

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1
SUBJECT	1. Military Units and Depots at Pleven 2. Military Airfields at Pleven 3. Ammunition Factory at Kazanluk	DATE DISTR.	25 June 1953	
25X1 DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	NO. OF PAGES	4	
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1
25X1		REFERENCES		

Military Units and Depots at Pleven

1. An unidentified Soviet command is located in a 4-story building in front of the Liberty Monument on the street formerly called Dimitrov Street in Pleven. The building is approximately 12 meters wide facing the street. It is guarded by three Soviet sentries armed with PPSH submachine guns (Shpagin) at the entrance and two sentries at the sides of the building. Pedestrian traffic is forbidden on the sidewalk in front of the building. The commander is an unidentified Soviet general [REDACTED] numerous other Soviet officers both in uniform and in civilian dress. A club and living quarters for Soviet officers is located in the command building.
2. An unidentified infantry regiment occupies barracks on Tolbukhin Street behind the public park in Pleven. (See Appendix, page 4.) Its strength is 1,000-1,200 men.
3. An unidentified artillery unit, strength approximately 200 men, occupies barracks in the eastern outskirts of Pleven on the road to Grivitsa. The military and civilian hospitals are located on this road.
4. Unidentified tank and cavalry units, strength about 500 men, occupy barracks on the slopes of General Zaimov Mountain at Pleven. There also appears to be a tank school here. [REDACTED] the units are equipped with old-type tanks.
5. An ammunition dump is located in Pleven on the street which leads to the old railroad station. The access road is completely barred with a barbed wire entanglement and civilian traffic is forbidden into the area. Surveillance is carried out by Bulgarian soldiers (believed to be infantry) armed with Soviet PPSH submachine guns. The depot occupies an area approximately 1,500 by 1,000 meters in size. It is underground on a gentle hill. Ammunition stored here is for automatic weapons, artillery, and (possibly) airplanes.

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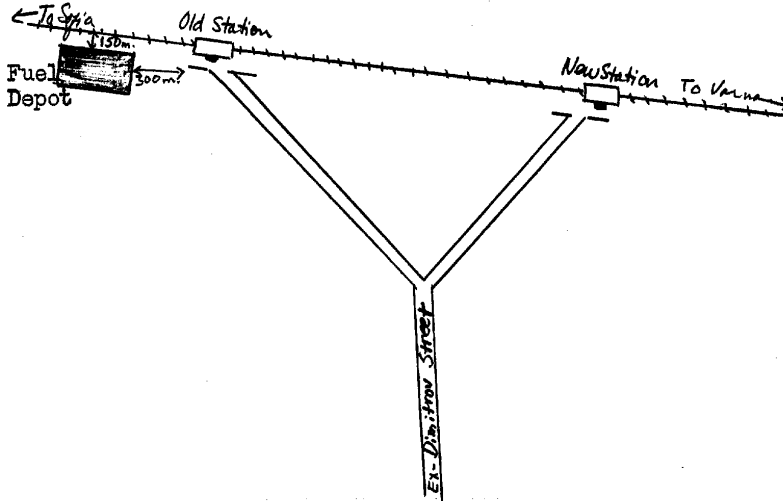
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- 6. A fuel depot is located approximately 300 meters from the old station in Pleven, near the railroad line to Sofia, as follows:

