

**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

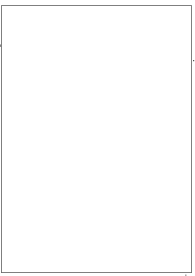
~~C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L~~

COUNTRY	<u>Bulgaria</u>	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Radio Transmitting Telegraphic Center in Gara Kostinbrod, Bulgaria	DATE DISTR.	15 August 1963
		NO. PAGES	17
		REFERENCES	
DATE OF INFO.			50X1-HUM
PLACE & DATE ACQ.			50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.



50X1-HUM



~~C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L~~

50X1-HUM

GROUP 1  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DOWNGRADING AND  
DECLASSIFICATION

5  
4  
3  
2  
1

STATE	#	X	ARMY	#	X	NAVY	#	X	AIR	#	X	NSA	#	X		DIA	#	X	AID	50X1-HUM
																			USIA	x

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

50X1-HUM



REPORT

COUNTRY : Bulgaria DATE DISTR. 7 August 1961  
SUBJECT : Radio Transmitting Telegraphic NO. OF PAGES 16  
Center in Gara Kostinbrod, Bulgaria  
DATE OF INFORMATION : [REDACTED] REFERENCES: 50X1-HUM  
PLACE ACQUIRED : [REDACTED]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 2 -

50X1-HUM

**1. Location.**

The Radio Transmitting Telegraphic Center (Radio Predavatelyn Telegrafen Tsentur) was about 20 kilometers northwest of Sofia, near the railroad station in Gara Kostinbrod. The radio transmitting center covered a flat area, about 900 x 400 meters in size, and was immediately north of the Belitsa River and southwest of the Sofia-Belgrade Railroad.

**2. Description.**

50X1-HUM

See Attachments A, B, and C for [ ] sketches of the installation and two floors of the station's main operational (studio) building.

**3. Jurisdiction.**

The radio station was under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, and it was not an independent unit. Its functions were controlled and directed by the Control Center,<sup>1</sup> which was in a 3- to 4- story building at 101 Boulevard Georgi Dimitrov, Sofia.

**4. Functions.**

The Radio Transmitting Telegraphic Center, Gara Kostinbrod, was one of the principal international radio-telegraph transmitting and jamming stations in Bulgaria. In June 1962 the station participated in the following activities:

- a. Short-wave telegraphic broadcasts sponsored by Bulgarian officials as follows:
  - (1) Bulgarian News Agency (BTA).
  - (2) Meteorological service programs.
  - (3) Official announcements of Bulgarian government.
  - (4) Telegraphic communications, mainly to Eastern Bloc countries.
  - (5) Teletype communications between Sofia and Moscow.
- b. Short-wave propaganda programs broadcast in Bulgarian, English, French, German, Spanish, and Arabic to Western Europe, Africa, Middle East, North and South America, and Cuba since early 1962.
- c. Short-wave Soviet propaganda broadcasts, were retransmitted in English, German, French, Arabic and Armenian. The broadcasts originated in Moscow and were transmitted to Bulgaria on a daily basis.
- d. Jamming of Western VOA, RFE, BBC, Rome, and Vatican radio broadcasts.
- e. Jamming of Western radio broadcasts beamed against the Soviet Union.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

5. Administrative Setup of the Installation.

The radio station had the following sections:

- a. Operational Section (Operativna Sektsiya) was technically responsible for the broadcasts and jamming functions of the radio station. It occupied the two floors and basement of the main studio building.
- b. Maintenance Section (Remontna Sektsiya) serviced all broadcasting equipment and instruments, construction or modification work and tested equipment. The section occupied part of the one-story maintenance building. Its laboratory was on the ground floor of the studio building.
- c. Antenna Section (Antenna Sektsiya) was responsible for maintenance on various types of antennas at the installation and building of new ones. The work shop of the section occupied a part of the maintenance building.
- d. Administrative Section (Administrativna Sektsiya) handled the administrative business of the installation. Its offices occupied the entire one-story administrative office building.

