

Information Evaluation – Investigative Journalism 5/7

Part 1: VOCABULARY North Korean Labor Camps in Siberia 5/7

| | Difficult word/phrase | Swedishtranslation | Easier replacement |
|----|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1 | wilderness | | (land area that has never been changed by people) |
| 2 | massive | | huge |
| 3 | propaganda | | talk |
| 4 | civilization | | city/people |
| 5 | the abandoned | | the (alone, with no help) |
| 6 | afield | | (far away/far into a field) |
| 7 | productivity | | working well |
| 8 | lo and behold | | of course |
| 9 | embassy | | government office |
| 10 | revelation | | sudden understanding |
| | | | |

Part 2: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Watch this video: [North Korean Labor Camps - VICE NEWS - Part 5 of 7](#)

Part 3: SPEAKING

Turn to the person next to you. Read the dialogues from Part 5.

Dialogue from North Korean Labor Camps in Siberia Part 5:

SHANE SMITH: Hello. The next morning we got back onto our one-car train and headed off into the wilderness. Every once in a while, there'd be a break in the trees, and we'd pass these massive logging camps that butted up against the train tracks that were obviously North Korean. We're on our little train going into the middle of the forest. This is a logging camp run by North Koreans. You can see there's a North Korean flag and North

Korean propaganda in here. There, there's some North Koreans waving at us over there. All this wood is going to England.

When we get off this train, [LAUGH] we're going to go out into the campus where they actually log out in the middle of Siberia. Freaky, freaky business. We finally started to approach our last stop, the tiny logging town of Tataul. Now Tataul is a freaky place. It's as if the Soviets had come up to the edge of civilization, then dropped off their Stalinists apartment blocks in the middle of nowhere, and then gotten back on the train and never looked back. At the train station, we met our new driver, a colorful local type known simply as "the Fish."

SIMON OSTROVSKY: He just brought a shotgun into the car-- [LAUGH] just in case.

SHANE SMITH: Dog in the sidecar. Dog in the sidecar.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: It looks like a Doberman.

SHANE

SMITH: His mouthful of gold teeth and his shiny track suit confirmed what we already suspected-- the Fish and his crew were the local mob.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: They've actually moved here from the camp, the abandoned camp that we visited yesterday, so--

SHANE SMITH: Right, so the camp we were at is done. Now this is the new camp, even further afield.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: Right. Yeah, we're going to their new camp, where they're actually operating now.

SHANE SMITH:

Ask him, maybe, if he thinks if they'll be angry or--

IGOR "THE FISH" RYBAKOV: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

SHANE SMITH: [LAUGH] And he brought a shotgun.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: Yeah, I think that's probably pretty useful.

SHANE SMITH: Is this the camp here? So we're here in a North Korean logging camp in the middle of Siberia.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: This is where they bring the logs from the forest and put them onto railcars.

SHANE SMITH: So there's Korean propaganda. There's some Korean writing.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: It says, "we're going to take action to increase productivity during the winter time."

SHANE SMITH: [LAUGH]

OK. Here comes a Russian lady that we're going to have to--

SIMON OSTROVSKY: She doesn't look happy.

SHANE SMITH: Hello.

FEMALE SPEAKER 1: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

SHANE SMITH: She immediately made a lot of phone calls and a lot of threats. Should we get arrested?

SIMON OSTROVSKY: Yes.

FEMALE SPEAKER 1: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

SHANE SMITH: While we were arguing with her, a van straight out of 1957 pulled up, and, lo and behold, out came some North Koreans.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

MALE SPEAKER 1: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

SIMON OSTROVSKY: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

SHANE SMITH: Jason's gone AWOL. He's in the camp. Jason's being shuttled back to fucking Pyongyang as we speak. Jason, our producer, slipped away with a small camera and started filming the camp.

SIMON OSTROVSKY: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

MALE SPEAKER 2: [SPEAKING RUSSIAN]

SIMON OSTROVSKY: He's saying we've got to get permission from the embassy before we can show anything.

MALE SPEAKER 2: [SPEAKING KOREAN]

SHANE SMITH: Now what he was saying was a revelation. We had come all this way so we could actually talk to North Koreans, and one of the first ones we met was admitting that the standard of living was a problem in the home country-- which would never be admitted to in North Korea proper. In fact, when the political boss stepped in, he also admitted to living a hard life. But of course, he blamed it on America.