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461.51/1-859

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : American Embassy, Paris

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DESP. NO.

JAN. 10. 1959

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

January 8, 1959
DATE

REF : CERP Section B, Item I-B-1

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	REC'D	IN F O
	1-12	REF-1 REC-8 TCA-10 EUR-3 E-7 TAN-2 AG-8 IN-7 CIA-15 TR-3

SUBJECT: French Foreign Trade with the Soviet Bloc: Statistics for November 1958

FRB-3 Army-3
NAVY-3 AIR-1

Statistics on the value of French imports from the Soviet Bloc countries and French exports to the Soviet Bloc countries for the month of November are enclosed. Total imports amounted to 6101 million francs, total exports amounted to 8276 million francs. Thus French exports to the Soviet Bloc exceeded imports by 36 percent during the month, the highest export surplus in recent years. Exports to China (mainly iron and steel) continued relatively high. They amounted to 34 percent of total French exports to the Soviet Bloc, as compared with 41 percent in October and 47 percent in September.

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1. Imports

Imports from the U.S.S.R. amounted to 3267 million francs. Major items imported were manganese ore (324), coal (374), pitchcoke (338), crude petroleum (87), refined petroleum products (889), wood (616), paper pulp and products (225), tin (74).

Imports from Poland amounted to 964 million francs. In addition to the traditional imports of coal (545), November imports also included wood (105), and potatoes (179).

Imports from Czechoslovakia amounted to 570 million francs. They included mainly iron and steel (170), wood (121), paper pulp and products (40).

Imports from Hungary amounted to 174 million, of which meat for 82 million.

Imports from Eastern Germany amounted to 241 million, of which machinery and mechanical appliances (58), vegetables (29), rubber (38).

Imports from Bulgaria amounted to 67 million, of which vegetables for 54 million.

Imports from Rumania amounted to 449 million francs, of which refined petroleum products for 390 million.

Imports from China amounted to 369 million francs, of which pig's bristles (109), silk (65), wool and hair (42), essential oils (35).

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2. Exports

Exports to the U.S.S.R. amounted to 2810 million francs. Major items exported were iron and steel (1075), copper (66), machinery and mechanical appliances (538), electric wires (330), artificial fibers (407).

Exports to Poland amounted to 559 million francs, of which iron and steel (226) and organic chemicals (135).

Exports to Czechoslovakia amounted to 776 million francs. Major items exported were iron and steel (361), passenger cars (135), artificial fibers (45), wool and hair (91).

Exports to Hungary amounted to 467 million, of which wool and hair (106), iron and steel (67), paper (54). Other items were widely dispersed.

Exports to Eastern Germany amounted to 293 million, of which iron and steel (139), watches (55).

Exports to Bulgaria amounted to 292 million, of which iron and steel for 153 million.

Exports to Rumania amounted to 285 million, of which iron and steel (80), and artificial fibers (78).

Exports to China amounted to 2794 million francs. Major items exported were iron and steel (2207), aluminum (277), and motor vehicles (60).

Approved by:

MW
Marion W. Worthing
Economic Defense Officer

For the Ambassador:

H. J. Heck (mw)
Harold J. Heck
Commercial Attache

AA Sent to: All Consulates in France

Encl: Tables

1. Value of French Imports from the Soviet Bloc
2. Value of French Exports to the Soviet Bloc
3. French Imports of Unworked Gold and Alloys
4. French Exports of Unworked Gold and Alloys

TABLE 1. VALUE OF FRENCH IMPORTS FROM THE SOVIET BLOC

	Value (Millions of Francs)	
	1958	
	November	First 11 Months
Bulgaria	67	2353
Czechoslovakia	570	7113
China (including Manchuria, Dairan, Inner Mongolia, Tibet, Hai-Nan, Pescadores)	369	4313
Eastern Germany	241	2758
Hungary	174	2392
Poland	964	9369
Rumania	449	6149
U.S.S.R.	3267	35503
Sub-total	6101	69950
Hong-Kong (including Kowloon)	89	753
Albania	-	-
Portuguese Territories in Asia:		
Portuguese territories in India(Gao-Damac-Diu), Macao 1/ including Taipa and Coloans Islands, Timor, including Ocussi, Ambano(Sutrana) and Pula Kambing	89	611
Other Asiatic Countries:		
Korea (North and South), Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Laccadive, Outer Mongolia 1/	33	666
Sub-total	211	2030
GRAND TOTAL	6312	69980
Total Value of French Imports from Foreign Countries and Overseas Franc Area	176473	2166058

1/ Separate statistics are not available.

TABLE 2. VALUE OF FRENCH EXPORTS TO THE SOVIET BLOC

	Value (Millions of Francs)	
	1958	
	November	First 11 Months
Bulgaria	292	1838
Czechoslovakia	776	6227
China (including Manchuria, Dairan, Inner Mongolia, Tibet, Hai-Nan, Pescadores)	2794	16918
Eastern Germany	293	2356
Hungary	467	4054
Poland	559	5856
Rumania	285	5500
U.S.S.R.	2810	28386
Sub-total	8276	71135
Hong-Kong (including Kowloon)	100	1870
Albania	1	17
Portuguese Territories in Asia:		
Portuguese territories in India(Gao-Damao-Diu), Macao 1/,including Taipa and Coloans Islands, Timor, including Ocussi, Ambano(Sutrana) and Pula Kambing	19	144
Other Asiatic Countries:		
Korea (North and South), Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Laccadive, Outer Mongolia 1/	51	413
Sub-total	171	2444
GRAND TOTAL	8447	73579
Total Value of Exports to Foreign Countries and Overseas Franc Area	193056	1929697

1/ Separate statistics are not available.

TABLE 3. FRENCH IMPORTS OF UNWORKED GOLD AND ALLOYS
(Item 71-07-01 - Admitted on a temporary basis)

	1958			
	November		First 11 Months	
	Quantity (Kilograms)	Value (Millions of Francs)	Quantity (Kilograms)	Value (Millions of Francs)
Soviet Bloc Countries	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	<u>632</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>3765</u>	<u>1253</u>
Total Foreign Countries	632	127	3765	1253
Total Overseas Franc Area	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>19</u>
GRAND TOTAL	637	129	3802	1272

SOURCE: French Customs Administration

SOURCE: French Customs Administration

TABLE 4. FRENCH EXPORTS OF UNWORKED GOLD AND ALLOYS
(Item 71-07-01)

	1958			
	November		First 11 Months	
	Quantity (Kilograms)	Value (Millions of Francs)	Quantity (Kilograms)	Value (Millions of Francs)
Soviet Bloc Countries	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	139	64	2799	1419
Total Foreign Countries	139	64	2799	1419
Total Overseas Franc Area	-	-	100	54
GRAND TOTAL	139	64	2899	1473

SOURCE: French Customs Administration

Central File: Decimal File 461.51, International Trade And Commerce. Trade Relations, Treaties, Agreements. Customs Administration., Trade Between Union Of Soviet Socialist Republics And French Indo-China, January 8, 1959. 8 Jan. 1959. MS Commercial and Trade Relations Between Tsarist Russia, the Soviet Union and the U.S., 1910-1963: RG 59, State Department, Central Files, Commercial Relations (411.61 and 461.11), United States-Soviet Union, 1950-1963. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5106461817/GDSC?u=camb55135&sid=bookmark-GDSC&pg=1. Accessed 1 May 2024.