6. Personnel.

50X1-HUM

In June 1962 the radio station had about 100 employees, all of whom were Bulgarian nationals and citizens.

a. Executive Personnel:

50X1-HUM

- (1) Yordan Grigorov Popov, director,

[Redacted]

- (2) Ivan Gavrailov, deputy-director and chief engineer

50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

b. Operational Section:

50X1-HUM

Dimitur Kraivanov, senior engineer and chief of the section

[Redacted]

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

50X1-HUM

- 4 -

50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

The Operational Section had four brigades or shifts, also called exploitation brigades (Eksplotatsionni Brigadi). Each brigade identified alphabetically as brigade a,b,c, or d, had about 11 employees that included one engineer, four to five senior technicians, one dispatcher, and the remainder sound operators (zvukooperatori). Because of a shortage of trained personnel, transfers, and various other circumstances, the strength of the brigades usually numbered eight to ten employees.

[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

(1) Personnel of brigade a:

50X1-HUM

Diko Paounov, engineer [Redacted]

Khristo Nikitov, senior technician [Redacted]

Slaveyko Mladenov, senior technician [Redacted]

Lina Nikolova, senior technician and dispatcher 50X1-HUM

Tudor Vushev, senior technician and jamming operator,

Stefan Stoev, senior technician [Redacted]

Lilyana Yankova, sound and jamming operator [Redacted]

Elena Spasova, sound operator [Redacted]

Tsvetanka Puncheva, sound operator [Redacted]

Maria Raychinova, sound operator [Redacted]

[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

(2) Personnel of brigade b:

50X1-HUM

- Svilen Peyev, brigade engineer
- Khristo Shaliev, senior technician
- Nikola Donchev, senior technician
- Zlatka Kolarova
- Rumen Borisov, senior technician and jamming operator, 50X1-HUM
- Ivan Boyanov, employment functions unknown, 50X1-HUM
- Khristo Vetovski, employment functions unknown
- Mikhalcho Manolchev, employment functions unknown, 50X1-HUM
- Angelina Manolcheva, sound operator, wife of Mikhalcho Manolchev mentioned above, 50X1-HUM
- Nataliya Pencheva, sound operator and jamming operator, wife of
- Pencho Penchev, brigade engineer of brigade c. 50X1-HUM

(3) Personnel of brigade c:

- Pencho Penchev, brigade engineer, 50X1-HUM
- Georgi Eftimov, senior technician
- Todor (Inu), nickname Fedya, senior technician
- Eksena Milusheva, senior technician and mainly jamming operator, 50X1-HUM
- Tsanka Kolova, senior technician and jamming operator, 50X1-HUM
- Yordanka Karaivanova, sound operator, wife of the chief of the operations section, Dimitur Karaivanov.
- Slavka Eftimova, employment functions unknown, wife of Georgi Eftimov mentioned above.
- Stanka Nikolova, employment functions unknown.
- Tsvetanka Nikitova, sound operator, wife of Khristo Niuifov, senior technician of brigade a.
- Verka Nenova, employment functions unknown.

(4) Personnel of brigade d:

50X1-HUM  
50X1-HUM

- Milush Petrov Milushev, brigade-engineer and technical supervisor of the station's jamming operations
- Kiril Georgiev Ivanov, senior technician
- Iohan Laushman, senior technician

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

50X1-HUM

- 6 -

50X1-HUM

Tudor Dimitrov, senior technician, political convictions unknown. 50X1-HUM

Snezhana Laushman, jamming operator

wife of Iohan Laushman, mentioned above.

Stoyan (lnu), employment functions unknown. 50X1-HUM

Slavka (lnu), sound operator

Aleksander Vlasev, employment functions unknown. 50X1-HUM

Nadka (lnu), sound operator

Stoyan (lnu), newly employed technician

Veneta Stanoeva, senior technician and jamming operator

Her husband, Tsenko Stanoev, was formerly employed at the radio station

50X1-HUM

c. Maintenance Section:

The Maintenance Section had three sub-sections: laboratory brigade, maintenance brigade, and brigade of high-voltage technicians. Chief of the maintenance section was Ivan Kolarov. 50X1-HUM

The radio station did not allow the employees to hold other jobs but Kolarov repaired radio and television sets in his free time. His wife, Zlatka Kolarova, nee Manasieva,

50X1-HUM

- (1) The laboratory brigade conducted experiments and tested technical equipment and instruments. The brigade had two engineers and two specialized technicians, names unknown. Despotov (fnu), 50X1-HUM

was head of the section.

