

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Tank Regiment in Yambol; Tank Units in the Sofia Area <i>Specifications of T-34 tanks AAA troops, description of barracks POA depot in Yambol, tank repair base, tank training, AAA troops security measures & ammo depot in Sofia</i>	DATE DISTR.	18 March 1964
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

- a. Tank Regiment in Yambol - 11 pages with sketch and legend.
- b. Tank unit, tank repair shop, and school near Sukhodol village, west of Sofia - 16 pages with sketch and legend.
- c. Military unit and tank repair shop east of Sukhodol village, west of Sofia - 3 pages with sketch and legend.
- d. Specifications of T/34 type tanks - 2 pages.
- e. Tank units in Bulgaria - 5 pages.

Distribution of attachment:
 Department of the Army: Retention
 [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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Subject Tank Regiment [Redacted] in Yambol(4229N 2630E).

A tank regiment [Redacted] is located in Yambol. The tank regiment reinforced by self-propelled guns, anti-aircraft, engineering, and signalling corps was disbanded in 1961.

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[Redacted] the units except the tanks were left on this area in Yambol after 1961, and these were probably reinforced by the anti-aircraft units dispatched from other parts (from Yambol [Redacted])

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[Redacted] the tanks of this regiment were sent to Zvezdets(4207N 2725E) and Aytos(4242N 2715E) and senior sergeant Vasil Yordanov was dispatched to Zvezdets along with the tanks. [Redacted]

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[Redacted] Moreover, [Redacted] some of the tanks were dispatched to Grudovo, too.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted] It was alleged that this tank regiment was going to be disbanded in Sept. 1960. [Redacted]

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[Redacted] It was of no use to have the tanks stationed in Yambol when tank units were located in Sliven and Elkhovo.

3 tank units were situated on one line. On the other hand, the tanks were scarce on the area at the east of this line. Therefore,

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a small number of tanks subjected to this tank regiment were joined into the anti-aircraft unit in Yambol [redacted] thus moving the main strenght of the regiment to the east.

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In addition to this, during a maneouver held before the representatives of the communist countries by the 3rd Bulgarian Army in April 1960, none of the Yambol regiment tanks were able to reach the target, neither to perform the assigned duties due to the defects which occured in the engines. Only two tanks could reach the maneouvering area in the vicinity of Kotel.

This failure has made a great effect, and partly has been a reason to disband the regiment.

[redacted]

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I - Location:

The regiment [redacted] is located north western section of Yambol and just on the east of Tunca River.

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over Yambol to
The bridge/which the highway from/Sliven crosses the Tunca River is about 30-40 m. south west of this regiment. A park is found between the barracks-area and the highway leading to Sliven, and west of the bridge. The road joining Sliven highway from the western section of the park leads to the barracks-area. There is also another road from the town square leading to the barracks-area. A new road passes through the western part of the barracks-area.

The barracks-area is surrounded by Tunca River from the west, gypsy district from the north, and by a dirt road leading to the private residencies from the east, and by a street with the private residencies and a park at the south.

A stone wall rises on the eastern front of the area, and gates are placed at two places. The southern and northern sections are surrounded with barbed-wire, and the main gate is situated on the southern front.

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The length of the area from north to south is 1000 m. The northern front is 400 m. , and the southern front is 600 m. long. Some differences appear due to the curves made by Tunca River. The northern and western fronts of the area have a gradual downwards incline as compared with the center. Thus, the area represents a view of two separate plains.

A cavalry regiment was stationed in this barracks-area before 1944.

Note: The sketch showing the barracks-area and the installations inside the barracks-area is attached.

2. Formation :

[redacted] this tank regiment is subjected to the Division Hdq. [redacted] in Yambol. The CO of this Division is Col. Grincharov and he is usually found in Sliven.

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[redacted] the CO is Capt. Stanchev. The ~~CO of the~~ technical works in the regiment is Maj. Yordanov, and assistant CO of regulations is Maj. Kostov, and the assistant political CO is Maj. Ivanov.

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The Hdq. chief of this regiment was Lieut. Col. Popov.

Units subordinated to this regiment:

I) Tank Companies:

There are five tank companies in this regiment. Each tank company is divided into 2 platoons, and each platoon is divided into 2 squads. Each squad has 2 tanks of T/34-85 type. There are 54 tanks in the regiment in all, and they are all of T/34-85 type.

There is no battalion formation constituted by the tanks in the regiment.

The tank company CO is a captain, and the platoon COs are First Lieutenants.

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2) Self-propelled artillery Company:

There is a company formed by the self-propelled guns of 84/100 type of the regiment. This company is divided into two platoons, and each platoon is divided into two squads. Refugee does not know how many guns are stationed in one squad.

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3) Anti-aircraft artillery battery:

The CO is Capt. Kolev. There are 5-6 anti-aircraft guns of 37 m.m. M 1939 model driven by the trucks in this artillery battery.

no further information about this anti-aircraft battery.

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4) Engineering Platoon:

no information about this platoon. The privates of this platoon were usually keeping duty within the barracks-area. These were constituting a company along with the privates of the signalling corps.

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5) Signalling platoon:

The CO is Lieaut. Boshkov. The privates of this platoon were forming a company along with the privates of the engineering platoon.

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6) Tank Repair House:

It was in the form of a company, and the CO was Capt. Traykov. The Repair house was under the command of the ^{Regiment} Assistant Technical Manager, Maj. Yordanov.

7) Drivers platoon - Transportation unit:

CO is First Lieaut. KHRISTOV.

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8) Supply squad:

CO is Capt. Markov.

9) Provisions and supplies

CO is Capt. Cunakov.

10) Division Auto Repair House:

This auto repair house is directly subordinated to the Division Hdq. in Yambol. The officers of the tank regiment [redacted] can not interfere with this repair house. [redacted] this auto repair house was subjected to the tank regiment [redacted] upon being located in the same area.

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3. Manpower:

Manpower in separate units:

1) Tank Companies:

There are 30-35 privates in each tank company. Since there are 5 tank companies subordinated to the regiment, [redacted] there are about 180 privates in all.

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The officers of the tank company : Company CO is usually a captain. Technical manager and assistant Company CO is First Lieut. or Captain. The platoon CO s are Lieut. or Second Lieut.

