

## Information Evaluation – Investigative Journalism 1-2/7

### Part 1: VOCABULARY North Korean Labor Camps in Siberia 1/7

Difficult word/phrase	Swedish Translation	Easier replacement
goofy		silly
region		area
boggling		amazing
hermetic		airtight
hermit		person (who avoids others)
outsourcing		(paying someone else to do
outsource		(pay someone else to do
propaganda		talk
anthem		song
reintegration		re-joining/re-combining
regime		government
assassinated		killed
circa		about
essentially		mostly
reeking		stinking

### VOCABULARY North Korean Labor Camps in Siberia 2/7

Difficult	Swedish Translation	Easier replacement
administrative		(related to managing and running a
region		area
thugs		criminals
outskirts		outer areas
administration		management
looting		robbing

### Part 2: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Watch these videos:

<https://youtu.be/awQDL0nkdI>

[https://youtu.be/AtlxTF\\_SX28](https://youtu.be/AtlxTF_SX28)

### Part 3: SPEAKING

Turn to the person next to you. Read the dialogues from **Part 1** and/or **Part 2**.

#### Dialogue from **North Korean Labor Camps in Siberia Part 1:**

**SHANE SMITH:** Simon, hi.

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** Hi.

**SHANE SMITH:** My name is Shane. I'm from America. We're here with our friend Simon. We've been on the train for a long time. We're going a bit goofy. Where are we going?

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** We're going to Tynda, in the Amur region of Russia, in the Far East to look for the North Koreans.

**SHANE SMITH:** The thing about this is, it's mind boggling that North Korea, the most hermetic state in the world, the hermit Kingdom it's actually called, is outsourcing its labor. But they outsource their labor into miniature North Korean villages so that you don't ever lose the North Korean experience. So it's like North Korean-type buildings, North Korean propaganda, North Korean pictures, North Korean songs. They wake up and sing the North Korean anthem.

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** They bring North Koreans in for three-year contracts. After they're done working here, they get sent back to North Korea. They spend a month in a reintegration camp to get all of the propaganda that they've missed. Most of the workers are over 40 years old, so they all have families back home. So they know that if they try to run away, then their family back home gets in trouble.

**SHANE SMITH:** The North Koreans are making money to support the regime. And these poor dudes are out there in the middle of nowhere singing "God save Kim Jong-Il" and working in near-slave conditions. **SIMON OSTROVSKY:** This is kind of the only place where you can actually have an entrée into how they actually live day-to-day.

**SHANE SMITH:** Question -- are we going to get assassinated for going to talk to the North Koreans?

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** Quite possibly. People aren't going to be happy to see us. That's for sure.

**SHANE SMITH:** Why is it that the best stories always take so long to get to?

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** Because all of the easy-to-get-to ones have been done by programs better than yours.

**SHANE SMITH:** [LAUGH] He's a prickly pear, this guy. He's a prickly pear. [LAUGH] Now, you have to remember that everything in Siberia, almost without exception, is very,

very fucking far away from everything else. And even though it was the height of summer and 100 degrees outside, because it's Russia, the heat gauge on the train had been turned on full and then broken off -- probably circa 1971. So the experience is essentially like being trapped on a boiling-hot, reeking, drunken sauna 24 hours a day. Oh shit, hello. Now we've got crazy dude here.

### **Dialogue from North Korean Labor Camps in Siberia Part 2:**

**SHANE SMITH:** So after traveling across Siberia on one train, deep into the middle of nowhere, we switched to another train going even deeper into the middle of nowhere. And finally, after two and a half very drunken days on the train, we arrived in Tynda, where the North Korean administrative camp was. So we just got to Tynda. Some say it's the worst town in all of Russia -- the most depressing. And we're actually going to try to go to the office that runs all the North Koreans in the region and see if we can ask them some questions. We met this cop on the train. He seemed liked a nice guy.

**SHANE SMITH:** He got the thugs away from us when things got a bit drunk-y. And so then he's offered to help us, which is good. Because when we went to the hotel to check in, we didn't check in. Why? Because the FSB, who used to be the KGB, are asking about us, saying, let us know when they check in. So the lady said, I'll let them know, but I'm letting you know that I'm letting them know. So we're like, OK, we won't be staying there.

**SHANE SMITH:** So we stayed in an apartment where the water smelled like gasoline. And now we have a cop that we're going to bring with us, so we seem more official when we go meet the North Koreans. We just got here, and we see posters of Kim Il-Sung already. And also it says here that they will lay their lives down for the revolution of the great leader, Kim Jong-Il. What are we waiting for, by the way?

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** For one of the bosses of the camp.

**SHANE SMITH:** Look, he's got, like, a Kim Il-Sung pin and everything.

**SHANE SMITH:** So the North Koreans don't want us to go into the North Korean camp?

**SIMON OSTROVSKY:** They don't want to go into the north Korean camp.

**SHANE SMITH:** That's very surprising. So we came out here to the outskirts of Tynda and we found the North Korean administrationCamp Number Two. Surprise, surprise, they won't let us in. But we're going to go deeper into the interior to find the actual work camps and see if we can talk to some of the dudes. So we're leaving on a one-car train to go to the north Korean camps. It's a one-car train. That goes into the middle of nowhere.

[TRAIN WHISTLE]

**SHANE SMITH:** So this is our chief of police, and he's breaking in to the North Korean camp. Oh shit, We're literally getting caught looting right now.