

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

SUBJECT Urban Area Study of Sofia

DATE DISTR. 13 September 1957

NO. PAGES 8

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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Urban Area Study of Sofia

General Information

1. Enclosure 1 is a corrected overlay of a non-standard city plan of Sofia, approximate scale 1:6,000. Sofia has seen considerable reconstruction throughout its business, or center, section in the past 10 years. Numbers in parentheses below refer to numbers on the enclosure.
 - (1) Vladajska River - 15 meters wide, with stone walled banks, it surrounded the northern business section of the city.
 - (2) Lovov Square and Lovov Bridge - the bridge was 12 meters wide.
 - (3) Georgiy Dimitroff Boulevard - one of the main streets in the city.
 - (4) State Security Service (Darzhavna sigornosti) - located in two five-story buildings on Lovovo Square.
 - (5) Police Headquarters for the District of Sofia (okruzhuo upravlenie na narodna milizia) - a five-story building.
 - (6) Gastronom #1 - a large two-story hall with a glass roof; it was a shopping center for food items only.
 - (7) Old Mosque.
 - (8) Central Bath House - located in a park.
 - (9) Trade Union House for the District of Sofia - an old four-story building.
 - (10) Government Purchasing Office - a four-story building; all government enterprises purchased here those items not sold on the free market.
 - (11) Grass Covered Areas - to be occupied by new streets or buildings.
 - (12) Najoho Zanooff Street - formerly Nishka Street; it was to be widened and made the second main street of the city.
 - (13) Soviet-Bulgarian Construction Company (Sovbolstroy) a five-story building.
 - (14) Ministry of Health - a five-story building.
 - (15) Government Planning Commission - this building also housed the much feared Government Control Commission which checked all government activities.

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- (16) Stamboliyskiy Boulevard.
- (17) Lenin Square.
- (18) Church Svata Nedele.
- (19) Trade Union House - housing the main offices of all trade unions in Bulgarian. It was a five-story, modern building.
- (20) Court House - an old six-story building. Under this house and its large yard were an air raid shelter, an electric power plant and a hospital with hermetically closed doors and windows.
- (21) Stalin Boulevard - 15 meters wide.
- (22) Government Council for the District of Sofia - a new five-story building.
- (23) Commerce House (Targovskiy Dom) - with offices for the Lawyers' Collective Association.
- (24) Publication Office for the Synod of the Orthodox Church.
- (25) Chamber of Commerce - a new five-story building.
- (26) Ministry of Electrification - in this block was also located the new luxury hotel for foreigners. The entire block was the scene of extensive construction activity in summer 1956.
- (27) Promenade Area (Corso) - the new center of Sofia.
- (28) Ministry of Heavy Industry - in this new six-story building was also located the Main Department Store (Universal Magazin). Construction was incomplete in summer 1956.
- (29) Dondukov Boulevard - 15 meters wide.
- (30) Administration Office for Prisons and Labor Camps - subordinate to the Ministry of the Interior. TVO labor camps (Trudovo Vozpitatelno Obshteszhitiye) were actually forced labor camps.
- (31) Central Committee of the CP and Council of Ministers - a four-story, modern building with a circular yard. This building had four underground stories reached by elevators. A machine gun tower was on the roof.
- (32) Police Headquarters for the City of Sofia - its address was 5 Moskovska. Central registration files were kept in this office.
- (33) Balkan Theater.
- (34) New Opera House - in the same block was also located the Headquarters of the Farmer's Party and the office of the Minister for Agriculture; the entire block was known as "Farmer's House" (Zemedelsky Dom).

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- (35) Former Central Committee of the CP - now Party offices.
- (36) Headquarters of the Traffic Police.
- (37) University Grounds - a technical college, musical academy, medical school, etc.
- (38) Garage - for the vehicles of the Council of Ministers. - It was a two-story building with a large yard.
- (39) Operetta House - offices of the Bulgarian Red Cross were located here.
- (40) Casernes of the Guard Regiment - an old building.
- (41) Alexander Nevskiy Church.
- (42) Synod of the Orthodox Church.
- (43) St. Sofia Church.
- (44) Parliament Building - an old building which also housed the offices of the Chief of the Presidium of the People's Council.
- (45) Academy of Science.
- (46) Austrian Legation.
- (47) Italian Embassy.
- (48) Cartographic Institute and Officers' Club.
- (49) Russian Embassy.
- (50) Committee for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries - a Russian Church was also located here.
- (51) Ministry of Finances - located in the National Bank building, a five-story building with several rooms used as an archeological museum.
- (52) Square of the Ninth September.
- (53) Tomb of Georgiy Dimitroff-a national shrine.
- (54) Museum - formerly Czar's Castle.
- (55) Molotov Street.
- (56) Ministry for External Trade.
- (57) Administration for Water Transport - an old four-story building.
- (58) CP offices for the city of Sofia.

