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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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The von Ardenne Group

- In 1945, a collection point for German scientists was located in Khodnya (sic), immediately northwest of Moscow, in a sanatorium under the leadership of Manfred von Ardenne. When about 50 persons had assembled there, the group was sent to Sukhumi, where they were housed in the Sinop Sanatorium.
- The Sinop Sanatorium had formerly been the palace of a grand prince and was located just outside the town of Sukhumi. In September 1946, the sanatorium was cleared of patients and turned into an institute for the Germans. At that time, the installation of a transformer station was begun, a van de Graaff apparatus was built in a special building, and the construction of a 50X1-HUM cyclotron was planned. Dr. Mueller, formerly with Lorenz in Germany, was to take over the high frequency work on the cyclotron. [REDACTED] Ing. Fritz Bernhard was in charge of the cyclotron project. 50X1-HUM
- The institute was divided into four departments:
  - The Physical Department under Dr. Max Steenbeck.  
This department was to have worked on separating isotopes; but Steenbeck felt that, because of the deficient equipment, his group could deal only with methods requiring a minimum of experimental work. Steenbeck decided to start with the Clausius method.
  - The Physico-Chemical Department under Prof. Peter A. Thiessen.  
The Physico-Chemical Department was better equipped than Steenbeck's department because Thiessen had brought all available apparatus from Dahlem in Germany. [REDACTED] gathered from Thiessen's remarks in Moscow, in 1951, [REDACTED] Thiessen had not been successful in Sukhumi. Thiessen himself blamed the lack of literature for the shortcomings. [REDACTED] Thiessen, as well as Steenbeck, was working on isotope separation. 50X1-HUM

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- c. The Physical-Technical Department under Dr. Manfred von Ardenne.  
In this department, Ardenne began with 50 persons and quickly raised the figure to 200 persons. These figures include, however, the dependents of the workers. Ardenne's department concentrated on technical-handicraft aspects, unlike Prof. Gustav Hertz's group which concentrated on scientific work. Dr. Herbert Reibedanz and Bernhard (fnu) were connected with Ardenne's department.
- d. The Biological Department under Dr. Wilhelm Menke.  
The Biological Department consisted, in practice, of one man, Dr. Menke, who seemed to have been sent to Sukhumi by mistake. Menke devoted himself to feeding isotopes to mice. These experiments, however, were soon discontinued.

The Professor Gustav Hertz Institute

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- 4. [redacted] Prof. Hertz also was working on the separation of isotopes. [redacted] the Hertz diffusion method of ion-isotope separation, which Hertz worked out earlier for the separation of refined gases (Edelgasen), provided the Soviets with the best prospects. The fact that the Soviets were unusually interested in the regulation technique (Regeltechnik) indicated that they planned an important experiment with this method. A Soviet professor had come to the Hertz Institute from Leningrad to discuss the regulation technique (Regeltechnische) questions.

Collection Station for Germans in Ozery

- 5. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
Ozery is approximately 30 km west of Moscow, between the railroad stops of Odintsovo and Vnukovo. There was a recuperation and boarding installation there for Germans [redacted] however, all deportees from any institute who went to Moscow were housed here, and the installation developed into a clearing house for information among the Germans. 50X1-HUM
- 6. [redacted] Avraam Pavlovich Zavenyagin, a colleague of L. P. Beriia, was the builder of Magnitogorsk and Chief of the Ninth Department of the MVD, which was responsible for the deportation of German scientists. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] In contrast to all the other Soviets, he mixed in a friendly way with the Germans, and they could talk freely with him. He saw to it that the wishes of the Germans were fulfilled, whenever this was possible. 50X1-HUM
- 7. [redacted] following persons at Ozery: 50X1-HUM
  - a. Prof. Dr. Max Vollmer, who worked in or near Moscow on heavy water.
  - b. Dr. Gustav Richter and his wife.
  - c. Dr. Viktor Bayerl.

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- d. Prof. Dr. Robert Doepel, who worked as a nuclear physicist in an institute in or near Moscow and made constant difficulties for the Soviets.
- e. Dr. Otto Baier.
- f. Frau Gerda Catsch, whose husband worked with Timofeef-Ressovsky.
- g. Prof. Heinrich Pose, who worked on nuclear physics in his own institute about 50 km from Moscow.
- h. Prof. Gustav Hertz.
8. In addition to those at Ozery, [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
- a. Becker (fnu), who was a glass blower for von Ardenne.
- b. Dr. Ludwig Bewilogua, expert on fluid gas, who was the assistant and successor to von Deybe at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Dahlem. Later, he was with the Hertz Institute and then, for a long time, he was in Moscow with Vollmer. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] seemed to be of great value to the Soviets. [redacted]
- c. Dr. Busse (fnu), former director of Philips in the Sudetenland, worked on organizational matters for Hertz.
- d. Dr. Oberreg. Rat Dames (fnu) was with Ardenne and worked occasionally with Steenbeck. He was not important and served mainly as a teacher for the children.
- e. Dr. Werner Hartmann was with Prof. Hertz in Sukhumi.

