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SOURCE Monitored Broadcasts

CPW Report No. 71 -- Inside USSR

13 - 9 February 1953)

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Russian text:

vnutri kazhdogo iz nikh naryadu s semenami
ovoshchei sodержalis semena yadovitykh i
vrednykh dlya cheloveka i zhivotnykh sornyakov.

The expansion of the American intelligence in the post-war years has been particularly rapid, Minayev tells his readers, and it now comprises "over 100 thousand employees and agents" (svyshе sta tysyach sotrudnikov i agentov). Spies and diversionists are said to be trained "in most of the American universities" (v bolshinstve amerikanskikh universitetov) including numerous specialized schools. Similar cadres are being trained, under American sponsorship, in Western Germany and Austria, Yugoslavia and Turkey. Indeed there is hardly any sphere of human activity, including the foreign embassies in Moscow, according to Minayev, that has not been affected by the insidious machinations of U.S. intelligence. Even such organizations as UNESCO and the International Children's Emergency Fund are "utilized for the purposes" (ispolzuyutsya v tselyakh) of American espionage. Referring to the sources of aid at the disposal of the American intelligence service, Minayev declares that

the most active aid to American intelligence is
offered by the Vatican and the bourgeois-
nationalist Zionist organizations.

Russian text:

Samoye aktivnoye posobnichestvo amerikansko
razvedke okazyvayut Vatikan, burzhuzno-
natsionalisticheskie sionisteskije organizatsii.

Of some significance is the mild criticism of the above-discussed book contained in Velodin's TRUD review of it broadcast on 11 February. Discussing Minayev's work in familiarly flattering terms, he remarks that it is not without certain important omissions. One of them is that "there is practically nothing said in it" about the Zionist organization "Joint" which "plays an extremely important part" (igrayet chrezvychaino vazhnuyu rol) in conducting American espionage and intelligence work. It should be pointed out here that the Jewish doctors' "plot" and the Joint's "espionage activities" were first announced on 13 January 1953, and Minayev's book, according to IZVESTIA, was published in 1952.

INDUSTRY

Reports on industrial failings are fragmentary, most of the radio discussion of that topic appearing in the political-vigilance context. There is some criticism of the operations of the light and consumer industries where mismanagement, corruption, theft and embezzlement are said to be still rampant. Plan-fulfillment figures in these industries are said to be particularly misleading since the totals do not reflect satisfactory performance of every aspect of the plan. A ZVYAZDA editorial broadcast from Minsk on 3 February says that last year a "considerable number of enterprises and even entire industries" of Belorussian SSR failed to complete their annual plan. The Republic's fishing industry, for example, has been lagging for years and shows no signs of improvement now:

The question arises: when will the leaders of
the fishing industry administration finally
overcome their lagging and fulfill the State
Plan?

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Similar production failures are attributed to the Belorussian Electric Power Administration and the Industrial Cooperatives Council which cater exclusively to the consumers. We must not be deceived by the glowing reports of the Ministries which have fulfilled and even overfulfilled their gross production plans. The paper reports that a number of them failed to complete the plan "according to specified items." Among them are the Ministries of light, building materials, food and local industries. Similar failures not reflected in the gross-production reports are said to have been registered in the production of tractors and automobiles, bricks and tiles, lime and woolen textiles.

The Kherson Oblast consumer industry is honeycombed with "swindlers and sharps" according to NADDNEPRIANSKA PRAVDA of 4 February. Socialist property is being stolen in such large enterprises as the "Main Textile Distribution Administration" (zolovtextyl-sbut), the "Eighth of March" plant and the river port. The damages sustained through thievery by the Oblast Consumer Cooperative Administration last year alone amounted to over 1.2 million rubles. The oblast Party and Soviet officials, says the paper, "should have drawn suitable conclusions" from that and looked into the personnel problem. This, however, has not been done, and "incompetent and untrustworthy" officials, instead of being dismissed, are shifted from one responsible post to another. An interesting sidelight on the official attitude toward the consumer is provided by a STALINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA editorial of 6 February. Listing the activities of several officials of the oblast consumer industry who have been fleecing the consumers for a long time, the paper inveighs against their "dishonesty to the State" without even mentioning the consumers. Thus the director of the Kamyslin Meat Combine, for example, had "tried to transform that State enterprise into his own property" and systematically deceived the State and the Party by faking the combine's performance reports and otherwise engaging in "shady machinations." The head of the oblast "Gastronomy" Bureau, Safonov, having surrounded himself with yes-men and "people of unclean conscience" (lyudi s nechistoy sovestyu), has been violating the retail trade regulations himself and protecting the violations of his subordinates by transferring them from one executive position to another. He, too, is referred to as a bad Communist who is "dishonest to the State and the Party."