Despotov was also in charge of the maintenance brigade.

- (2) The maintenance brigade was primarily responsible for good working order of radio transmitting equipment and for modifications in radio transmitting instruments. The brigade had a radio engineer and six to eight specialized technicians.

50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 7 -

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

Venkov (fnu), who was a graduate radio engineer and had also completed an electronics course, was a very capable engineer.

He requested a transfer to the Scientific Research Institute in Sofia, but was retained in his present job. Petur Minkov, senior technician, Dimitur Tsekov, senior technician, Grigor Borisov, technician,

(3) The high-voltage technicians brigade was responsible for the electrical power supply and equipment of the entire installation. The brigade had five or six senior and junior technicians

Vasil Miladinov, senior technician, supervisor of the brigade

Dimitur Lazarov, senior technician

Dimitrinka Pancheva, junior technician

Elena Dundarova, junior technician

d. Antenna Section:

The antenna section had 12 employees, including specialized technicians, electricians, and carpenters. The section was headed by Vasilev (fnu), electrical or radio engineer

e. Administrative Section:

The section had about 15 employees, including a personnel officer, secretaries, finance and supply officers, drivers, cleaning personnel, and firemen

Slave Gerov, supply officer

Efrosina Bokeva, cleaning woman

Boyanchko Kostsv, fireman

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L



C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 8 -

## 7. Security System of the Installation.

The entire compound area was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, about 2 meters high, and supported by concrete posts. The guarding of the installation was performed by a small militia detachment of eight militia soldiers and a sergeant-in-charge. The militia detachment was under the jurisdiction of the Chief of Militia of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, and was visited and inspected by him only periodically. The majority of the guards were married and resided with their families in the radio station's residential block. The guards had five to six police dogs. 50X1-HUM

With the exception of the immediate area around the main operational buildings, the compound was not too well lighted at night. 50X1-HUM

All employees at the radio station had passes, which were shown upon entering and leaving the compound at the main and secondary gates. However, checks were made on an irregular basis. Lack of security was particularly evident when employees who resided in Sofia or other surrounding areas were transported by special buses provided by the installation. the guards never boarded the buses to check the passes and simply waved the bus driver on. 50X1-HUM  
50X1-HUM

## 8. Transmitters.

In June 1962 the radio station had 14 radio transmitters; the majority commercial surplus equipment from World War II. Nine of the transmitters were of Soviet manufacture, two Italian, one American, and two Bulgarian. The two Bulgarian transmitters were copies of American transmitters. All 14 transmitters were installed on the first and second floors of the operational studio building as follows:

- a. Transmitter Nos 1,2,3, and 4 were Soviet-manufactured, short-wave transmitters. They were identified as SNEG type, each of 50 kilowatt power, and used exclusively for retransmitting Soviet broadcasts in English, German, French, Arabic, and Armenian languages. When not retransmitting Soviet broadcasts, the transmitters, equipped with directional antannas, were used to jam Western broadcasts beamed against USSR. When in use for retransmission of Soviet broadcasts against the West, all four of the transmitters were beamed at the combined power of 200 kilowatts by means of two feeders and two Soviet-manufactured directional antennas. The retransmission and jamming activities of the four transmitters were governed by time and frequency tables issued by the control center in Sofia. The four transmitters were donated by the Soviet Union in 1956 and installed by Soviet technicians. The transmitters proved to be very efficient, easy to operate, and with minimum deviation from their basic design and purpose. In addition

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 9 -

to broadcasting they could also be used for telegraphic communications. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

[redacted] they were equipped with GU-80, GU-10A, and GU-22A tubes of Soviet manufacture.