The number of the non-commissioned officers in the tank company is not fixed [redacted]

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[redacted] There is a senior sergeant in every company.

2) Self-propelled Company:

There are 30-35 privates and 4 officers and non-commissioned officers in this company.

3) Anti-aircraft artillery battery:

[redacted] there are two officers (captain and lieutenant) two non-commissioned officers, 60-70 privates in this battery.

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4) Engineering platoon:

This platoon has a CO (lieutenant) and 8-10 privates. It is considered as a platoon although it has the strenght of a squad. This unit forms a company along with the signalmen. The CO is a captain, and is responsible of A.B.C. war protection in the regiment.

There is no non-commissioned officer in the engineering unit.

5) Signalling Platoon:

There are 8-10 privates and a lieutenant named Boshkov in the signalling platoon.

It was very difficult to distinguish the signalmen from the engineering privates in the regiment.

6) Tank Repair House:

There were two officers(both were captains.) and a non-commissioned officer, and 16 sergeants. Sergeants were undergone special trainings, and were skilled as radio repairman, motorist, welder, blacksmith, and turner.

There were 4 drivers subjected to this company which would be called a company. Besides, a civilian blacksmith, an auto repairman, a welder and an electrician were employed at this repair shop.

7) Drivers Platoon:

There were 15-20 privates, and two officers(captain and lieutenant) at this platoon.

8) Supply squad:

The duties of a courier, librarian , storehouse keeper, cart driver were assigned to 10 privates, and a captain named Markov and other non-commissioned officers(number is unknown) were serving with this squad.

civilian
2/tailors , a shoemaker, and accountants were employed at this squad.

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9) Division A uto Repair House:

[redacted]
There is no officer in this repair house [redacted]
[redacted] directed by non-commissioned
officers, and where privates and civilian repairmen were
working.

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It was allegeded that the number of soldiers at this
unit was 280. [redacted] there were more
than 300 privates, 40 officers, and several non-commissioned
officers(number is unknown) and IO civilian workers in
the regiment.

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4. Weapons, transpbrtation and signalling equipments:

I) Tanks:

There were 54 tanks of T/34 type at this regiment.
Most of them were not in proper condition, and defects
were frenquently occuring. According to the instruction
given to the tank crew, everyday every tank crew would
dismartle the tank, and then install it, and would repeat
it patiently in order to learn it well. While the privates
were obeying this instruction, they were usually installing
the parts of the tanks incorrectly, thus causing the
defects .

2) Self-propelled guns:

These were of SU-100 type [redacted]
[redacted] there were about IO of them.

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3) Anti-aircraft guns:

[redacted] these were guns of 37 m.m. M I939
model, and were approximately 5-6 in number. They were
sometimes driven by the privates with the purpose of
training.

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4) Infantry rifles:

These were carabines of SKS type. Engineering, signalling,
repair house, drivers, and supply privates were armed by
these rifles. This type of carabines were given to ~~some~~ of
the repair house personnel, too.

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5) Pistols:

These were of 7.62 m.m. M 1933 type, and the privates of tank unit, self-propelled unit, and some personnel of the tank repair house were armed with these.

6) Automatic infantry rifles of Kalashnikov, and PPSH type:

Privates of the anti-aircraft artillery unit were armed with these rifles.

7) Trucks:

a) At services:

1 Opel Blits
3 Ziz-I50
1 Zil-I5I
1 Fenomen Garant

These belong to the Driver's Platoon. There are also trucks, Molotovka, Ziz and Zil, belonging to the anti-aircraft battery. Molotovkas were sold in 1960, and ZILs replaced them. Refugee does not know their number.

b) Reserve:

4 Ziz-I50, and 2 Zil-I5I trucks were reserved in the garage for the driver's platoon. These trucks were never used in daily works.

There were also 6 more trucks belonging to the repairhouse: 2 were GAZ-ZA model, and were loaded with ^{repairing} implements, and spare parts of the tanks. During mobilization, they were to serve as mobile repair shop.

4 were of ZIL-I5I model, and were put into a mobile repairshop. One of them was used as electrical and radio repair shop, two were used for turning and welding, the third for crane and as depot of the tank spare parts, and the fourth is for the repairing of armaments, and they are all in constant combat readiness.

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8) Jeeps:

There is a jeep at the disposal of the Regiment CO.
A radio and a wireless is established in the jeep.

9) Motor-cycle with a basket:

There is one in the regiment.

10) Double harnessed cart:

There is a cart and two horses. One of the horses were shot accidentally, and when the next one died because it was not looked after well, the cart could no more be used.

II) Vehicle similar to a tank used for dredging tanks
(they are without a tower and gun.)

There is one in the regiment, and this is used for dragging the defected tanks from one place to another, or saving tanks which have fallen or sunk down. It has no crane. Since there is no steel standing the needed resistance to be fastened to the defected tank to pull it forward, this vehicle is never being used. Though the railroad line was also used to drag the tanks over, but it was soon noticed that the railway between the two tanks was crooked. Therefore, whenever a tank of the regiment got defected, it was left at the same place, and the repairing was done there, or it was loaded on the transportation vehicles coming from Sofia.

I2) Signalling devices:

There are portable radio-wireless set of Russian make QRS and IORT-26 type in the regiment. Most of the tanks have QRS wireless sets. The wireless set in the CO'S jeep is of IORT-26 type.

[Redacted]

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Telephone set is used in communicating in the regiment.
[Redacted] the telephone lines are directly connected to the Division in the vicinity of Yambol, and from there to the Army Hdq. in Sliven. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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the telephone lines are

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laid underground.

5. Officers:

ol.

Maj. Stanchev : He is the Regiment CO.

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Maj. Yordanov : He is the Assistant Technical Manager.

Maj. Kostov : He is the Assistant CO of Regulations.

Maj. Kondolov : He is the Assistant Political CO.

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Maj. Ivanov : He is the Communist Party Secretary.

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Lieut. Col. Popov : He is the Hdq. CO.

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Captain Kolev : He is the Anti-aircraft battery CO.

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Captain Nikolov: He is the CO of the engineering and signalling company. He is the officer responsible of A.B.C. war protection.

[Redacted]

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Captain Markov: He is the chief of the supply works.

