

Scientific article

УДК 94(47)+94(470.62)+94(470.61)+093+930.253

DOI 10.28995/2073-0101-2021-3-904-915

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Participation of the Regional Control Commissions of the AUCP (B) and Bodies of Workers' and Peasants' Inspections of the Rabkrin in the Repressions of the Early 1930s: Archival Materials of the Kuban and Don

Abstract

The article has been written on the basis of archival materials of the early 1930s from the Documentation Center for the Contemporary History of the Krasnodar Krai. The article

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discusses the policies of the party bodies of the USSR, when conducting the policy of collectivization of agriculture and liquidation of kulaks as class. There has been no detailed study of the role of the regional party and state control in collectivization, dekulakization, and grain collections (khlebozagotovki), hence the novelty of the article. Direction of the repressions and control over them was largely carried out by the bodies of party-state control: Control Commissions of the AUCP (B) and Workers' and Peasants' Inspections of the Rabkrin. Their activities were mostly closed-door. Collectivization management was mostly carried out by officials: communists, representatives of various party bodies and non-party organizations with prerequisite party cells and organizations. Their activity was directed and controlled by the local Control Commissions and Workers' and Peasants' Inspection in interaction with the OGPU, police, prosecutors, courts. They ordered to conduct collectivization and to destroy the kulaks (by means of arrest, confiscation, and deportation), while adhering to the appearance of legality, which engendered resistance and numerous violations of existing legislation. The duality of the party requirements resulted, on the one hand, in a drawn out period of repression. On the other hand, abuse that came to light was punished by means investigations, purges and checks, initiation of cases against the responsible parties, sometimes with their transfer to the prosecutor's office or court. Thus the most "zealous" were publicly punished or even repressed for their mismanagement of the party policy. Many local top men, feeling the duality and danger of their position, left their work and housing to hide away. At the same time, it turns out that the local Control Commissions and Workers' and Peasants' Inspection understood their role in carrying out of the activities entrusted to them and believed that they had a right to facilitate them with most severe support of the state power and without any regard to legislation. Identification, study, and introduction to the scientific use of new documentary evidence of the era allows a deeper understanding of the dramatic essence of the mass repression processes occurring in the country.



Keywords

Historical sources, collectivization in Soviet Russia, Control Commissions of the AUCP (B), party purges, Stalin's policy dekulakization, repression, prosecution, Control Commissions and Workers' and Peasants' Inspections of the AUCP (B).

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Tuesday, 16 August 2022 05:45

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Written by Igor G. Ivantsov
Tuesday, 16 August 2022 05:45

Submitted 4.04.2021, published (for citation):

IVANTSOV, I. G. Uchastie regional'nykh kontrol'nykh komissii VKP(b) i organov raboche-krest'yanskikh inspektsii Narkomata RKI v repressiyakh v nachale 1930-kh gg. Na arkhivnykh materialakh Kubani i Dona [Participation of the Regional Control Commissions of the AUCP (B) and Bodies of Workers' and Peasants' Inspections of the Rabkrin in the Repressions of the Early 1930s: Archival Materials of the Kuban and Don. In Russ.]. IN: Vestnik arhivista / Herald of an Archivist, 2021, no. 3, pp. 904-915. doi 10.28995/2073-0101-2021-3-904-915

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Полностью материал публикуется в российском историко-архивоведческом журнале ВЕСТНИК АРХИВИСТА. Ознакомьтесь с условиями подписки [здесь](#) .