

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED  
1995

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SOVMAT STAFF PROGRESS REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 1960

I. Summary of Progress for the Report Period

A. Further development of sources and methods has resulted in the production of more intelligence information from fewer, but more significant objects.

1. Improved liaison with FI has resulted in faster and more effective consultation concerning the fulfillment of requirements and this has led to greater efficiency of collection activities.

2. The [REDACTED] Program of the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] throughout the report period was most effective in providing opportunities to order items selected from Soviet catalogs of scientific and technical equipment and in accomplishing delivery of selected items.

3. Briefing of selected U.S. and foreign nationals has continued to yield both leads to the acquisition of needed items and actual samples as well.

a. The Chief, Sovmat Staff has continued the practice of briefing each class of attaches at the Strategic Intelligence School concerning the "Hardware" needs of CIA and the intelligence community. These briefings have borne fruit both through the acquisition and forwarding of significant objects and through the reporting of information concerning the availability (for collection through other channels) of desired objects.

b. Briefing of DD/P trainees in Sovmat requirements has continued with beneficial results in the acquisition overseas of Sovmat items.

c. Exchange delegations from the U.S.A. to the U.S.S.R. have proved again this year to be good sources for occasional items of marked significance.

4. The annual revision of Sovmat Collection Requirements to FI and to the Department of State were received and disseminated to appropriate locations overseas.

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5. The pride of Soviet researchers in their accomplishments and the growing frequency of contact between Soviet scientists and those of the Western world have already led to our acquisition of quite valuable samples; it is anticipated that this method of acquisition will increase in importance as the present trend of contact between East and West continues.

B. As a result of increased collection activity the Sovmat Staff has received slightly fewer, but more significant items during the report period than in the previous year (423/593).

1. The number of items received during the year by the Sovmat Staff again comprised 42 per cent of the "Hardware" receipts of the U.S. Intelligence Community.

2. Electronics devices and equipment were again leading items in Sovmat acquisition with various scientific and biological samples following. Considerable success has been achieved in sampling new production from Communist China and desirable information concerning the quality of ChiCom exports seeking to capture a portion of the Asian market has been derived from this collection.

## II. Sovmat Staff Operations (Statistics appended)

### A. Collection and exploitation of Soviet-Bloc items.

1. Although the number of Sovmat items collected in FY60 was lower than in FY59, that number represents as large a proportion of total USIB "Hardware" collection as ever, and the significance of the items acquired is greater than in the previous year, since the number of Sovmat Intelligence Information Reports increased this year by approximately 14 per cent over the number produced in FY59 from a greater number of samples.

a. The significance of objects acquired from Soviet Scientific Institutes by visiting U. S. Scientists is generally considerably greater than the general run of Sovmat Collection.

b. Objects purchased through ostensibly commercial consumers of the merchandise are usually more precisely specified in requirements and can be selected with greater care than the general run of Sovmat items to yield the maximum of desired information. Therefore, ██████████ has served also to increase the significance of Sovmat samples.

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2. Analyses and tests of the samples acquired in FY60 have resulted in 98 reports, and increase of 14 per cent over the previous report period.

B. Operational support to other CIA components was accomplished through 71 support actions.

1. Most of these actions were to provide objects and/or information to TSD/DDP.

2. Additional support actions were rendered in support of activities of the CIA Factory Markings Program and to FI.

C. Liaison and coordination have continued to yield required Sovmat items and technical information.

1. Relationships resulting from activity of the Technical Intelligence Branch (TIB) of the Intelligence Directorate, Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) have permitted the CIA to participate in the exploitation of 832 items acquired by USIB Agencies other than CIA as well as in the exploitation of an additional 423 items acquired through Sovmat.

2. Liaison through Contact Division, OO and Liaison Division, OCR with travelers to the U.S.S.R. has resulted, as noted above, in the acquisition of several significant objects for Sovmat exploitation.

D. Consumer reaction to the information disseminated in Sovmat reports supports the conclusion that the significance of the information derived has increased. These reactions are expressed through the following formal evaluations of Sovmat Reports:

1. Evaluation of Content	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
a. Fills a priority need	--	3%
b. Of Considerable Value	57%	74
c. Of Value	39	18
d. Of Slight Value	4	5
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>
2. Evaluation of Accuracy	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
a. Confirmed	57%	79%
b. Probably True	43	18
c. Possibly True	--	3
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

3. Evaluation of Importance	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
a. Of Special Importance	--	5%
b. Of Considerable Importance	61%	71
c. Of Importance	39	21
d. Of Slight Importance	<u>--</u>	<u>3</u>
	100%	100%

III. Management activity for the fiscal year is summarized as follows:

A. Personnel

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Number</u>
T/O	3
Ceiling	3
On Duty	3
Resigned	0
Promoted	0
Entered on Duty	0
Transferred	0

B. Fiscal

<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Unencumbered Balance</u>
\$100,000	\$81,646	\$18,354

C. Significant Sovmat problems are as follows:

1. Sources and methods so far developed are incapable, except by chance, of obtaining many needed objects, despite very real progress in the last few years.

a. Nuclear research products, guided missiles and their fuels and components and other advanced weapons and weapons systems are guarded by security measures so far perfect in denying U.S.A. access to samples in these categories.

b. Other objects of intelligence interest such as nerve gas, virulent biological cultures, and certain exotic fuels are typical of desirable samples which are of such inherently dangerous nature as to limit their collection to the few qualified specialists trained and equipped to handle them.

c. Collection requirements received in Sovmat, while they have improved are still frequently lacking in available background information which would help collectors to find the needed objects and to plan for their acquisition and shipment with knowledge of their size, weight, fragility, and distinguishing features that differentiate the best from mediocre examples of the same category.

2. Although the Sovmat activity in DD/P has increased and improved in quality, there is still need for attainable improvement to insure a reasonable standard of achievement in Sovmat collection.

IV. Objectives for FY61 are as follows:

- A. To continue Sovmat operations at higher levels of activity.
- B. To develop more effective methods for acquiring Sovmat items.

- 1. To continue educational and other cooperation with users of Sovmat information in efforts to improve the quality of Sovmat requirements.

- C. To cooperate with appropriate personnel of DD/P in perfecting the clandestine purchasing techniques of Project ██████████ in order to improve Sovmat collection.

STATISTICAL ANNEX

1. Sovmat Production:		
	<u>FY59</u>	<u>FY60</u>
a. OOT Reports	39	68
b. OOS Reports	30	30
c. Operational Support Actions	132	71
2. Items Received:		
a. Items received by USIB	1424	1255
b. Items received by Sovmat Staff	593	423
c. Items received by the Army	250	354
(1) AMS		8
(2) CCIA		47
(3) MIIA		36
(4) OTIA		141
(5) QMIA		76
(6) SIGIA		46
d. Items received by the Navy	192	209
e. Items received by the Air Force	389	269
3. Consumer Reaction to Information Reports:		
a. Evaluation of Content		
(1) Of Considerable Value	57%	
(2) Of Value	39%	
(3) Of Slight Value	4%	
b. Evaluation of Accuracy		
(1) Confirmed	57%	
(2) Probably True	43%	
c. Evaluation of Importance		
(1) Of Considerable Importance	61%	
(2) Of Importance	39%	



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