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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Ostroj Plant at Opava	DATE DISTR.	15 February 1957
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PLACE & DATE ACQ.			25X1

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1. The Ostroj plant at Opava (N 49-57, E 17-55) was established in 1949 from a small Sigma Pumpsfactory where pumps and mining machinery were manufactured. Since 1950 the factory has been continuously enlarged, and the production has switched to strategic purposes. However, mining combines are still being manufactured there. The plant's area was insufficient for the expansion; therefore the railroad track had to be moved.
2. The plant is situated on the eastern outskirts of Opava by the south side of the Opava - Ostrava road. The south side is bordered by the railroad line; a bend in the line was moved about 300 meters eastward. The plant's west side neighbors the buildings of the railroad station at Opava East. The plant extends along the road approximately 600 meters.
3. About 70 percent of the entire production of the plant is for military purposes. The plant is manufacturing parts for tanks, mainly tracks of approximately 60-centimeter width, several types of wheels (drive sprocket, bogies, idlers), and the lower part of the body, possibly for the T-34/85 type tank. Some smaller kind of tank equipment is also manufactured here. All tank parts are shipped by rail to Brno. For the aircraft industry the plant is manufacturing several types of dural strips for the aircraft body, some smaller parts, and all kinds of screws used on aircraft. Products are shipped by rail to Prague. There has not appeared to be any shortage of material.
4. The plant continually recruits workers, and in spring 1956 the total number of employees amounted to 2,500, of whom approximately 30 percent were women. Three fully-manned shifts are worked. Wages at this plant are quite good. An unskilled worker earns about 1,200 crowns per month, while a skilled worker gets 1,500 to 2,000 crowns. As a special attraction, each worker receives 20 hundredweights yearly allocation of coal, for which he pays only 15 crowns per hundredweight. This, however, is conditional on the output of mining machinery.

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

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[redacted] [redacted] 25X1

(fnu) Volna, clerk of the transportation section. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] .25X1

(fnu) Adams, foreman in the aluminum-welding section (aircraft production). [redacted]

[redacted]

Jiri Gebauer, foreman in the material-receiving section. [redacted]

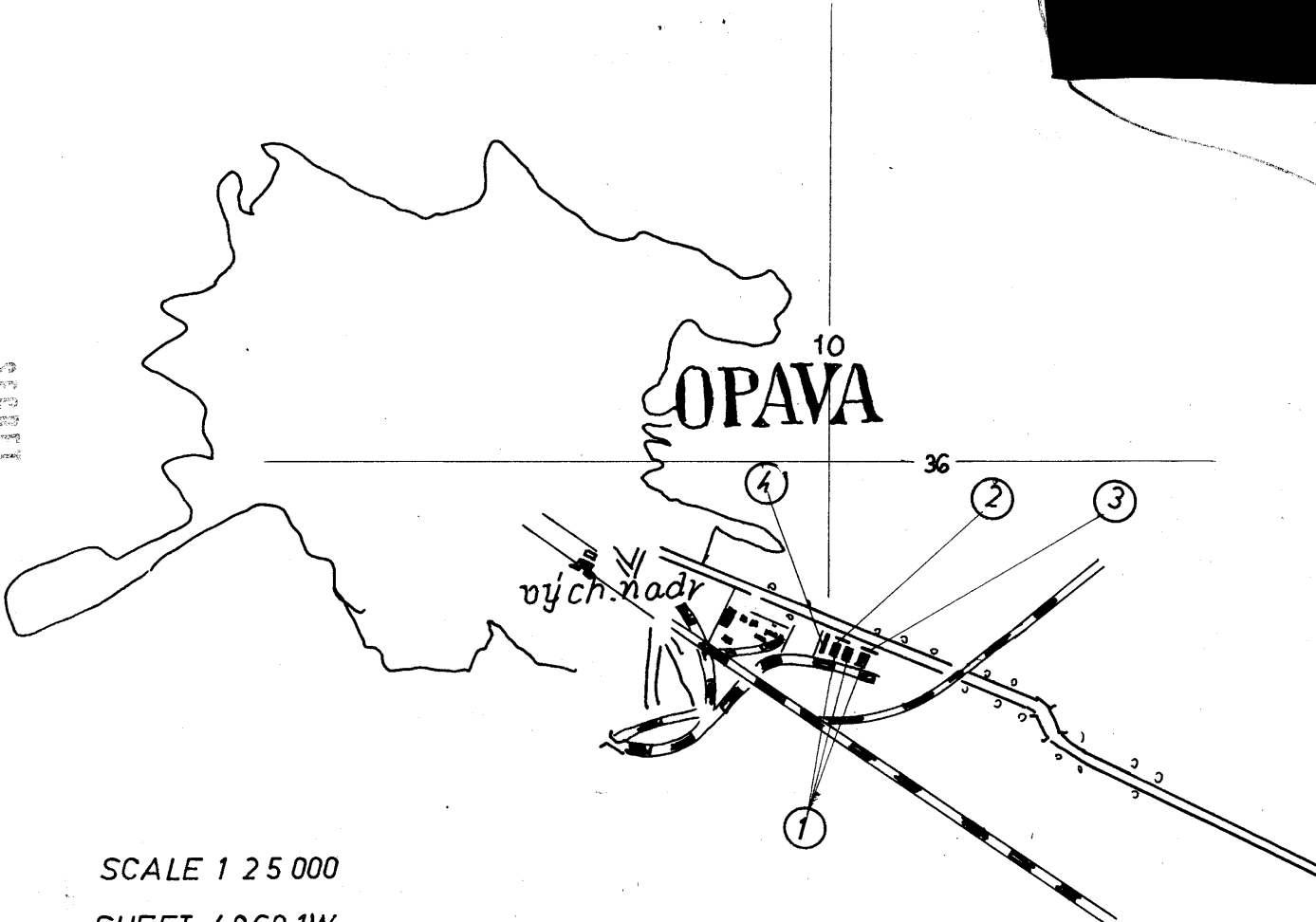
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6. Key to attached sketch:

- 1) Production halls: The plant Ostroj had up to spring 1956 3 halls of about 60 x 50 meters. The west hall is the original Sigma Pumps factory hall enlarged, where still mining combines are manufactured. The hall situated in the middle was built in 1950/51, and production switched to strategic material in 1954. Here is the aircraft parts production concentrated. The 3rd hall is the newest one, where tank parts are being manufactured. The 3 halls are equipped with first-rate modern machinery.
- 2) Mechanical shop: A 3-storied building, approximately 80 meters long.
- 3) Plant's management: A new building, 70 x 10 meters, situated along the road, east of the mechanical shop.
- 4) Welfare building: A 2-storied building, 60 x 10 meters, housing first aid, washrooms, cloakrooms and similar conveniences for workers.

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