- b. Transmitters No. 5 and 6 were of Soviet manufacture, SNEG types, each 50-kilowatt, short-wave transmitters, which were in use exclusively for broadcast of Bulgarian announcements in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Greek, Turkish, Serbian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, and Arabic languages, by way of directional and dipole antennas. [redacted] the two transmitters broadcast in the areas of the following frequencies: 7255 KHz, 7855 KHz, 6170 KHz; 6070 KHz; 9635 KHz; 9700 KHz; 11850 KHz; and 15350 KHz. 50X1-HUM
- c. Transmitter No. 7 was a Soviet-manufactured transmitter, KB 15/25, which was used almost exclusively for telegraphic communications with Paris on the FM band, Buenos Aires (AM), Cuba (AM), and Peking (FM) by way of directional antennas, in the area of 4000 to 21830 KHz. The transmitter was in reserve for emergency broadcasts. When operating on telegraph, the transmitter functioned on its full power of 25 kilowatts. When broadcasting it functioned on 15 kilowatt power. The transmitter was equipped with a system for automatic switching from one antenna to another. In June 1962 the transmitter was in the process of being rebuilt and improved for greater power. [redacted] the rebuilt transmitter would be using Soviet GU-22A tubes instead of the original GU-10A tubes. 50X1-HUM
- d. Transmitter No 8 was a Bulgarian transmitter, a copy of the American naval-type transmitter No. 12 described below. It was used exclusively for transmission of meteorological service emissions every three hours and only in the area of 5835 KHz by way of a single round antenna. [redacted] it was nor more than five kilowatts. The water-cooled transmitter used GU 5D tubes. It was old and was to be replaced with a new Soviet-5KW (KB-5) air-cooled transmitter. 50X1-HUM
- e. Transmitter No. 9 was a Soviet-manufactured KB-5, air-cooled transmitter, which was purchased during late 1960 and installed during January 1961. It was used for telegraphic communications with Paris on FM by way of one directional antenna, and transmitted twice a day for the Bulgarian News Agency (BTA), and retransmission of the meteorological service emissions on FM. The transmitter could operate on AM. It was using 12 GU 5B tubes.
- f. Transmitter No. 10 was an Italian-manufactured Magnetti Marelli transmitter which was used only for jamming Western broadcasts beamed against Bulgaria. Originally its power [redacted] 50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 10 -

was one kilowatt, which later was increased slightly to an unspecified capacity. It was a medium-wave, water-cooled transmitter, operated on dipole antenna. The transmitter was regulated by telephone from the Control Center in Sofia. It operated every day on 791 KHz from 2030 to 2100 hours and on 1260 KHz from 2130 to 2200 hours. Its identification Morse signal was D-7. Its single dipole antenna was supported by two 95-meter Vinkel masts.

the transmitter operated simultaneously with two other transmitters of the control center in Sofia to jam the Sofia area. The transmitter was old, unstable, and difficult to operate.

50X1-HUM

- g. Transmitter No. 11 was [redacted] used strictly for telegraphic communications with central and Western European countries. Originally its power was only a half of kilowatt, which later was increased to an unspecified power capacity. The short-wave, air-cooled transmitter, operated on AM and FM through round and rhombic antennas, mostly in the areas of 8055, 10915, and 10315 KHz. the transmitter was in regular communication with Prague, by way of rhombic antenna. The transmitter used GU5B Soviet tubes. It was very old, unstable, difficult for operational setting, and was to be replaced with a Soviet KB5 transmitter.
- h. Transmitter No. 12 was originally a U.S. Navy short-wave, water-cooled transmitter, which was used only for telegraphic communications, both AM and FM. It was partially responsible for emissions of transmitter No. 7 to Paris, Buenos Aires, and Peking, and in the event of a break down the emissions of transmitter No. 14, to Central Europe, by way of directional antennas. the small quantity of the American reserve parts for the transmitter were in boxes labelled US Army. The transmitter was remodelled by Bulgarian technicians and operated with Soviet GU-10A tubes, and amplifier. The transmitter had a wide tuning range, quick operational setting, and generally easy to handle. The tuning range was from 4200 KHz to 21830 KHz, however, most successfully from 10000 KHz to 21830 KHz.
- i. Transmitter No. 13 was a Soviet-manufactured, KB-5 (KV-5), air-cooled transmitter. It operated on a dipole antenna. It was used primarily for jamming radio broadcasts of BBC, VOA, RFE, and the Vatican in the sectors of 25, 31, 41, and 49 meter bands. The identifying Morse signal was D-7. The jamming activities of the transmitter were directed from the Control Center in Sofia. The transmitter was occasionally used for telegraphic communications with Paris, Berlin, and Prague, but only on occasions when no other transmitter for such purposes was available.