[Redacted]

Captain Cunakov: He is the chief of provisions and supplies.

[Redacted]

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Captain Traykov: He is the chief of the tank repair house.

[Redacted]

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First Lieut. Boshkov: He is the chief of the signalmen.

[Redacted]

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Captain Marinov: He is the Tank Company CO.

[Redacted]

First Lieut. Khristov: He is the chief of the drivers.

[Redacted]

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6. Firing and drilling range of the regiment:

[Redacted]

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[Redacted] the tanks of the regiment were carrying out firing drills in the area between Simenovo village(4223N 2638E) south east of Yambol, and Alexandrovo villages. This area was isolated as the firing range, and the firings were held towards a hill which was not inhabited.

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Legend of the Sketch
showing the barracks-area in Yambol:

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- 1 - Single -floored building 60x10 m. large, the eastern part is an infirmary, the northern part is division auto repair house.
- 2 - Single-floored building 40x10 large. The stationary radio-wireless station of the tank regiment is on the north eastern section of the building, and the library is situated on the south western part of the building.
- 3 - Two-storeyed building 60x20 m. large which was built in 1960. This was being used as the dining room.
- 4 - Building 20x10 large used as the repair house of the tank regiment
- 5 - Single-floored building 300x10 large.

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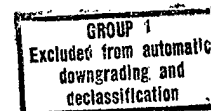
The canteen is at the south of the building, the tanks garage is north of the canteen, the turning work-shop or the weapons repair shop is on the north, the training tanks garage is down at the north, and the battery charge department is on the far north section.

- 6 - Single-floored water motor-pump section 5x5 large, and the room for the officer on duty. The motor-pump operates with electricity.
- 7 - Gasoline, and crude-oil depot.
- 8 - Three-storeyed building 100x15 large.
The first floor - Dining room, store room, bathing room tailor's and shoemaking shops are placed.

Second floor - 2 offices and privates dormitories.
The room, of the Assistant Technical Manager of the Regiment.

Third floor - Regiment flag, secret document rooms,
Regiment CO's room, Communist Party Secretary's room,
Political CO's room, and rooms belonging to the Hdq.

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9 - Truck garage approximately 40x10 large.

10 - Two-storeyed building approximately 60x20 large.

The clothing apparel depot is situated on the first floor, and the dormitories of the drivers and anti-aircraft unit are on the second floor.

11 - Three-storeyed building approximately 100x15 m. large. Private's dormitory and dining rooms are situated in this building.

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12 - Entrance controlling point.

13 - L shaped single-floored building, 40 m. long, and 5 m. wide. Teaching devices, and study halls of the signalling and engineering units are placed in this building.

14 - Garages belonging to the unit

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15 - Dormitory for the sentries.

16 - Point of the officer on duty.

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Subject : Tank Unit called TANKOVA BAZA (Tank Base), tank repairshop and tank repairing school near Sukhodol village (4242N-2313E) in the west of Sofia

1. In the west of Sofia, about 1 klm east of Sukhodol village, in the south of the highway from Sofia to Sukhodol village, in the north and northwest of the railroad between Sofia and Pernik, there is a barracks area. In the southern and southwestern sections of this barracks area is an isolated part surrounded with barbed wire, comprising the Tank Base called (Tankova Baza) in Bulgarian, a tank repairshop and a tank repairing school.

[Redacted] there is a large military force consisting of units of various branches in the barracks area occupied by the tank base. But he has very little information concerning these units.

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[Redacted]

2. Formation of the Tank Base:
The Tank Base was directly subordinate to the I. Army Headquarters.

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[Redacted] generals from the Ministry of Defense came to inspect the Tank Base.

[Redacted] each time the inspections took place the privates who attended the school had to clean up the base

[Redacted] this tank base is subordinate to the I. Army Hqs. But the inspecting generals' belonging to the Ministry of Defense makes it likely for the base to be under the control of the Higher Command.

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The commander of the tank base is lieut.col.RASHEV, [] assistant political commander major RASHEV, assistant technical commander major RUZHEV. The tank base has a hdq., its chief is major IVANOV. There are three sections attached to this headquarters :-

1) Tank repairshop:

The commander is major EFTIMOV [] The tanks of all the tank units in Bulgaria are brought here for a complete overhaul and repair. The repairshop has various sections:-

- a. Woodwork section
- b. Turning section
- c. Oxygen welding section
- d. Tinning section
- e. Radiator section
- f. Carburetor "
- g. Electric engine windings
- h. Dynamo repairs
- i. Battery charging
- j. Electrical repairs
- k. Radio repairs
- l. Fitting section
- m. Planing
- n. Cylinder surface smoothening section

2) Combat and transportation unit:

This unit is called the chauffeurs' platoon. The drivers' platoon commander is first lieut.BOYCHEV []

The drivers' platoon is divided into 3 squads.

1st squad: transportation trucks and vehicles carrying platforms on which tanks are loaded.

2nd squad: trucks turned into portable repairshops, ready for use in case of war.

3rd squad: tanks prepared for combat, to protect the material and vehicles of the tank base during war.

3) School for training tank repairers:

The commander of this school is capt.NIKOLOV [] It consists of recruits forming a company. This company is divided into three platoons and each platoon is subdivided into three squads. The privates of each platoon are trained as repairers of separate tanks.

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1. platoon commander lieut. PETROV was being instructed on the repairs of T/54 type tanks.

2. platoon commander lieut. STOYKOV was being instructed on the repairs of T/34 type tanks.

3. platoon commander lieut. ~~KEBEDZHIEV~~ was being instructed on ~~the repairs~~ electrical radio wireless installations.

The squad commanders of the school are corporals having completed the same school one year ago.

