

LL/S
23 Jun
NL/116/955/A

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

LABOR

Foreign

COMMUNIST PARTY

Foreign Relations

FOREIGN RELATIONS

With Other Countries

INDUSTRY

Light

Power

Heavy

Foreign Workers Laboring In The CSR

SOURCE LONDON: No information available.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Not mentioned.

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Our informant provides following scattered information from Moravia:

1. The new factory called "Znojma" in ZNOJMO, for processing and canning of vegetables, mainly cucumbers, has recently been taken over by the heavy industry and amalgamated with "Motorpal" plants.

2. The CSSZ in OSTRAVA are at present engaged in the construction of large apprentices' hostels, each to accommodate 800 boys. Also, a number of uniform houses of the so-called T 20 type, with air raid shelters and anti-gas devices are under construction.

3. The government plans the construction of a new dam and of a power plant in ZERMANICE, to supply the whole of Silesia. For this purpose some areas will have to be evacuated; the inhabitants will be moved into type T 20 barracks, which are already under construction.

4. All building sites suffer from lack of materials and of qualified workers. E.g. most of the electricians are former shop assistants, hairdressers etc., who have completed a six weeks' course for electrotechnicians.

5. Some 300 Greeks are living in FRYSTAT-KARVINA; they are accommodated together with their families in T 20 housing units. They are mainly employed in the iron works, and are usually assigned to the worst and most strenuous jobs. They are registered under numbers; their pay-envelopes also are marked with numbers instead of names.

(Over)

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(cont'd)

6. From workers employed in TRINEC steel works, our informant learned that some Koreans are working in those plants. They wear some sort of blue overalls, which almost look like military uniforms. Their duties are rather like those of propagandists than of workers; they often deliver speeches in the Korean language, which are broadcast to the factory hands, and an interpreter translates them in Czech. They are also always at hand to answer questions asked by Czech workers about the conditions in Korea, the attitude of Korean workers toward Communism and life in general of the Korean people.

EVAL. COMMENT: Para 1: "Znojma" ZNOJMO known from other sources. Information that it has been taken over by heavy industry UNCONFIRMED. Para 2: known from the press. Para 3: ZERMANICE located northeast of FRYDEK, but power plant on Lucina river not yet reported. Para 4: in line with general trend. Para 5: presence of Greek workers at KARVINA known from other source, but their number is UNCONFIRMED. Para 6: the fact that Chinese workers have arrived in the CSR is well known (see Item No. 12776/51.) Also known childrens' arrival in the CSR known from the press, but no news till today about presence of Korean workers.