50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 11 -

j. Transmitter No. 14 was a Bulgarian-manufactured transmitter, built in accordance with the specifications of the American military-type transmitter No. 12, described above. It was low-powered, old, unstable, and was scheduled to be replaced during 1962 by a new KV-5 Soviet transmitter. The transmitter was used for telegraph communications to areas unknown [redacted] in the 50X1-HUM sector of 1095 KHz, daily from 0750 to 0100 hours by way of angle antenna. The transmitter was equipped with unspecified tubes of Hungarian manufacture.

9. Antennas.

50X1-HUM

[redacted]  
[redacted] there were at least 22 antenna units throughout the radio center's compound as follows:

- a. Eight Soviet-manufactured, VGDSH, directional antennas.
- b. Six dipole antennas.
- c. Six double-rhomboid antennas.
- d. One angle antenna.

50X1-HUM

[redacted] all of the rhomboid 50X1-HUM antennas were to be replaced with Soviet VGDSH antennas [redacted]. All Western broad-50X1-HUM casts to Bulgaria were jammed by way of dipole antennas, while those beamed against USSR were jammed through the use of the Soviet VGDSH antennas. There were no reflector-type antennas at the radio station. [redacted]

[redacted] the following type of antenna masts installed at the radio station:

50X1-HUM

- a. Two angle-iron, lattice-type towers, each 95-meters high, painted silver.
- b. Twelve iron-pipe lattice-type towers, painted with yellow and black sections. Four of the towers were 112 meters high, and the remaining eight were 75 meters high.
- c. Eight wooden-mast installations, each with 40- to 60-meter wooden masts, holding the double-rhomboid antennas.
- d. One vertical metal mast, height unknown, supporting two lines of angle-type antenna.

10. Power Supply.

The radio station received its electrical power alternately from a sub-station of the Orion thermo-electrical power station in the northwest suburb of Sofia and from the Kurilo electrical power station in Kurilo, about 20 kms north of Sofia. The power lines leading from the two power stations entered the southern side of the radio station's compound.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L  
- 12 -

50X1-HUM

The radio station received additional power during emergencies from a [redacted] diesel unit. It was installed on the ground floor of the station's administration building.

[redacted] the auxiliary power unit could provide sufficient power for operating only two radio transmitters.

50X1-HUM

11. Automatic Devices and Special Equipment.

50X1-HUM

The radio station had at its disposal various devices and measuring equipment. [redacted]

[redacted]

- a. Two Soviet-manufactured KIS, oscilloscopes.
- b. Two Soviet, one Hungarian, one American (General Electric) wave-length calibrating machines.
- c. Three Soviet-manufactured voltmeters.
- d. Three Soviet-manufactured, type ABO, unspecified measuring devices.
- e. Several ohmmeters of unspecified manufacture.
- f. Two Soviet-manufactured, KROT, radio receivers, one in operation and one in reserve.
- g. Three Czechoslovak-Lambda radio receivers.
- h. One Bulgarian-Voroshilov, radio receiver.

12. Monitoring Facilities.

50X1-HUM

The Gara Kostinbrod Radio Center had no monitoring facilities associated with the jamming operations of the installation. All broadcast and jamming activities were regularly monitored by special crews at the Control Center in Sofia.