In a long TRUD article published on 6 February, the acting chief of the Central Trade Union Housing Administration Berbasov unwittingly testifies to the extent of corruption in the retail trade industry by admitting that licensed "public inspectors" (obshchestvennie kontrolery) are frequently refused admission to the places they are to inspect. It is quite clear, he says, that these inspectors, whose duty it is to see that the customers are well treated, are "a thorn in the flesh" (belmo na glazu--literally, a mote in the eye) of unscrupulous officials who brook no interference in their favorite pastime of "cheating customers" (obman pokupatelye). It has also been discovered, according to Berbasov, that where public inspectors cannot easily be kept out of stores and other retail trade enterprises, they are "reported" to their superiors in "anonymous slanderous letters" (anonimnye klevetacheskije pisma) as taking bribes and committing a variety of other crimes in the hope of having them dismissed or "bringing them to terms" with the unscrupulous store managers and other officials.

Misleading total production figures are also the object of an editorial discussion by KOMMUNA broadcast from Voronezh on 5 February. Good industrial production indexes often "conceal straggling enterprises," says the paper, and Voronezh oblast is no exception: "Several plants of the oblast remain heavily indebted to the country." The building-materials industry failed to complete its 1952 plan, is "far behind" in its current program, and the plants of the butter industry trust (trest maslo-prom) are not producing the prescribed quantities of butter and other foodstuffs. "Solicitude" for the consumer is expressed in a broadcast from industrial Kemerovo of 3 February where the "acute shortage" (ostraya nekhvatka) of living space has been the target of criticism for a long time.

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Many building organizations are failing to fulfill the house-building plans every year Some enterprises of the oblast have slackened their attention toward improving the working and living conditions of the workers.

The communal enterprises such as public baths, laundry, transportation and electric supply in the workers' settlements are said to be functioning very unsatisfactorily. Interruptions in the water supply are frequent in Prokofyevsk, Kiselevsk, Lenin-Kuznetsky and other towns. The network of repair shops is far too inadequate to serve the people, the assortment of consumer goods produced by the local industry is limited and the quality "remains low" (ostayetsya nizkim). The oblast factories and organizations, the report concludes, must put an end to the "harmful practice of under-estimating the importance of the workers' material welfare" and devote more time to the daily cultural and other requirements of the people. It is revealed that most of those officials seldom if ever visit workers' dormitories and other communal dwellings and are not even familiar with the conditions obtaining there: "you cannot learn much by sitting in an office."

PRAVDA refers editorially (7 February) to a collective letter from the workers of the Zerubino fishing trust, the largest in the Far East, to call attention to the "vicious methods" (porochnie metody) of administration employed by the USSR Fishing Industry. The letter, which was not broadcast, points out that structural defects are frequently found on the fishing vessels delivered by the Ministry, and repair materials for the fishing fleet are usually shipped by the Ministry when it is too late; that is, in the height of the fishing season. Serious shortcomings have been noted also in the oil industry, PRAVDA continues. The Ministry of that industry and its subordinate organizations "are insufficiently familiar with the situation on the spot" (nedostayet glubokogo znania polozhenia del na mestakh). This is particularly evident in Tatar ASSR where drilling operations are frequently and unaccountably delayed, and in Bashkir ASSR where "little interest is shown" (malo interesuyutsya) in improving the technical skill of the industry personnel. At the "Ukrvodstroy" (Ukrainian Waterway Construction), where valuable materials are poorly guarded, a group of squanderers and thieves have been operating and causing great losses. Tens of tons of petrol (desyatki tonn benzina) have been disappeared from one sector of that project, the Vasilievsky construction and assembly division. Another gang of swindlers (gruppa zhulikov) is said to have built a nest at the Krasno-Perekopsk sector and engage in squandering (razbazari-vanie) socialist property.

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