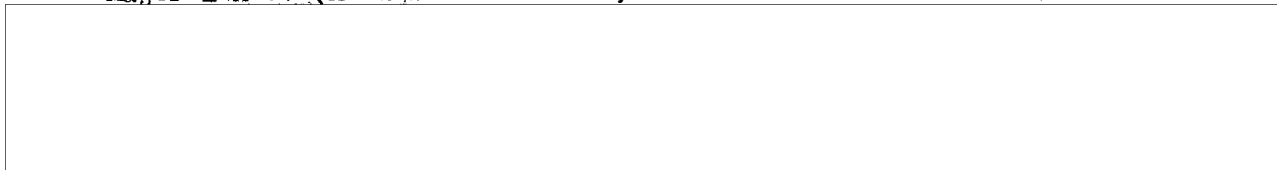
3. Officers and manpower at the tank repair base:
Lieut. Col. RASHEV (Base commander)

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Major IVANOV (Headquarters chief)

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Captain NIKOLOV (Commander of the tank repairs training school)

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First lieut. BOYCHEV (Commander of the chauffeurs' platoon)

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Major RUJEV (Assistant Responsible Technical Commander at the Base.)

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Major EFTIMOV (Chief of the Tank repair-shop.)

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Major RASHEV (Assistant Political Commander of the Base.)

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Captain NIKOLOV (Assistant Commander of Technical affairs

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Captain DINEV (Teacher at the school.)

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Lieutenant PETROV (1th platoon CO at the School.)

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Lieutenant STOYKOV (IInd platoon CO at the school.)

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Lieutenant KEBEGIEV (IIIrd platoon CO.)

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Captain VASILEV(Chief of the Secret Service.)

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About 80-85 privates were attending the school subjected to this tank base. They were being trained by 6 officers, a non-commissioned supply officer , sergeants and corporals who had finished the school a year ago, and after a period of I year education, they are assigned to the tank units located at I2 separate parts in Bulgaria as tank repairmen.

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The non-commissioned officer, and the privates are made to work in the tank repair-shop outside of the maneuvres.

Officers, non-commissioned officers, privates, and civilians are assigned to work at the tank repair-shop. They work in a single shift. About I50 -200 work in the repair-shop. More than I00 of above-mentioned number consist of civilians, and there are even women among the civilians. Women are employeed as tunners, welders, or officials.

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According to the regulations, the civilians should not work in this unit. But since being unable to obtain qualified non-commissioned officers for the repair-shop, it has become necessary to hire civilian workers. Every one of the workmen employed here, signs a special contract and promises in advance to obey every sort of order during mobilization. Word is sent to the homes of the civilian workers by the privates during an alarm for a manoeuvre. A group of privates transported to Sofia, go to the homes of civilians one by one. The private takes the worker to the truck, or leaves word for him to come later(if he is not at home then), and departs, and the truck returns immediately.

4. Armaments at the Tank Base:

I) Infantry rifles:

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[redacted] long, and probably [redacted] carabines of the old Austrian type [redacted] resembles [redacted] Russian made 7.62 m.m. M1891/30 model. There is no other infantry rifle at the units subordinated to the base.

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2) Tanks equipped with T/34 type 85 m/m. guns:

The school has one given to the base with the purpose for maneuvering. The driver's platoon possesses 10 tanks held in constant combat readiness. These are held responsible to protect the supplies and equipments belonging to the base during the battle. They are parked for mobilization.

3) Tank equipped with T/34 type 85 m/m gun:

It is given to the school subordinated to the base with the purpose of maneuvering.

4) Self-propelled gun of SU-100 type:

It is given to the school for maneuvering. There is no other gun at this base. Only the officers own pistols.

5) Transportation vehicles at the tank repairing base:

These vehicles belong to the driver's platoon which is subjected to the base.

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1. GAZ- 5I trucks:

There are two or three used in the transportation of food supplies, and other necessities.

2. ZIL-15I trucks:

There are 3, and they are brought to the mobile tank repair-shop. One of them is ^{suitable for repairing tanks} of T/34 type, and the next of T/54. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ The third one is capable to repair the electrical sets of the tank.

The back part of these trucks are covered with sheet iron, and put into a form of a room. Light is provided with electricity as well as a window is opened.

The truck which is capable to repair the tanks of T/34 type, has I lathe, a drilling machine, ^{spare parts of} various implements, I tank engine, and counters. Every part of T/34 tank can be repaired at this truck. There are even 4 portable bedsteads for the personnel in the truck.

The truck which repairs the tanks of T/54 type contains every kind of implement necessary for repairment. The truck repairing the electrical sets of the tanks possess a battery, section, radio transmitter and receiver of 9 RS type, counter utilized for repairing, dial plate, reserved electrical cables, tools for welding, etc, spare meters measuring volts and amperes, lanterns and other various spare parts.

3. ZIZ-150 trucks:

There are 6 of them. These are used for every kind of transportation. Three of them run for everyday affairs, and the rest three are kept in the garage as reserved for a combat. One of the trucks kept in the garage has spare parts of the electrical sets of T/34 type tanks, the other of T/54 type tanks, and the third of the other tanks. These are loaded and are held in constant combat readiness

4. TATRA - Czech made-trucks:

There are three, and are used for the transportation of the supplies currently.

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5. MAS - 200 type trucks:

There are 4-5, and they drag along the platform equipped with rubber tires upon which tanks are loaded. They have no cranes. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These platforms have bridges. If the tank which is to be transported has no deflection, it is pulled to the platform with its own power. If the tank is deflected then it is pulled by a rope connected to a tank. Some of the platforms are available for single tanks, and some can carry three tanks.

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These are used in carrying the defected tanks from all parts of Sofia to be subjected to a thorough maintenance and repair. These platforms are in constant movement in transporting the tanks from one place to another since the caterpillars ruin the asphalt roads. It is impossible to see them at the base always.

6. Jeep- Russian made-(GAS -69)

There is one stationed at the base, and it belongs to the CO. This jeep does not contain a wireless set.

7. A motor-cycle with a basket (AVOSPOSRT model):

The base has one, and it is used in carrying the officers when the jeeps are busy.

8. Bus made from ZIZ-150 truck:

This bus is available for 22 people, and it carries the workers from Sofia to the repair-shop. [REDACTED]

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9. Bus made from GAZ-51 truck:

This bus is available for 16 people, and carries the workers residing in Sofia to the repair-shop. [REDACTED]

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10. Bus-Skoda:

It can carry 75-80 people. It is recently bought. It is used in the transportation of workers from Sofia to the repair-shop.

The transportation vehicles belonging to this base are green in color, only the Skoda bus is blue or white. Every one of them has military licence plates. The

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Bulgarian
plates have a white background on which/letter ' V ' and 4 numbers are written, and a hyphen is put after the first two numbers. Refugees can not recall any of the licence plate numbers of the transportation vehicles stationed at this base.

