

DETACHMENT "R" 8502nd AAU
OFFICE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF G-2, D/A
APO 225 US ARMY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

HOW SOVIET CAREERS ARE MADE
or
WHAT MAKES IVAN RUN

by

Mr. George T. Lister

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

Foreign Area Specialist Training Program (Russian)

20 June 1953

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4
By ry, NARA, Date 3-2-06

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Introduction	1
Ability	3
Ideology	9
Assigned Careers	20
Provocation	32
The Willing Tool	44
"Protection"	59
Mutual Defense	68
Some Additional Factors	69
Conclusion	73

* * * * *

INTRODUCTION

This paper was originally intended as a brief study of Soviet careers: the factors which make them possible and the methods by which they are achieved. It was hoped that such a study, even if very superficial, would provide at least the author with a smoeewhat better insight into the essence, the special "flavor", of Soviet life and the Soviet system. The topic also recommended itself as one which would be logical for the unique conditions prevailing at Detachment R, where it is possible to draw on the recent experience and up-to-date information, much of it unpublished thus far, of a group of relatively well informed former Soviet citizens from various fields of Soviet life and society. In addition, the subject promised to be an interesting one and to increase the author's very meager fund of Soviet biographical information.

The foregoing plan was only partly fulfilled. The Detachment R instructors were generous with both their time and information. Unfortunately, because of the limited time available, instead of compiling a sizeable number of Soviet careers, with adequate and verified information on the highlights and importance of each, it was possible only to summarize, and sometimes with only very vague generalities, a very few careers or incidents in careers.

Under these circumstances it has not been possible to draw any really final conclusions. However, some few tentative and general comments on various additional aspects of Soviet careerism have been included at the end of the paper. Perhaps in the future the writer may have time for a more serious work on this topic.

It goes without saying that no one single factor or method can alone account for any single success or failure in a Soviet career and there is, of course, an inevitable overlapping among the factors and methods themselves. However, the careers outlined below have been divided into very general categories.

The paper has been classified due to the nature of a few of the items included herein.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

Unfortunately, time is lacking.

Conclusion

Perhaps ~~in conclusion it might be appropriate to refer~~ briefly to ~~the difference between the factors and methods out-~~lined above and those which make for careers in America. Much has been written, some of it quite good and much more of it very bad and misleading, concerning the sordid ingredients which sometimes go into a success (spelled with dollar signs) in New York, Hollywood, or Main Street. And actually, books such as Marquand's Point of No Return perform a valuable service by portraying, more or less objectively, this unpleasant side of life in America. But for those who have even a partial ~~under~~standing of the operation of the Soviet system, the widely advertised and loudly lamented shallow materialism and grubby values of the West are very secondary shortcomings indeed.

It is particularly important that a great deal more light be shed on the average Soviet success story. A really serious, thorough and objective investigation and report on this subject might be very useful, even though restricted to defector and emigre sources. It could bring the two systems (West and Soviet) into better perspective, and might also contribute toward changing the views of many neutralist and "third force" elements in West Europe, India, etc., who see the current struggle as one of American political democracy versus Soviet economic democracy, or American materialism

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

versus Soviet materialism. It could also provide a clearer understanding of the basic operations of Soviet society, and how its weaknesses and vulnerable points could best be exploited. It should result in greater appreciation of the pressures which are brought to bear on the Soviet citizen and help to shape, or deform, his character and personality. Lastly, it would bring greater awareness and clearer perception in the Free World of the very real threat to what we loosely call Western Civilization which is inherent in the Soviet system and which requires that that system be opposed with all possible speed and force.

THE END

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~