

The numbered factories and other establishments of  
the Soviet defence industry, 1927–67: a guide

Part II. Research and design establishments,  
version 2.0

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## Preface

Since the publication of Part 2 of our project at the end of July 2000 much additional information has become available. As a result the following extra sections have been added:

### Groups

*Gruppy* (Groups), smaller than KBs and OKBs, operated mainly in the early 1930s; often they were redesignated into one of the latter two categories as they grew in size and influence.

### Laboratories

*Laboratorii*, as the term implies, were teams engaged in scientific and technological research, which often developed into NIIs.

### NPOs

*Nauchno–proizvodstvennye ob’edineniya* (scientific and production associations) were the name by which the combination of an NII, TsNII, OKB, SKB or TsKB with a factory or group of factories was known from the mid–1960s.

### NPPs

In the 1980s and 1990s many NPOs were redesignated NPP, *Nauchno–proizvodstvennoe predpriyatie* (scientific and production enterprises).

### Centres

National research and design establishments and very large NPOs or NPPs were often designated *Tsentry* in the 1980s or 1990s.

### Otdely

*Otdely* (Departments) were small semi-independent units operating within a larger one such as a TsKB or factory in industries such as aircraft, tanks, artillery, and the electrical industry. Popular in the 1930s, many later became OKBs. The term was also used after the war for small nuclear and missile development organisations.

### Corporations and complexes

*Korporatsii i Komplektsy* (corporations and complexes) described large businesses formed in the 1990s, many in the aerospace industry.

### Sectors

*Sektory* (Sectors) were small scientific and production organisations usually linked with aerospace armaments (including nuclear weapons); almost all later became NIIs.

The order in which numbered establishments are presented within each section has been changed. In each section each is listed in numerical order regardless of acronym. For example, OPTB–40 now follows OKB–40 instead of OPO–4.

When searching or filtering for a particular establishment please note that there is no uniform

practice with regard to inserting spaces within acronyms. Thus NII avtomatikii i priborostroeniya is abbreviated to both NIIAP and NII AP.

We welcome comments and corrections and suggest that the appropriate form is an e-mail addressed to:

[The.Dexters@virgin.net](mailto:The.Dexters@virgin.net)

Any additional information will be welcome, but must be fully referenced if it is to be incorporated into future editions.

## Additional author

The author of Part 2 version 1 is delighted that Ivan Rodionov PhD has agreed to become a co-author. As well as contributing to Part 1 version 2 he is an independent researcher and writer whose *Chronology* of Russian aviation (in Russian) is a comprehensive annual survey of Russian and Soviet aviation from 1916 to 1946. This work, to be found at:

[www.airforce.ru/history/chronology/](http://www.airforce.ru/history/chronology/)

has currently progressed as far as 1939. An older but complete version of the *Chronology* can be found at:

[www.aeroweb.lucia.it/~agretch/Chronology/](http://www.aeroweb.lucia.it/~agretch/Chronology/)

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The authors alone are responsible for all the errors of fact, interpretation and omission that are sure to be present in a work of this nature.