Research Institute at Tyubuk

9. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] a nuclear research center near Tyubuk [redacted]  
[redacted] was situated a day's auto journey behind (sic) Chelyabinsk. Dr. Otto Baier, who spent about six months prior to April 1947 at the center, located the installation southwest of Tyubuk on a tongue of land which juts out into a small lake, exactly on the 56th parallel. (See attached map on page 5.)
10. Dr. Baier had originally volunteered to work for the Soviets at the end of World War II and had arranged with a special Soviet officer to assemble experts to build a nuclear research institute in the USSR. When this plan failed to materialize, Baier went alone to Sukhumi to work with von Ardenne, remaining there six months before his family joined him. He then went to Tyubuk, where he was to develop the nuclear physical institute there. At Tyubuk, there were four or five other physicists who were PWs and other German deportees. Dr. Baier refused to work and was sent to Ozery. [redacted] the 50X1-HUM  
installation was still being built when he left. From Ozery, Baier

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was sent to Fryazino, and from there to Gorkiy.

Elektrostal Zavod No. 12, at Elektrostal, near Moscow

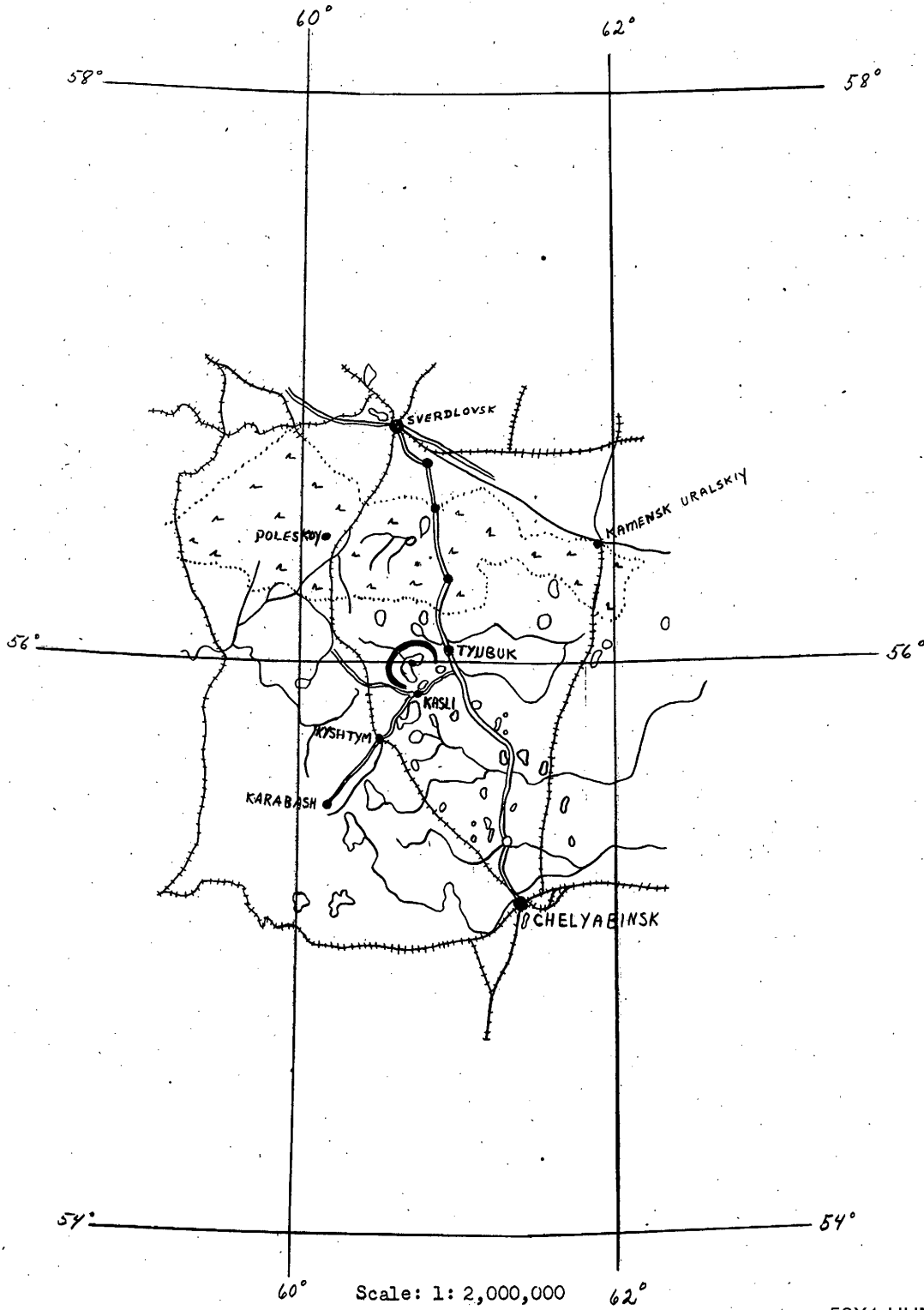
11. [redacted] before Christmas 1946, Germans formerly with 50X1-HUM the Auergesellschaft AG had been in Ozery. Most of this group, which was headed by Dr. Nikolaus Riehl, worked in the Elektrostal Zavod near Moscow on uranium.

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