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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 4 January 1957

SUBJECT Hard Coal and Uranium Mines in the Trutnov Area

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Hard Coal and Uranium Ore Mine of Tmavy Dul near Schwadowitz

1. Only the Tmavy Dul and Ida Mines were located at Schwadowitz (Svatonovice). These mines and the mine at Zacler were controlled by the Directorate of the "Vychodocesko Kamenouhelne Doly" (East Bohemian Hard Coal Mines) at Trautenau (Trutnov).

2. The hard coal mine of Tmavy Dul (Dark Pit) has been in operation for about 80 years. Uranium ore mining activities were started after WW II. Work was being done in three shifts and about 300 men were assigned to each shift. The Tmavy Dul and the Ida Mine were interconnected by a gallery 4 or 5 km long. All the ore and hard coal mined was hauled to the surface through this gallery. The shaft of the Tmavy Dul mine was exclusively used for the hauling of personnel. The mine was about 400 m deep. From the lowest level of the mine, a level gallery 6 or 8 km long had been built. Crosscuts 100 to 150 m apart extended on both sides of this main gallery.

3. The uranium ore mined was of brownish color. The uranium content of the ore was tested by teams of two men who were equipped with a measuring set.

4. The uranium ore was loaded on mine cars and hauled to the Ida Mine from where it was taken to the surface.

5. Prior to April 1954, about 30 car loads of uranium ore and 900 to 1,000

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car loads of hard coal were produced per shift.

6. The radio active material was called "Letten" (loam) [redacted] This loam was dark brown to black and rather fatty and greasy. The hard coal mined was embedded in this type of loam. Slate which often occurred in the mine and which was also said to be radio active was not mined. 25X1

7. The radio active "Letten" produced was loaded in mine car loads which were marked with the letter "U". [redacted] it was rather poor active material because the measuring sets produced only a weak humming sound when the radio activity of the material was being tested. The humming was much louder when the radio activity of ore in the mines of Joachimsthal was tested. The uranium ore produced was not sorted before it was shipped to Joachimsthal. 25X1

8. The coal layers in the Schatzlar-Schwadowitz area extended from north-west to southeast toward the north-east in the direction of the mountain range; there they dropped but reached the surface again in the Waldenburger Bergland, north of the Mulde River. The following three main layers were known at the Tmavy Dul and Ida mines:

a. The so-called "Lettenflöez" (loam layer) which has an average thickness of 1.5 m.

b. From 25 to 30 m below that layer extends the main layer which has a thickness from 0.8 to 1.2 m.

c. A third layer was known to exist about 100 m below the main layer. The latter layer was about 3.8 m thick and it was embedded in very thick layers of sand stone. This layer had not been worked prior to May 1955.

At the Tmavy Dul and the Ida mines, layers extended from north-west to south-east and the strata had an inclination of 30 to 35° toward the north-east.

The mine had 10 levels, the 10th level being at a depth of 1,040 m.

The uranium ore was found on the 4th level. The layer of the uranium ore consisted of a dark rock. The ore was found in pockets of various sizes. They consisted either of a reddish and crumbly mass or of solid material shaped like bread sloaves. The material with the highest content of uranium was called "Smolka" by the Soviets.

Of the surface each mine car was unloaded separately. The material was filled into bags by the Soviets. The bags were lead-sealed and loaded into boxcars.

9. The daily production of the mine was estimated at about 80 car loads of uranium ore, each car loaded with 0.65 tons, and 1,700 tons hard coal.

10. Prior to May 1955, many experimental drillings were made in the Schatzlar, Trautenau and Schwadowitz area. Prospective ditches were also seen.