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- (59) Central Committee of the Bulgarian Youth Organization.
- (60) City Hall and Municipal Council.
- (61) Art Gallery.
- (62) People's Theater.
- (63) Ministry of Defense - a new five-story building constructed on a special concrete foundation because of unfirm soil.
- (64) "Bulgaria Hotel" - a modern building. In the northern corner of this block was located the Council of Ministers before it moved to Point (31).
- (65) Ministry of Foreign Affairs - also sections of the Ministry of Finances.
- (66) Ministry of Culture.
- (67) Ministry of Transportation - the Railroad Administration Section was located here.
- (68) Roskiy Boulevard.
- (69) Rumanian Embassy.
- (70) Former US Embassy - New Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
- (71) Chinese Embassy.
- (72) Residence of Ministers - a new six-story apartment house.
- (73) Czechoslovak Legation - an old three-story building.
- (74) House of Physical Culture - uncompleted in summer 1956, large gym halls and a swimming pool were installed there; it was a seven-story building.
- (75) Old Ministry of Electrification - since moved to Point (26).
- (76) Ministry of the Interior - a new building with an air raid shelter; it was rumored that emergency exits for this Ministry were located in the block, Point (83).
- (77) Post Ministry and Main Post Office - a modern four-story building.
- (78) Telephone Switchboard - with sections of the Post Ministry. The telecommunication system in Sofia was decentralized; there was no main frame office located in this building.
- (79) Ministry of Interior Trade - a new five-story building.
- (80) Ministry for Light Industry and Food - a five-story building.

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- (81) Ministry for People's Education - a new five-story building with nets of antennas covering the roof.
- (82) Ministry for Building and Road Construction - an old five-story building.
- (83) New Thermo Electric Power Plant - with a 50-meter-high chimney. Exits from the air raid shelter of the Ministry of the Interior were located in this block.
- (84) Korean Legation - a new five-story building which also housed the Main Administration for Labor Recruiting.
- (85) Russian Trade Mission - a two-story building surrounded by a large yard.
- (86) Residence of the present Prime Minister - this house was his personal property.
- (87) Bilets for the Special Guards - formerly a school building. These guards were assigned to ministers, foreign diplomats, and official visitors.
- (88) Institute for Industrial Improvement - under the Council of Ministers. The Patent Office and the Office for Work Improvement were also located here.
- (89) British Embassy - located in a large park.
- (90) Hungarian Legation - a new three-story building.
- (91) Polish Legation - the most modern building in Sofia. Located in a park, it had a flat roof and large glass balconies.
- (92) Israel Legation - a three-story building.
- (93) Apartment House for Bulgarian Ministers - a six-story corner building.
- (94) House of the Minister of Electrification.
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- (96) Military Headquarters for city of Sofia - the entire block was surrounded by a huge wall.
- (97) Military Area - surrounded by a two-meter-high wall. Air and ground force units were stationed here, as was the paramilitary school for railroad and postal workers.
- (98) Perlovska River - 15 meters wide, with stone walled banks.
- (99) Radio Sofia House - a new five-story building.
- (100) Area of the Technical College.