6) Tank repair-shop:

This tank repair-shop is the only one in the whole Bulgaria. The tanks are subjected to a thorough check-up, and every part is repaired or they are replaced by the spare parts.

It is necessary to take a tank of T/34 type to be repaired after letting its engine work for 50 hours.

[redacted] The deflection of the tank which occurs before 50 hours is maintained at the repair-shop situated at the Tank Units. The repair-shops at the Tank Units are small, and are capable to repair any kind of deflection at the tank except its engine. The operation period of the engine of the tanks which have undergone repairing at the Tank Unit is prolonged. [redacted]

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[redacted] Assistant CO of Technical Affairs at the Unit is responsible for sending the tanks for the thorough check-up.

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The tanks are checked orderly. It is planned beforehand that a certain tank from a certain unit, will be checked within a certain month, and thus, the strenght of a Tank Unit will never be lowered with the purpose of a general check-up. Usually, I-2 tanks is taken for the thorough check-up from one unit, and the other tanks follow the line as soon as the repaired tanks join their units. Unless the tank has no deflection, it comes to the repairing base from the districts near to Sofia. If the tanks are far from Sofia, then they are transported by rail wagons. The tanks are placed on mobile platforms in Sofia, and then are sent to the repairing base. The tanks which have undergone a thorough check-up at the repairing base do not use their own engine within the trip back to their units, but they are always transported by means of mobile platforms or rail wagons. The tanks which have returned from a thorough check-up join the Tank group which is held in constant combat readiness. They are set to work when necessary.

The whole tank is dismantled at the repairing base, and the worn out parts are changed, and an entire lubricating is done.

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2-3 people are occupied in checking a tank, and the process continues for 20 days. But when the various defections established at the tank are necessary to be repaired, then experts are invited from the other sections, and the period of the check-up is prolonged.

It usually happens that the engines of the tanks are renewed. The engines dismantled from the tanks are repaired separately. Hence the repaired engines are fit into the tanks which come to the check-up to shorten the period of the check-up. The number of tanks at the repairing base is always above 20 in summer time, and a constant work is performed on 10-15 tanks in winter time since it is impossible to work outside.

Defections observed on T/34 and T/54 tanks:

- 1) Defection occurs usually in the differential boxes. The pressed disk plates made of a material similar to cartoon is not properly fixed in between the gears, they usually burn or fall into pieces due to friction. Thus, the gears can not interlock, and the tank is unable to steer. This sort of defection is especially caused by the mistake of the foremen in fixing the plates in between the gears during the repairing. Often the plates were pressed hardly, and they were fallen into pieces or burned at the first contact.
- 2) Defection occurs at the diesel pumps in the engines. The break down of the pumps is caused when the impurities in the crude-oil plug the pumps. When all of the crude-oil in the depot of the tank is spent, the impurities which are collected at the bottom of the depot plug the depot.
- 3) Another defection which is observed in the tanks is the dislocation of the pivots connecting the caterpillars to one another. The pivots are dislocated by the shaking during the operation of the tank, and the caterpillar turns as though it were broken. The pivots have heads at one end, therefore, they are dislocated always on one side. Since the heads of the pivots are on the opposite direction to the body of the tank, the pivots are disjointed towards exterior of the tank.

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The tank is stopped after a distance of 1-2 km., and a member of the tank personnel pulls these pivots into their grooves and the tank goes forward. The same process goes on after every 1-2 km. In order to prevent this, the heads of the pivots are turned towards the body of the tank, and thus, the disjointed pivot touches the body of the tank, instead of being entirely dislocated. But when these pivots cause damage on the mud-guard and other parts of the tank, then it ^{comes} ~~is~~ necessary to make a change. Consequently, they have started to attach the pivots to the caterpillar by welding, but this did not work, either, because the changing of the pivots caused great difficulty.

- 4) Defection is frequently observed in the meters measuring the water temperature, and amount of gasoline.

The pointer showing the amount of gasoline is connected to one of the oil channels. A slight **plugging** causes the pointer to go down. The pointer showing the water temperature is connected to a thermometer placed into the radiator. This thermometer is fastened to the bottom part of a cork fixed to the valve of the radiator. Sometimes, the thermometers touch the radiator because of shaking, and if the part to which they touch is near to the engine, then they show a high temperature.

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- a. Tank Brigade in the vicinity of Gorna Banya village, Sofia.
- b. Unit in the vicinity of Suhodol village, Sofia.
- c. Tank Company in Dimitrovo.
- d. Tank Unit located at a district in the vicinity of Kostendil.
- e. Tank Unit in Haskova.
- f. Tank Brigade in Kazanlik.
- g. Tank Brigade in Sliven.
- h. Tank Unit in Chirpan.
- i. Tank Regiment in Yambol.
- j. Tank Comp. in Kolarovgrad.
- k. " " " Aytos.
- l. " " " Zvezdets.

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[REDACTED]

Then tanks which arrived from KAZANLIK were in T/54 Type and from the other places T/34 Type self-propelled guns were taken.

7) Tank Soldiers Training School:

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I . [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Every year this school starts its teaching on October 30th and ends on October 30th. The attendants of this school trained for the tanks T/34 and T/54 Types and also as the repairman of electrical and communication devices of these tanks. The graduates of this school promoted as sergeants. After they are discharged from the Army they are granted with master-sergeant rank. It was also possible to meet soldiers who maintained master-sergeant rank during their service.

2. The attendants of the school considered as one company. This company was divided into three platoons. The first platoon consisted of the soldiers responsible of the repairs T/54 Type tanks, the second platoon T/34 Type tanks and the third platoon electrical and communication devices. Each platoon divided into two squads. The soldiers who will be accepted to this school, were sent to this school without having recruits training directly from the Office they were enlisted.

Young individuals who gained the confidence of the Communist Party and acknowledged machinery and had some experience on them are accepted by this School. The young people who will be registered in this school were chosen by recruiting offices. The attendants of this school usually either tractor drivers of cutting or harvesting machine employees.

