

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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[Redacted]

COUNTRY USSR (Kalinin Oblast)

REPORT NO. [Redacted] 25X1

SUBJECT Description of Ostashkov Area

DATE DISTR. 9 October 1953

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DATE OF INFO. [Redacted]

REQUIREMENT NO. [Redacted]

PLACE ACQUIRED [Redacted]

REFERENCES [Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Area]

Point 1 Gorodoviya Island

This is a small, coniferously wooded, oval shaped island, about one km wide from north to south and three kms from southwest to northeast, on Lake Seliger about four kms northwest of the town of Ostashkov (Point 13). Branch No. 1 of NII 88 was located on this island. (See Point 20 [Redacted])

Point 2 Airstrip

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A strip of cleared ground about 500 m long and 100 m wide extended from north to south. This strip was being prepared slowly for C-47 and lighter types of aircraft [Redacted] No hard surfacing or leveling had been done and the ground was still quite soft. [Redacted] one aircraft landing attempt was made by a light liaison plane. It, however, did not land because of the roughness of the airstrip.

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Point 3 Warehouse

A barn-like wooden building about 15 x 8 x 5 m was a storage place for various materials such as nails, pipes, sheet metal, and electrical wire. There were four or five male Soviets employed here. In addition to being a warehouse, this building also served as the island's motor pool. The vehicles, about six 2 1/2 or

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3-ton trucks and two very old, quarter-ton pick-up trucks. These vehicles were serviced and maintained by about 30 Soviets, of whom 25 were women. This building was surrounded by a barbed wire fence, 2½ m high, and was guarded at night by a German shepherd dog.

Point 4 Dock

A T-shaped wooden dock extended about 40 m into the lake and was about six m wide. It could accommodate three or four small barges or yachts. This dock was used primarily for freight, while personnel used the special passenger dock (Point 10). When it was stormy on the lake, the freight dock was closed and all freight was unloaded at the passenger dock.

Point 5 Storage Area

The island's saw mill, petroleum and gas dump, and coal storage facilities occupied an area 80 x 30 m, which was serviced by about 15 civilian Soviets, of whom at least 50% were women. The entire area was surrounded by a board fence 2½ m high and was guarded by a civilian plant policeman armed with a carbine and a pistol.

Point 6 Inland Lake

A small, 250 x 300 m, swampy lake, infested with poisonous snakes of the viper species, was often used by the German employees for boating.

Point 7 Barbed Wire Fence

A 2½ m-high barbed wire fence encircled the entire island of Gorodomlya. It was patrolled 24 hours a day by uniformed plant policemen armed with carbines. Two of them would march along the fence in opposite directions. Swimming in the lake was prohibited, but many of the German employees cut the wire in order to get through to the small beach. This procedure was very simple; the guards sometimes merely turned their heads for a slight "consideration".

Point 8 Inland Lake

A 700 x 100 m lake, about 2½ m deep and extending from the southwest to the northeast, was very weedy and marshy. A breeding place for cranes, Anopheles mosquitoes, and vipers, it was used by both German and Soviet personnel for boating.

Point 9 Village

A small island village called Pervomayka was inhabited by about 400 Soviet island workers. There were about 15 small, wooden buildings and one small church in this settlement.

Point 10 Dock

A T-shaped wooden dock about 7 m wide extended about 75 m into the lake. The top of the "T" was about 30 m long. This dock was used primarily for passenger traffic on and off the island. There was a small wooden house behind the dock which served as the pass control office. All personnel entering and leaving the island had to pass through this building. There was an armed, uniformed plant policeman standing at the entrance and a Soviet female clerk inside who checked the passes. This dock was large enough to accommodate a standard river steamer. In the winter time, when the lake was frozen, the pass office was moved to another building of the same size (Point 11). All personnel had to use this exit in the winter time.

Point 11 Winter Exit and Entrance

A large wooden gate, about 3 m high and 5 m wide, guarded the entrance to the island in the winter time. The pass office was also located here in the winter months and

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were two two-story wooden buildings, the northernmost of which was the home of the plant director. Generally speaking, the living conditions were extremely crowded and cramped.

Point 20 Plant

Branch No. 1 of NII 88 was located here.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Point 21 Plant Police Building

A one-story wooden building, about 20 x 8 m, with a gable roof, housed the entire detachment of the uniformed plant police. The policemen with families were allowed to live anywhere they wished, but the bachelors were required to make this building their home. There were a total of approximately 30 plant policemen in the force.

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controlled all vehicular and passenger traffic to and from the island. The ice on the lake was thick enough to allow large trucks to traverse the lake to and from the town of Ostashkov (Point 13).

Point 12 Island

The island, roughly 1 km by 3/4 km, was covered with conifers and was uninhabited. There was a small wooden house on the island which was used by plant personnel for overnight stays in the summertime.

Point 13 Town

Ostashkov, with a population of about 30,000, appears larger than it is because the houses, of stone and masonry, are widely scattered. The main occupation was leather manufacturing. Most of the Soviet personnel employed at the Gorodomlya plant lived in this town and commuted by boat to and from their place of work.

Point 14 Warehouse Area

A one-story stone building, about 20 x 10 m, with a shingled gable roof, served as a canteen and recreation building for the vehicle drivers from the Gorodomlya plant. This building was encircled by a board fence, 2½ m high, and had "Shaykina 15" painted on the facade. There was another one-story wooden building with a shingled gable roof in this area. It was about 20 x 10 m and was actually the main building in the warehouse area, being used for the storage of all materials needed by the plant on Gorodomlya Island. [redacted] people [redacted] employed there [redacted] about 60 Soviets. There was also a T-shaped dock on the lakeside of this area which could accommodate a small steamer. It extended about 30 m into the water, with the top of the "T" being about 10 m long. There was no evidence of any guard system or other security measures in this area.