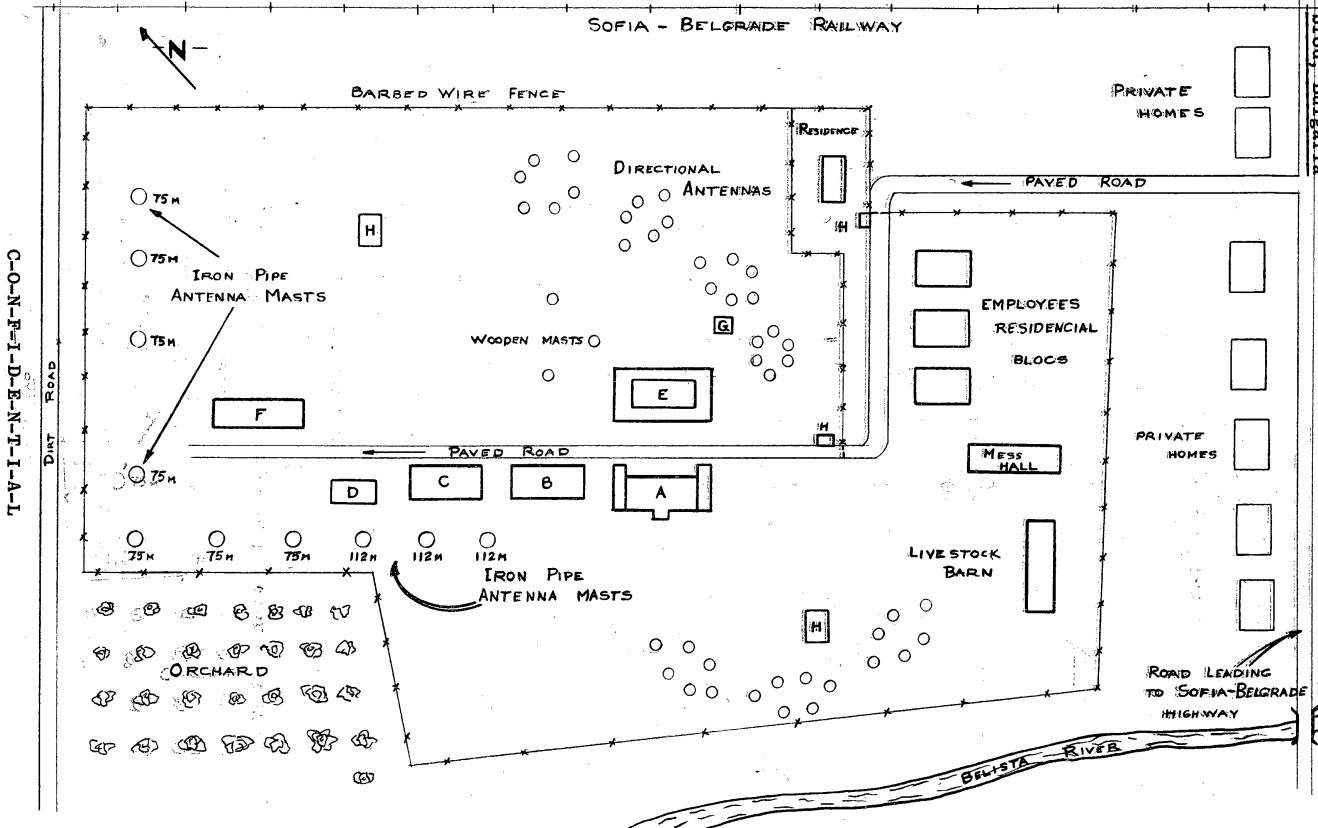
[redacted]

- 1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the Control Center was known and always referred to by the Bulgarian abbreviation KKTS.