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[redacted] young men dressed up in military uniforms lined up in one row and separated into three sections without considering any distinctions. Thus three platoons were formed. Each platoon located in different places and announced the subjects taught in each platoon and student had the privilege of choosing their platoon depending on the subject they were interested to learn.

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4. Classrooms and dormitories of each platoon housed in the same building. The second story of the building allotted to the classrooms and dormitories were in the third story. The soldiers attending to this school had their practice in the repair shop of the tank and in the garage where T/34 and T/54 tanks and SU-100 Type self-propelled guns stationed. For the protection of the tank repair shop and this garage soldiers attending to this school were assigned.

5. The lessons taught in the School and the Daily Schedule:

a) How to make Tanks T/34 Type, utilization, and Repair of their defects :

In this class the students were taught from a special book, concerning T/34 Tanks, from what compounds they were made of, when and by whom it was invented and use of it. In this class all the parts of the tanks were demonstrated practically and theoretically. Then they learned how each part of the tank used and how they were operated. The third phase of the class related with how each part repaired, how to find out the defect.

This lesson taught by platoon commanders.

b) How to make Tanks T/34 Type, Utilization, and Repair of their Defects :

The information given in relation with T/34 Type Tanks.

c) Technology :

Steel alloys, metals and kinds of iron taught theoretically. They also learned where and when the various kinds of steel invented, how they were used, and at the present where they are applied. This lesson given by Captain NIKOLOF to all the platoons.

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This lesson consists of various works of iron and steel such as turnery, fitting, electrogen and oxygen welding, and blacksmithing and also how to use the related machinery.

d) Political Training :

They read from a special book physical and economical geography of Communist Countries and arranging general meetings to discuss world events.

This lesson taught by the officers in the base to which the school subordinated.

e) Close Order Drill :

As a practice, the platoons exercising marching and presenting arms. Platoon commanders giving this lesson.

f) Electrical Installations and Devices and Their Repairs :

After furnishing information concerning to obtain power, various electric currents, different types of electrical engines and their operations then they work on T/34, T/54 and SU-100 electrical installations and devices. This lesson taught by Captain DINEF.

g) Radio Installations and Instruments, their Repairs :

It was taught by the same teacher both practically and theoretically depending the similiar basis.

H) Preparation of Chemical War :

Information utilization of gas masks, the effects of poisonous gases.

I) Fire Extinguishing :

In this lesson how to extinguish the fire and the fire on a special tank was taught.

Above-mentioned subjects were the ones taught in the school, however the Platoon I learned T/54 Type in more details. The Platoon II learned T/34 Type more detailed, whereas the Platoon III learned various electrical and radio installations widely. At the end of the year each student took

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an examination from every lesson except technology, chemical war, preparation of fire extinguish. The ones succeeded in the examinations granted with master sergeant title and either appointed to the tank units scattered in various places of Bulgaria as a repairman or assigned in the repair shop of the base as repairman. The ones who couldn't pass the examinations were transferred to other units as soldiers during the year. The graduates of the school granted with specialization certificate. Although they assured that this certificate will be valid in the civilian life, ^{now considered equivalent to technical school} this didn't come true.

Daily Programme :

0500 a.m.	To wake up and start physical exercise.
0515 a.m.	The end of the physical exercise, bathing, cleaning dormitories
0530 a.m.	Arranging the dormitories and going to breakfast
0600 a.m.	End of the breakfast, morning roll-call
0600 a.m. 0700 a.m.	Since they were acting very sensitively in roll-call it takes a long time.
0700 a.m.	Going to the class
1300 p.m.	End of the lesson, lunch
1330 p.m. 1400 p.m.	End of the lunch, to go to the class to study individually.
1700 p.m.	End of studying individually, free to make any sports or playing with ball
1830 p.m.	End of free time, dinner
1900 p.m.	End of the dinner, starting to study individually
2100 p.m.	End of studying individually, evening roll-call
2115 p.m.	End of the roll-call, time to go bed.

The daily programme except the class time wasn't actually applied. Especially ^{during} the period between 1900 p.m. - 2100 p.m. nobody studying lesson.

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6) The attendants payed 15 Leva (old money) monthly. Even though the food can be accepted excellent, it was quite satisfactory. However usually in the winter they only serve pork. The students provided with a summer and winter suit, military cloak, a pair of heavy army shoes, , instead of a pair of socks, two pieces of material and one hankerchief.

7) Communication Devices of the Tanks :

T/34 Type tanks equipped with 9 RS Type Russian-made receiver-transmitter wireless/telephone/telegram equipments without any exceptional. They are only used as radio/telephone. They are operated in 24 volt current. 50X1-HUM
[redacted] At 5Km. distance the communication with the tanks provided. There is a telephone liason between the Tank Commander and tank driver.

Some of the T/54 Type tanks equipped with 10 RT 26.Type , Czechoslovakia made, receiver and transmitter radio devices. They are also used as wireless telephones. They operated on 24 volt. [redacted] The lenght of the wave provided by crystals. Such tanks had telephone communication between all the personnel and tank commander.

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The explanation of the sketch showing the internal division of Tank Repair Base in the vicinity of Village SUHODOL supplied by Mehmet DILYAVEROF HUSEYINOF:

Basement :

1. Entrance - Hall
2. Section used as fuel depot
3. Section where the cook kept his suits and objects
4. Dining-Hall
5. Kitchen
6. The place where vegetable cleaned

First Story :

1. Entrance - Hall
2. Physical Examination Room
3. " " "
4. Foremen Room
5. W.C. For women
6. " men
7. Stairs running upper story
8. Corridor
9. P.O. Center
10. 23. The rooms , the purpose of utilization is unknown.

Second Story:

1. Stairs running from the bottom.
2. Corridor
- 3.5. Rooms where civilian officials work
6. Room where the coming documents kept

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7-8. Sekretna (Secret Room)

9. W.C. for women

10. " men

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[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

Subject : Military unit and tank repairshop in the east of Sukhodol village (4242N-2313E) west of Sofia.

1. In the west of Sofia, about 1 klm to the east of Sukhodol village, in the south of the Sofia-Sukhodol highway, to the north and northwest of the railroad from Sofia to Pernik, immediately east of a small tributary of Sukhodol Stream, there is a barracks area occupied by a large military unit which refugee cannot designate, a tank school and a tank repairshop.