Point 15 Port Ostashkov

A small port, which had only one small dock and a wooden administration building, serviced the city of Ostashkov and could accommodate steamers up to 150 tons. There was much traffic during the summer months and there was always at least one steamer anchored at the dock. There were approximately 30 Soviet stevedores and dock hands employed at the port.

Point 16 Town Square

"Lenin Square", 200 x 300 m, contained a large white stone statue of Lenin which faced northeast. At the northern end of this square stood a group of food and clothing warehouses. The number and type of construction are unknown.

Point 17 Leather Factory

The Ostashkov leather factory, in which about 750 persons were employed, was about 400 x 300 m. Most of the buildings were 2- to 3-story houses built of whitewashed stone.

Point 18 MVD Headquarters

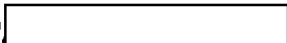
A two-story bright-red brick building, about 20 x 18 m, housed the entire MVD detachment for the town of Ostashkov. The building was located about 80 m north-northwest of the town square (Point 16).

Point 19 Housing Project

A group of 22 buildings constituted the living quarters of both the Soviet and German employees at the Gorodomlya Island plant. Most of the houses were two-story wooden gable-roofed buildings about 25 x 8 m and housed approximately 40 persons. There were two U-shaped buildings in the area which served as the recreation building and as the school for both Soviet and German children. At the southern end of this project

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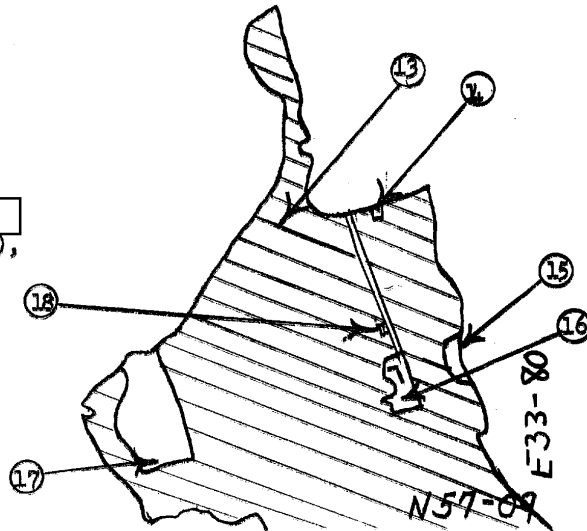
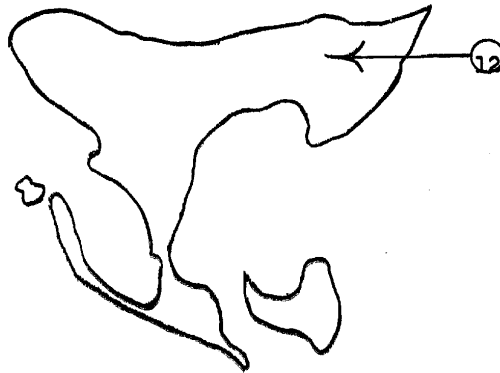
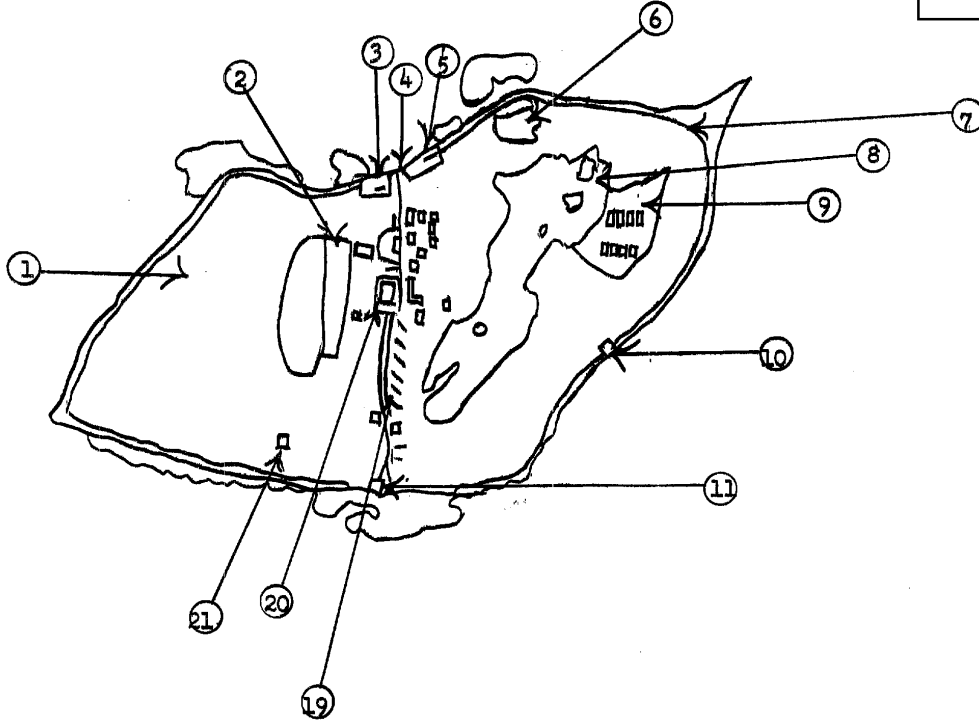
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