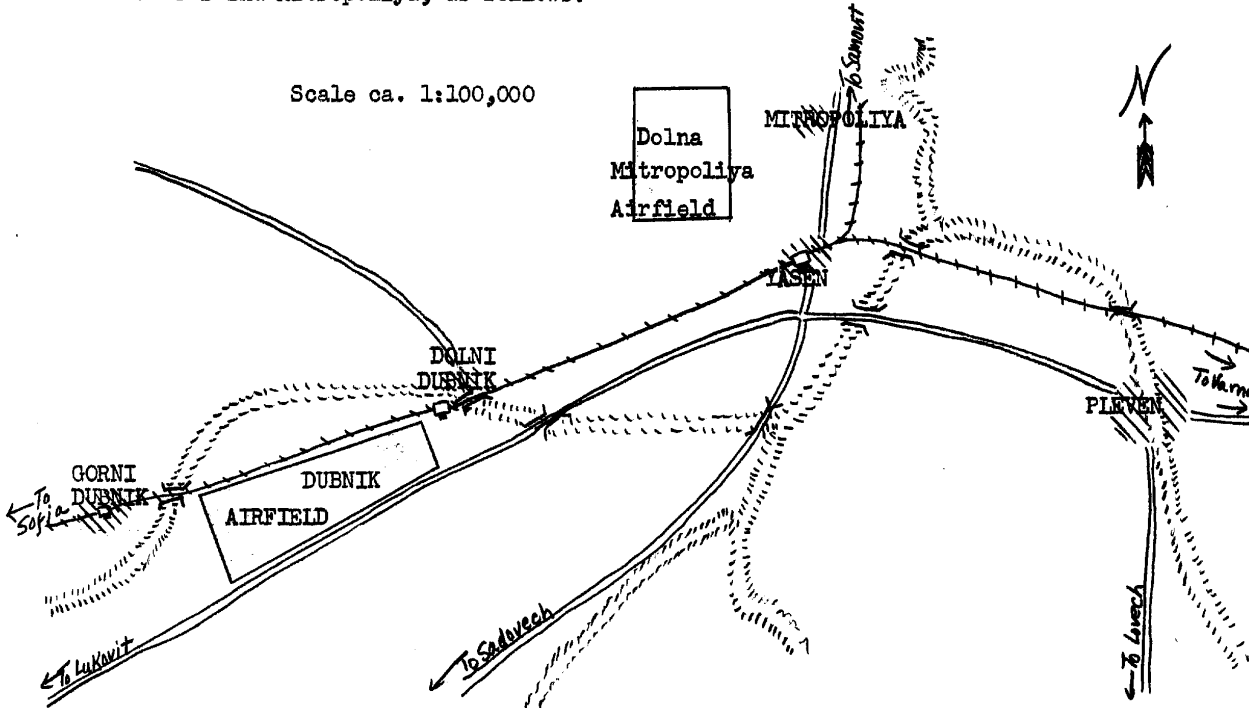


It is enclosed by a 4-strand barbed wire fence and guarded by Bulgarian sentries armed with PPSH submachine guns and standard rifles. The depot consists of numerous underground tanks located in a rather shrubby area approximately 450 by 150 meters in size.

Military Airfields at Pleven

- 7. A military airfield is located approximately 10 kilometers west-northwest of Pleven, near Dolna Mitropoliya, as follows:

Scale ca. 1:100,000



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[redacted]

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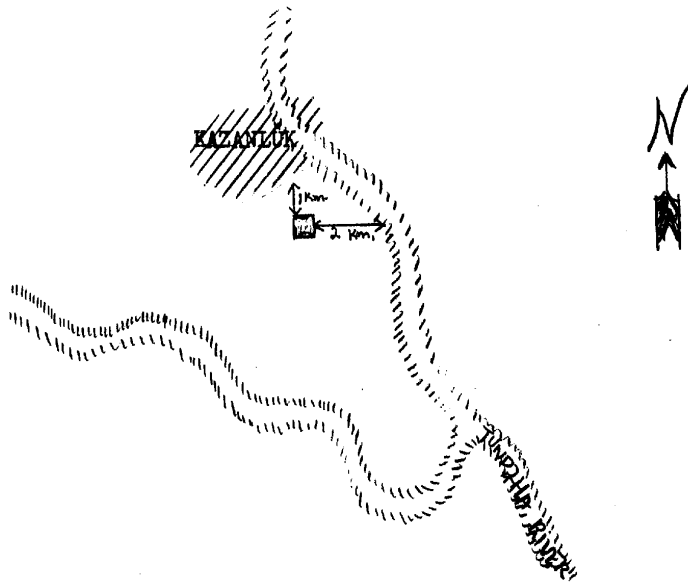
[redacted]
[redacted] one hangar [redacted] have a capacity of approximately 20 fighter planes. [redacted] several touring planes and 15 fighter planes of unknown types. There is a pilot-training school at the airfield which has approximately 400 students and about 20 officers as instructors.

- 8. A military airport is located approximately 14 kilometers west of Pleven near Dubnik. (See sketch on preceding page.) It was constructed in 1942 and was enlarged after the war. The field occupies an area approximately 5,000 by 1,500 meters in size and has a packed earth runway. It is not enclosed by a fence, but signs are posted around the edge of the field indicating that entry into the airport area is forbidden. Surveillance is carried out by Bulgarian Air Force sentries. The field is used as a base for Bulgarian Air Force units, [redacted] Soviet soldiers at the fields several times. [redacted] numerous buildings at the northwest side of the airport, as well as several touring planes and numerous fighter planes of unknown characteristics.

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Ammunition Factory at Kazanluk - October 1952

- 9. An ammunition factory is located approximately one kilometer southeast of Kazanluk, as follows:



- 10. It is an old automobile motor factory which was enlarged and converted to produce shells after World War II. At present it is the largest munitions factory in Bulgaria. It occupies an area approximately 4,000 meters square. The surrounding area is level and quite bushy.
- 11. The factory employs 2,000-3,000 workers and produces airplane bombs and shells of various calibers for automatic portable weapons and artillery.
- 12. [redacted] the factory [redacted] is enclosed by a wall approximately two meters high.

