shot in Camp #020 that way. In Jul 51 about 30,000 male prisoners of the TAYSHET district plus 3,000 women, were sent to a gold-digging area KOLUMA (coordinates unknown), mostly Lat-

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vians, Russians, Estonians, etc. German PWs who inadvertently were with the transport, were sent back, excepting ethnic Germans, who had to stay there. From returnees SOURCE learned that large quantities of gold were produced by hundreds of thousands of gold miners in the rich area of KOLUMA, exact location of the area unknown.

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