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Annex 1

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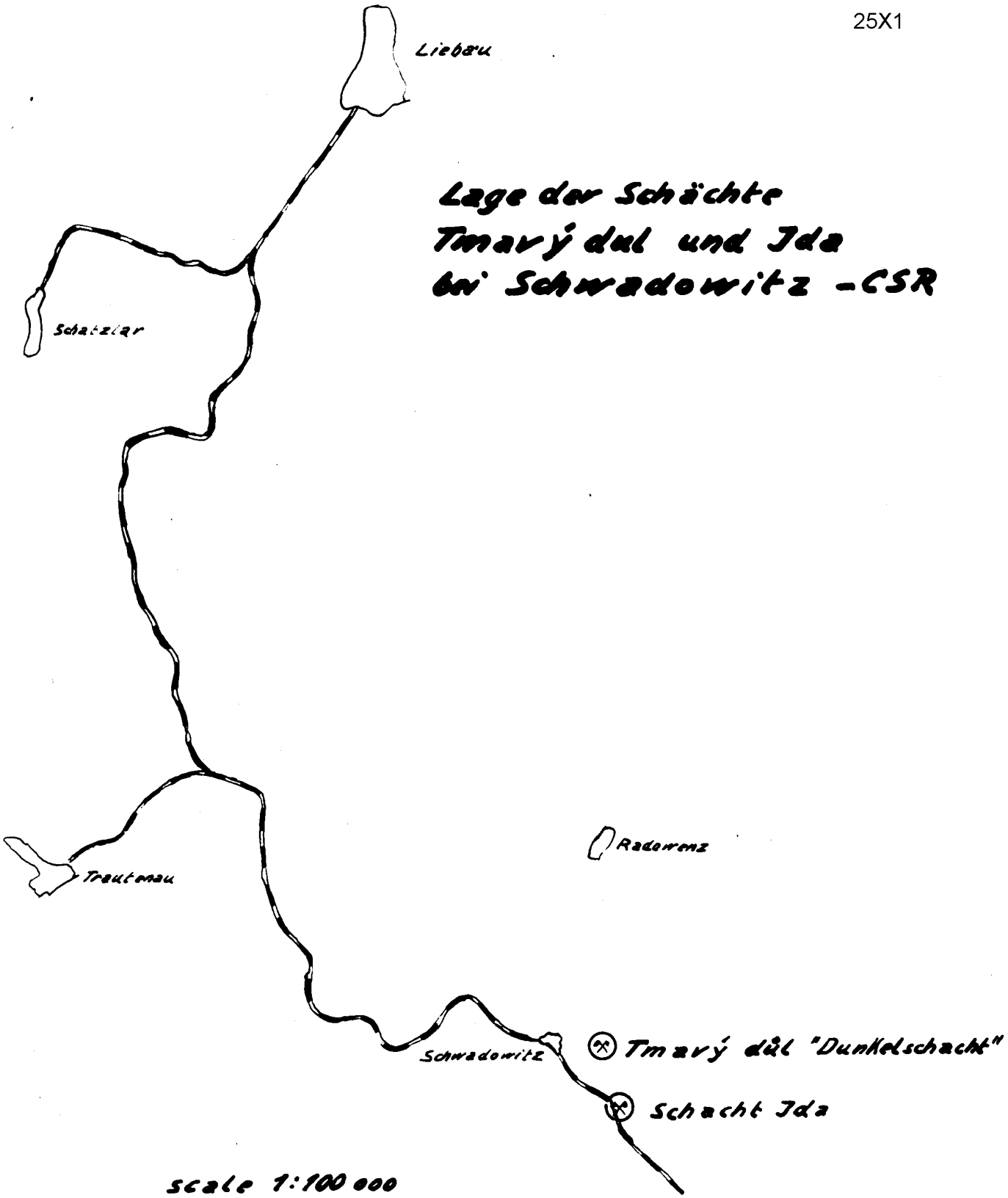