2. This barracks area has an approx. length of 1 klm from north to south, tapering down to about 700 meters in the east. From east to west the barracks area is 1-2 klm long.

The grounds of the barracks area are level with a part rising in a slope in the southwest. The barracks area is surrounded with fields suitable for plowing.

Within these boundaries the barracks area is surrounded with barbed wire on all sides. The garages for transportation vehicles and the tank repairshop within the area are likewise surrounded with barbed wire.

The sketch and its legend, showing the barracks area and buildings therein is attached herewith.

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3. [Redacted] the units stationed in this barracks area. [Redacted] are several units of different designations, commanders and headquarters. They are probably subordinate to a joint command in the higher ranks. But there is no joint command or commander of the armed forces in the barracks area, and therefore, there are frequent arguments among the units of different branches. [Redacted]

50X1-HUM

[Redacted] The units [Redacted] are the following:-

1) Infantry Unit:

[Redacted] there are mostly infantry soldiers in this barracks area. He has no definite knowledge concerning the unit formed by the infantry privates. [Redacted]

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[redacted] artillery and infantry privates in a large building in this barracks area (it is called the great regiment by the soldiers), but there were likewise infantry privates in the buildings of the signalling and engineering corps, as well as in the buildings of the anti-aircraft troops. 50X1-HUM

2) Artillery Unit:

[redacted] there are infantry privates in the largest building of the barracks area. [redacted] the number of artillery and infantry privates in this large building (great regiment) alone exceeds 1500. 50X1-HUM
50X1-HUM
50X1-HUM

3) Signalling corps:

[redacted] no information concerning this unit. 50X1-HUM

4) Engineering corps:

[redacted] no information on this unit [redacted] 50X1-HUM
50X1-HUM

5) Anti-aircraft unit:

[redacted] it consisted of a battery. 50X1-HUM

6) Tank unit:

There is a tank unit consisting of a company, probably, in this barracks area. This tank unit has no relation with the tank base (Tankova Baza) located in the same barracks area.

The tank unit called (Tankova Baza) has a separate headquarters, a tank repairshop, a tank privates' school. It consists of a tank unit held in combat readiness. [redacted]
[redacted] 50X1-HUM

4. Arms and transportation vehicles refuege has seen in this barracks area are the following:-

- 1) 7.62 mm automatic firearms, PPSH M1941 type
- 2) 7.62 mm automatic firearms, PPS M1943 type
- 3) 7.62 mm automatic infantry rifles, Kalashnikov (AK) type
- 4) 7.62 mm automatic infantry rifles, Simonov (SKS) type
- 5) 122 mm howitzers, M1938 type
- 6) 122 mm field guns, D-74 type
- 7) 130 mm field gun

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- 8) 76 mm anti-aircraft gun, M1938 type
- 9) 85 mm " " " M1939 type
- 10) 100 mm " " " KS-19 type
- 11) ~~85 mm~~ Tanks equipped with 85 mm guns, T/34 type
- 12) Caterpillar tractor, GAZ-47 model
- 13) " " M-2 type
- 14) " " AT-L "
- 15) " " AT-S "
- 16) " " AT-T "
- 17) Pickups, GAZ-19 type
- 18) Trucks, GAZ-51 "
- 19) " GAZ-63 "
- 20) Jeep, GAZ-67B "
- 21) " GAZ-69 "
- 22) Truck, ZIL-150 "
- 23) " ZIL-151 "
- 24) " MAZ-200 "
- 25) " MAZ-210 "
- 26) Portable tank repairshop, ZIS-5
- 27) Crane, ZIL-151
- 28) Trucks, TATRA III
- 29) Buldozer truck, MAZ-528



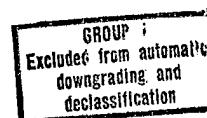
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Explanation of the sketch showing Barrack Zone in vicinity of Sofia, Village SUHODOL which is provided by MEHMET DILYAVEROF HUSEYINOV :

- A. Highway running to Sofia
 - B. Highway running to Village SUHODOL
 - C. " " " "
 - D. Highway running to Village GORNABANYA
 - E. " " " "
 - F. Railway running to Sofia
 - G. Railway running to PERNIK
1. Guards Building located on the entrance of Barrack Zone. It is one storied and it's dimensions are as follows, 40x10m.
 2. Building used as food supply depot, one storied and 40x10m. large.
 3. Lodging allotted to the assigned officers in the barrack zone. This building contains three stories. It is ca. 40x20m. in size. It has two entrance doors.
 4. Residence of the officers. It has two stories. 20x10 in size.
 5. Building where tank repair school and anti-aircraft unit housed. This building is 100x20m. large, contains three stories. In the first story blacksmith and welding workshops situated. In the second story classrooms and in the third floor dormitories occupied.
 6. Garage where trucks and guns of anti-aircraft artillery kept. This building has single story. It is ca. 80x10m. large.
 7. Dining-room and kitchen of tank repair school and anti-aircraft unit. This building is about 80x10m. large.
 8. The building where soldiers of communication and engineering unit housed. This building is approximately 60x20m. in size, and contains three stories. Estimated that 500 soldiers housed in.

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9. Building two storied, 50x10m. large used as dining room and storage. The first floor is occupied as dining room.
10. Garage where transportation vehicles and guns housed which belonged to the unit called as a great regiment in the barrack area. The section which extends to the East is 150x10m. large whereas the part extending to the South is 100x10m. large.
11. The largest building in the barrack area. The unit called as greatest occupies this building. It contains four stories and 100x10m. large. Approximately 1500 soldiers housed in this building.
12. Garage where training tanks available. Circa 40x10m. large.
13. Guard Tower
14. Building where the personnel of tractor-drawn artillery belonging to the great regiment housed. Approximately 40x10m. large.
15. Joiner shop for tank repair base and garage where tanks ready for war kept. It is about 60x10m. large and one storied.
16. Garage where trucks used as mobilized tank repair shop kept and depot where spare parts of trucks stored. It is one storied and 60x10m. large.
17. Two storied building which is under construction, and 60x30m. large and presumably used as a depot.
18. Headquarters building of tank repair base. Including basement it is three-storied. There is a separate sketch pointing out it's internal division.
19. Building utilized as tank repair shop. Roof and sides of the building covered with glass. 100x10m. large and in the middle of this building tanks repaired. On the sides there are repair section in different rooms.
20. Guards building on the entrance of repair base.
21. Garage where tanks come for repair taken. Approximately 80x10m. large.

