

Our knitting factory

During the Great Patriotic War in 1941-1945 a light industry played an important role in supplying the front with the outfit.

In 1941 by decision of the State Defense Committee along with other industrial enterprises of the frontline cities, troop trains loaded with equipment and light industry enterprises were sent to our city.

In December 1941 F.E.Dzerzhinsky Ivanteyev knitting factory relocated from Moscow region was assembled with knitting factory №1 relocated from Kharkov and became known as Alma-Ata State knitting factory №2.

75 workers and engineering staff came from Dzerzhinsky factory for organization of production on the new place. Some of them arrived by train and others followed freight trains with the equipment. At arrival to Alma-Ata, specialists immediately began to place and install equipment in the placements provided by the government of the republic.

A building in the bulk plant and enamelware factory area in 4 Abay street (now Tulebayev street) vacated for production buildings of the factory, the part of the workshops was placed in 37 K.Marx street (D.Kunayev street) and 46 Komsomolskaya street (Tole bi street).

During 3 months warping machines and bobbin careers were installed. Twenty-one Raschel machines were immediately put into operation.

The call of the party: “Everything is for front, everything is for Victory” and a desire to help the front inspired knitting factory team to dedicated work. The staff worked all day long, implementing one and half-two rates, realizing that the front is not the place where shell bursts, but also here in the workshop.

Overcoming all difficulties, factory staff strove to implement production plans. It helped to the movement of efficient performers shock workers during the war years: by the end of 1942 year 103 efficient workers and 38 shock workers worked at the factory: 59,7% of the total number of workers. 203, 6 thousands of knitted items were produced for the 9 months of the first year of factory work.

During the entire wartime there was a lack of mechanics, lathe operators, welders and longshoremen. Therefore, FPT School was opened at the factory for training of qualified staff, which prepared 110 specialists in different fields.

Having started production in April 1942, by the 1st of May, Alma-Aty Dzerzhinsky factory sent their first batch of production, military uniforms to the front. It was first labor victory of the staff.

In postwar years 1946-1947 production increased for 47, 3%, the products have become more beautiful. The range of products for children was broadened. In 1947 construction of the new building for factory began at the corner of Seifullin-Mametova streets.

In 1950 the factory has made a transition from three-shift to double-shift mode and changed to seven-hour working day with one day-off in a week.

In 1960-70s a number of major re-organizational events were carried out, during which much attention was paid to the mechanization of labor-intensive processes, the implementation and development of new technologies:

In 1963 Almaty Dzerzhinsky knitting factory was reconstructed into Alma-Ata Dzerzhinsky knitting company through the merger of 4 knitting enterprises: Alma-Ata Dzerzhinsky knitting factory (main plant), Alma-Ata knitting factory №1 (Branch №1), Talgar knitting factory (Branch №2) and Tekeli knitting factory (Branch №3). All enterprises included into company were different both by scale of production and technology equipment. Therefore, the work on specialization and outdated equipment replacement with new one was carried out after the formation of the company.

In 1975 F.E.Dzerzhinsky knitting company was reconstructed into Alma-Ata F.E.Dzerzhinsky Industrial Knitting Association.

In 1944 in the year of the privatization of all movable and immovable property of all factories and plants by the decision of the meeting of the staff, the enterprise has acquired the status of ownership and was renamed into JCS “Akku”, in 1999 it was renamed into OJCS “Akku”.

Recognition of staff labor and the awarding by government awards and medals during the war and peace time is a result of big hard work of departments, sections, teams, advanced workers in ensuring the implementation of the plan and adopted socialist obligations.

The awards and samples of knitted products of the factory given by the worker of Alma-Ata Dzerzhinsky company Zolkina Zinaida Vasilyevna are kept in the funds of Museums of History of Almaty. Thanks to her, the museum staff obtained unique clothing exhibits: woolen cap comforter worn under helmet, underclothing for the soldiers of the Red Army, woolen foot bindings used for the boots and mittens produced by the knitting factory during the wartime.

In Soviet times, Alma-Ata knitting factory was famous all over the republic by the range of products for children and adults.

In 2000 Alma-Ata knitting factory was no longer competitive and unfortunately has ceased to please Almaty residents with their magnificent production.

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