Lage der Schächte
Tmavý důl und Ida
bei Schwadowitz - CSR

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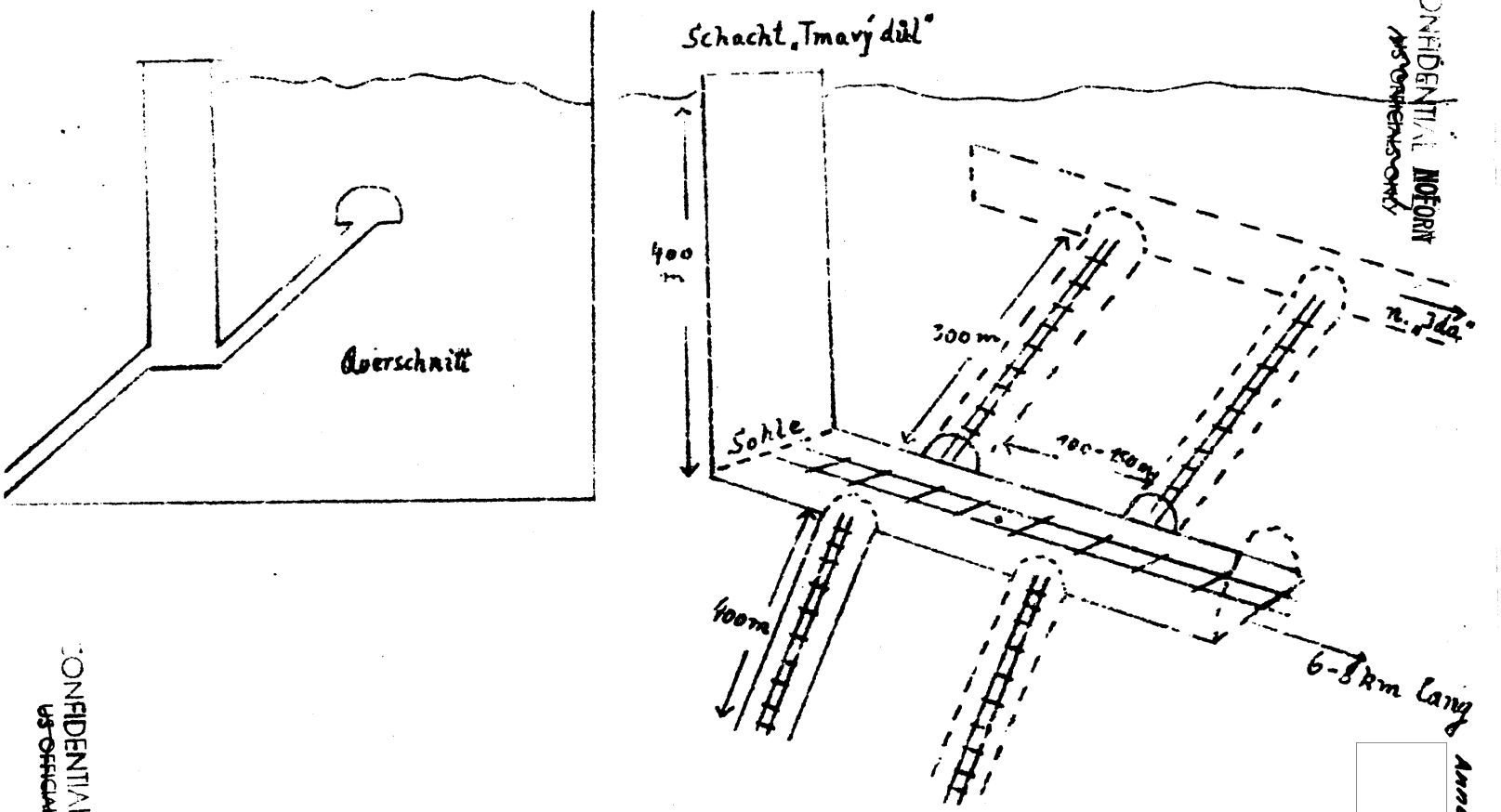

Annex 2

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Annex 3
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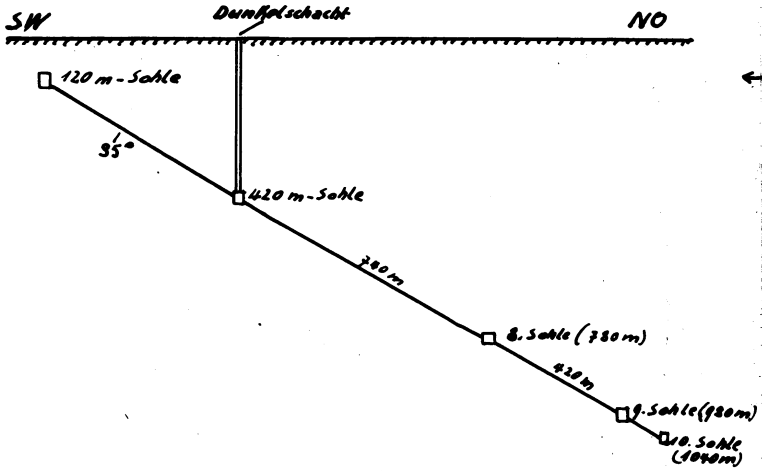

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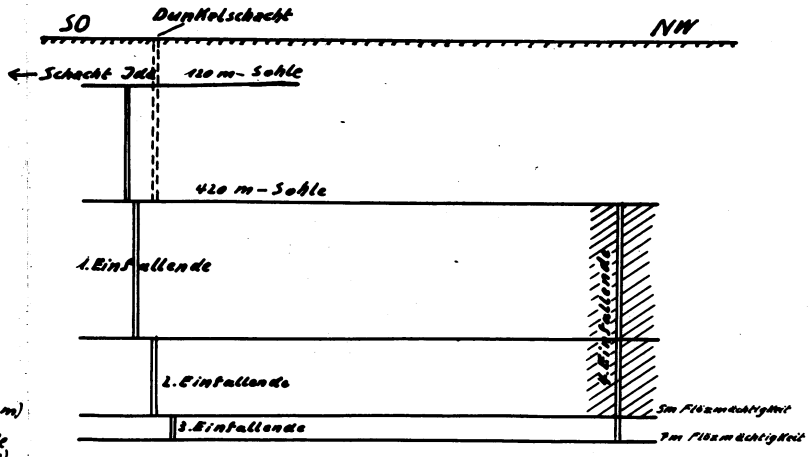

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Schacht Tmavý důl "Dunkelschacht"

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