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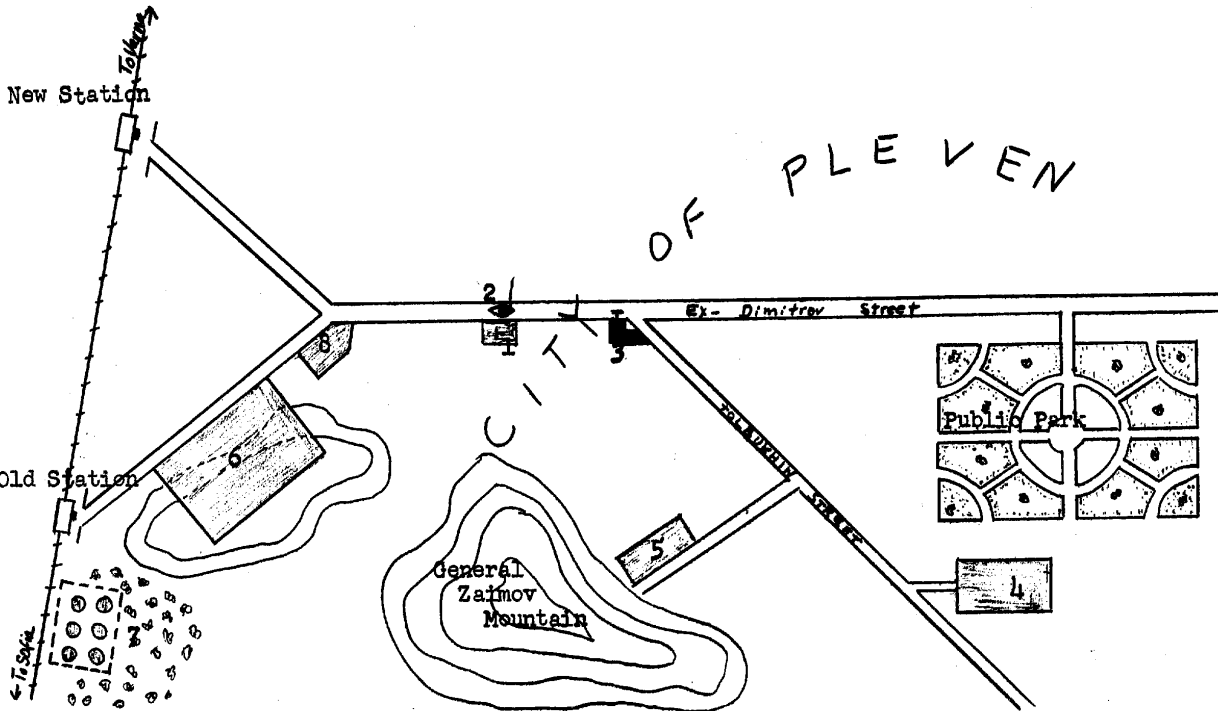
APPENDIX

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The City of Plevn

1. Soviet military command.
2. Liberty Monument.
3. Thermoelectric plant, constructed in 1934-1935; enlarged in 1960, with Czechoslovakian machinery.
4. Barracks of an unidentified infantry regiment.
5. Barracks of unidentified tank and cavalry units.
6. Ammunition depot.
7. Military fuel depot.
8. Georgi Kirkov Agricultural Machinery Factory.



(Not drawn to Scale)

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT NO.

[Redacted]

25X1

SUBJECT 1. Effect on Bulgarian Jews of the Prague Trial and Moscow Arrests
2. Provisions for Illegitimate Children

DATE DISTR.

25 June 1953

NO. OF PAGES

1

25X1

DATE OF INFO.

[Redacted]

REQUIREMENT NO.

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Effect of Prague Trial and Moscow Arrests

- 1. Bulgarian Jews were neither surprised nor frightened by the recent trial in Prague. This trial was considered to be a propaganda act of the Czechoslovakian rulers and was not considered to be the start of a campaign against the Jews. The arrest of the Soviet doctors, on the other hand, panicked the Bulgarian Jews and was interpreted as the beginning of a campaign against the whole race. It was feared that the Jewish emigration to Israel would be stopped and that Jews in countries controlled by the USSR would be arrested en masse on orders from Moscow.

Provisions for Illegitimate Children

- 2. An old law provided that women bearing illegitimate children were awarded a sum of money, while the child was cared for and brought up in a special State institution. A decree issued in late 1952 established that the mother should receive employment instead of money so that she might keep the child if she wished. The mothers may also entrust the child to the State if they wish, losing all parental rights; the State would then provide for the education of the child and train him for a position according to his capabilities. Many of the children housed at these State institutions are adopted by married couples who are childless. Adoption is very common, since couples who adopt a child receive a substantial decrease in taxes. [Redacted] these "states of affairs" have created a low moral attitude and that the Bulgarian authorities are becoming alarmed at the number of illegitimate children. [Redacted] a law is being studied which would oblige the father to support his illegitimate child by paying a high sum of money to the State. This would also encourage the father to marry the mother of his illegitimate child.

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