[redacted]

50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L



Sketch of Radio  
 Transmitting Telegraphic - 13 -  
 Center Gara Kostin -  
 Attachment A  
 Blvd. Bulgaria

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 14 -

ATTACHMENT A

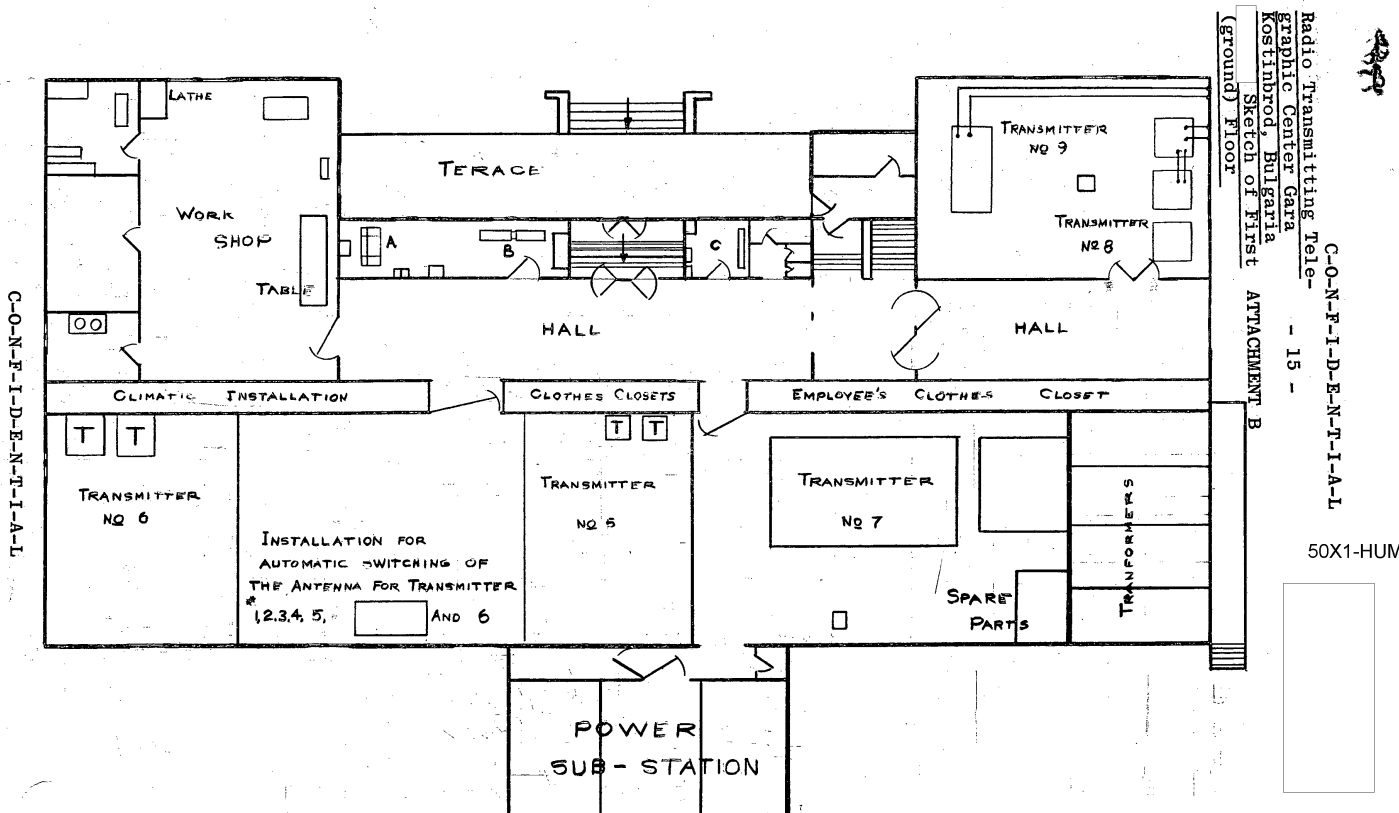
50X1-HUM

Legend

- A. The operational building (studio).
- B. Administration building.
- C. Maintenance building.
- D. Militia guard house.
- E. Water pool with cooling system for transmitters.
- F. Warehouses.
- G. Water pump installation.
- H. Militia posts.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

50X1-HUM



Radio Transmitting Tele-  
 graphic Center GARA  
 Kostinbrod, Bulgaria  
 Sketch of first  
 (ground) floor

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L  
 - 15 -

50X1-HUM



Radio Transmitting Tele-  
graphic Center Garia  
Kostinbrod, Bulgaria  
Sketch of Second ATTACHMENT C  
FLOOR