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- (101) Agricultural University and Research Institute.
- (102) Transformer and Distributor Station - for the southern district of Sofia, it was called "Rila Station".
- (103) Vasil Levsky Stadium - completed in 1956. A new broad avenue was built from the House of Physical Culture, Point (74), to the stadium. The new bridge across Perlovska River was uncompleted in summer 1956. There were two grand stands on both sides, each side of the stadium housing check rooms, restaurants, first aid stations, etc.
- (104) New Small Stadium - to be used for basket ball, volley ball and boxing.
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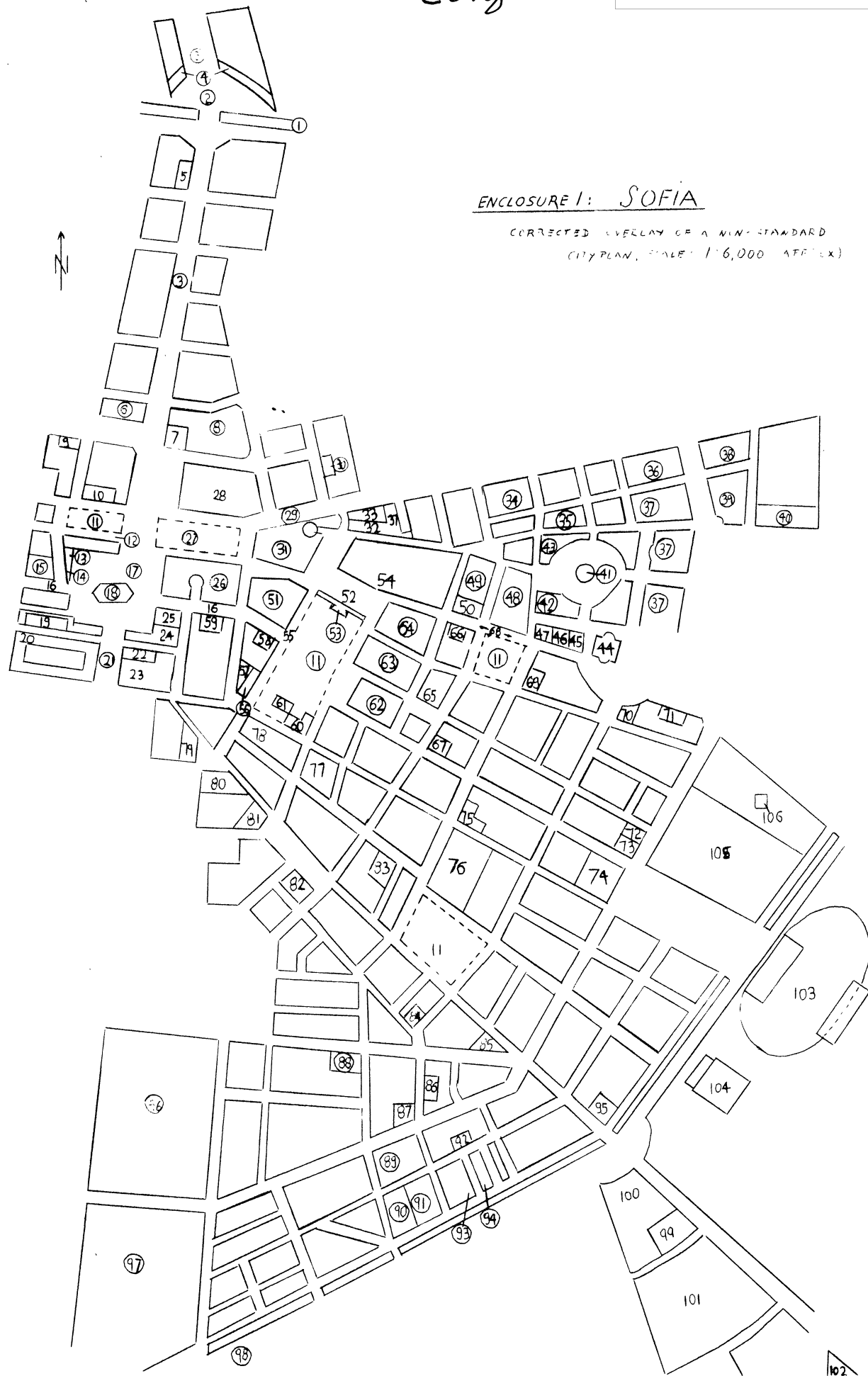
Enclosure 1: A corrected overlay of a non-standard city plan of Sofia.

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ENCLOSURE 1: SOFIA

CORRECTED OVERLAY OF A NON-STANDARD
CITY PLAN, SCALE: 1:6,000 (AFFIX)



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MAP SUPPLEMENT

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