

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Ukrainian SSR)	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1A
SUBJECT	Miscellaneous Information on Kiev	DATE DISTR.	28 Sept. 1954	
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SOURCE:

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Language and Conversation

1. About 80 percent of the inhabitants of Kiev use Ukrainian in their conversations. The other 20 percent use Russian or one of the other languages common to the USSR. Political subjects are never discussed with strangers on a train or elsewhere.

War Damage and Construction

2. Most of the wartime damage in Kiev has been repaired, including the damage to the Kreshchatik, Kiev's main street. A tall iron pylon rises from the center of the Kreshchatik and supports the antenna of the local television center.

Business Hours

3. Most stores in Kiev open at 0800 hours. However, certain food stores open at 0500 hours as a convenience for workers on their way to their jobs at that hour. Most of the stores providing this early morning

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service are located near the market place, and different stores alternate every few weeks or months in opening at this hour.

Crosswalks and Bridges

4. There are special crosswalks for pedestrians on Kiev's main streets, including the Kreshchatik, Vladimirskaia ulitsa, and Krasnoarmeyskaya ulitsa. Failure to use these crosswalks can result in a fine or detention by a militiaman.
5. In the northern part of Kiev there is a bridge across the Dnepr which can be used by both vehicles and pedestrians. Two or three kilometers south of this highway bridge, there is a railroad bridge which can also be used by pedestrians. South of the city there are two more bridges across the Dnepr. One is a highway bridge and the other is a railroad bridge; both can be used by pedestrians.

Air Connections with Uzhgorod

6. Air service is maintained between Kiev and Uzhgorod. Tickets can be purchased at the airlines office on the Kreshchatik in the center of Kiev. The fare on a plane with hard seats (zhestkiye samolety) is 265 rubles; on a plane with upholstered seats (myagkiye samolety) there is a surcharge of 35 rubles plus a few rubles' tax.

Railroad Stations

7. The main railroad station in Kiev is about 50 or 70 meters long and 30 meters wide. Neither it nor the old railroad station (staryy vokzal) was badly damaged during World War II, although two holes were blasted in the roof of the main station.¹ The old station is located to the right of the main station as one enters the latter. It is a large, oblong, barrack-like, wooden building.
8. Streetcar lines lead from the large square in front of the railroad station to all parts of Kiev. Trolley bus stops are on the right side of the square as one leaves the station; and, farther to the right of the station, there are taxi stands where taxis are available at all hours. At the streetcar and trolley bus stop, there is a large sign which indicates the destinations of the various lines.
9. Trains on the electric railroad line (elektrichka) leave from a special siding with its own platforms located in the immediate vicinity of the main railroad station. This electric rail line connects Kiev with Boyarka-Budayevka (N 50-19, E 30-19) and extends to Belaya Tserkov.

- 25X1A 1. Comment: The main Kiev railroad station was badly damaged during World War II and has since been rebuilt.

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