

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland REPORT NO. []

SUBJECT Naval Coastal Artillery Area at Redlow DATE DISTR. 21 July 1953

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General

1. A naval coastal artillery battalion (Divizjon Artylerji Nadbrzeznej Marynarki Wojennej) was located on the coast in Redlowo. This coastal defense unit was located on cliffs about 15 m. in height, the highest point along the coast in this area. []

Gun Emplacements

2. There were between 17 and 20 Soviet 135 mm. howitzers (Haubica) placed along the coast in this area. These were in open emplacements with camouflage nets placed over them. A squad of five or seven men was placed at each gun. The range of the gun was 20 km., the arc of fire was 360 degrees, and the elevation of fire was 90 degrees. [] the gun was hand loaded because, when it was fired at a high angle of elevation, the gun would always be lowered for reloading. [For relative location of howitzers, see Annex]
- a. In 1949 ground excavations were being carried on around each gun. Apparently the guns were to be enclosed in concrete bunkers.

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Magazines

3. There was a space of about 15 m. between each gun. Ammunition was stored underground to the rear. There were two cave-like entrances to the ammunition magazine, and these magazines were allegedly being enlarged, for there were excavation crews working around these entrances. Ammunition was brought to the guns by means of small rail carts. The width of the rail tracks for these carts was about three feet. A separate pair of rail tracks led to each gun from the entrance.

Beach

4. A sea wall about two meters in height ran along the edge of the beach about 10 m. from the base of the cliff. The area from the sea wall to the water's edge was very rocky with stones weighing as much as 100 lbs. There were four stairways in the sea wall to permit bathers to get to the water. The bottom of the bathing area was composed of smooth sand and small stones. The slope of gradation was about 1:10. North and south of this area, where the beach narrowed, there was a sudden drop in the water from the continental shelf. In the bathing area, the hulls of two sunken ships could be seen protruding out of the water.

Obstacles

5. There were no mine fields laid in the water, submarine nets, or fences along the beach. On the beach located south of the installation area, guards from the Army Border Guard unit (Wojska Ochrony Pogranicza --WOP) were posted. These guards were placed in wooden towers about 10 to 15 m. in height and about 35 to 45 m. apart. There was one guard to each tower, and each tower was equipped with a telephone and a searchlight with a lens of about one foot in diameter. These watch towers were placed along the beach as far south as Sopot. I did not see any radar antennae in the area.

Roads

6. The roads in this area were dirt, with the exception of the Gdynia to Gdansk highway which was asphalt. The road from the asphalt highway to the barracks was about seven meters wide; beyond this, toward the beach it narrowed to about four meters. The seven meter road up hill from the asphalt highway had about a 10% grade. The railroad tracks along the Gdynia-Gdansk highway were double track.

7. [redacted] points: See Annex

- Point No. 1. Sappers
2. Administration
3. Artillery Company and communications platoon
4. Mess hall
5. Arms magazine - rifles, pistols, and radio station
6. NCO School
7. Parade ground
8. Dormitory for Merchant Marine
9. A small village - private homes
10. A communications and observation tower for C.O. during firing exercises
00. Underground magazines

Enclosures:

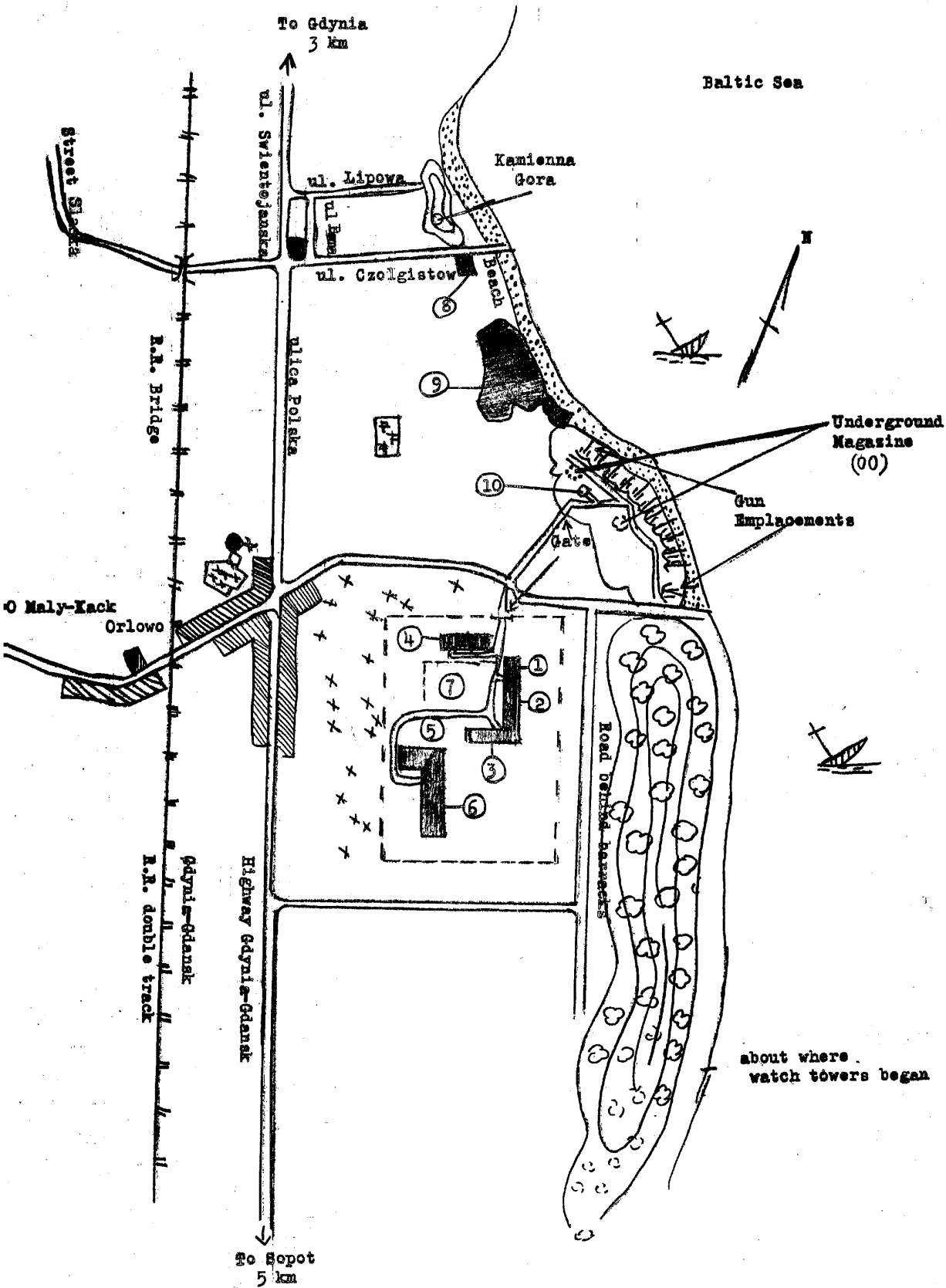
A. Coastal Artillery Area

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ANNEX

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Coastal Artillery Area



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