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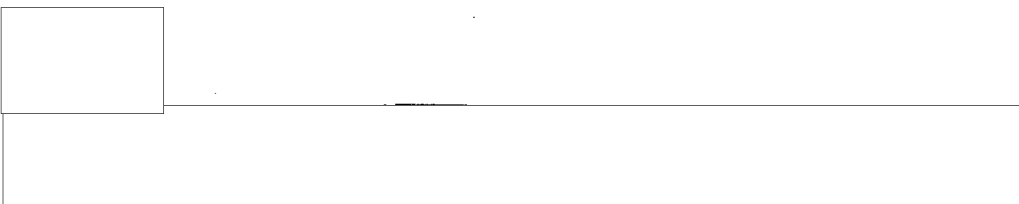
22. Single story having three rooms in where the guards from the unit in GORNA BANYA come to take unduties in ammunition depot.
23. Ammunition Depot zone belonging to the unit in GORNA BANYA.

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Subject : Specifications of T/34 type tanks

The length of T/34 type tanks is 4 meters. I don't remember their height. The body of the tank is 40 cm above the ground and it can^{over} pass a 85 cm high wall.

Similar to other types these tanks are divided into 4 parts:-

- 1) Front or commanding part
- 2) Part equipped with guns
- 3) Movable, i.e. engine part
- 4) Rear, i.e. transmission part

These tanks have two systems:

- 1) ~~Oil~~ing system
- 2) Cooling system

The turrets of these tanks revolve by two means: manually and electrically. When the batteries are full the turret revolves once per minute. When the batteries are weak the revolving movement slows down.

The machine-guns on these tanks also operate twowise: They are fired manually or electrically.

The radio equipments of the tanks are of 9 R S, RS 24, 10 RT-26 types and operate with a 24-volt current. Neither of these equipments can operate more than an hour. The Unformer, part which transmits the electric current to the equipment, immediately gets heated. Therefore the equipments are frequently damaged. The damaged radios cannot be repaired everywhere and their repair takes a long time.

There is a telephone connection between the tank personnel. Every crewman has an earphone and a microphone. A small knob operates the communications.

The engines of the tanks are "V"-shaped and there are 6 cylinders on each side of the tank, i.e. the engine has 12 cylinders. The radiators are on both sides and at the rear of the engine. The batteries are beside the engine. The batteries are parallel~~ly~~ connected with each other in doubles, so that 4 batteries follow one after the other. That is, when 4 batteries of 12 volts are connected an electric current of 24 volts is obtained, but the amperage is high.

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The electrical starter engine is on the right side of the tank between the batteries and the engine. There is a panel in front of the tank driver on which there is a knob. When the knob is switched the electrical engine starts to operate and puts the tank engine into action. If the tank cannot be operated by means of the electrical engine it is operated with compressed air, but it is forbidden to operate the tanks with compressed air in peace time, this is only done in times of war.

In front of the tank driver there is a panel called Armaturno Tablo, on which there are several dials indicating the water temperature, the amount of oil, the condition of the battery charges, the speed of motion. If the dial indicating the amount of oil is out of order the driver has to notify the tank commander. According to regulations, when the dial showing the degree of oil is defected tanks are not allowed to operate. On the panel there is also a fuse from which electric current is conveyed to all parts of the tank. There is a separate fuse for each part. These fuses are very sensitive, if there is the slightest bit of damage in the electric cables there is immediately a short circuit and the fuse breaks the current.

One of the novelties is to cover the lights of a tank with cloth. In this way the lights of the tank cannot be seen from afar. There are two kinds of lights on the tanks, those emitting long rays and others emitting short rays. The lights with long rays are white and the others are green, the latter is not observed at night. The lights emitting short rays are camouflaged with a tin as a precaution against being noticed from afar. The tin serves as a shelter to the light.

It is enough to throw a hand grenade to the rear part, transmission(?) part of the tank to disable it and put it out of action, because the rear part is the most sensitive part of the tank. No other part of the tank can be disabled with a hand grenade or similar weapon.

It is possible to approach the tank from its side without being seen. The sides of the tank cannot be seen from the interior. Low targets which are close to the ground cannot be destroyed with the arms of the tank.

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Subject : Tank Units in Bulgaria

1 - Formation of tank units:

1) Sofia - Sukhodol village (4242N-2313E)

There is a tank unit & probably a tank repair base subordinate to the Gen.Hdq.of the Armed Forces, in the east of Sukhodol village near ^{Sofia} 50X1-HUM



2) Sofia - Gorna Banya village (4241N-2314E)

here. there is a tank brigade (Brigada in Bulgarian) no information concerning this brigade. 50X1-HUM

3) Yambol (4229N-2630E)

Tank regiment was stationed in Yambol until 1961. That year the regiment was disbanded. The tanks of this regiment were transferred to Zvezdets (4207N-2725E) and Aytos (4242N-2715E). The tank companies in these two locations prior to 1961 became regiments after being reinforced with the tanks from Yambol. 50X1-HUM

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[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

Subject : Tank Units in Bulgaria

1 - Formation of tank units:

1) Sofia - Sukhodol village (4242N-2313E)

There is a tank unit probably a tank repair base subordinate to the Gen.Hdq.of the Armed Forces, in the east of Sukhodol village near Sofia.

50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

2) Sofia - Gorna Banya village (4241N-2314E)

[Redacted] there is a tank brigade (Brigada in Bulgarian) here. [Redacted] no information concerning this brigade.

50X1-HUM

3) Yambol (4229N-2630E)

Tank regiment [Redacted] was stationed in Yambol until 1961. That year the regiment was disbanded. The tanks of this regiment were transferred to Zvezdets (4207N-2725E) and Aytos (4242N-2715E). The tank companies in these two locations prior to 1961 became regiments after being reinforced with the tanks from Yambol.

50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

4) Sliven (4240N-2619E)

[Redacted] a tank unit corresponding to a brigade or a regiment is stationed here. It is more probably a brigade.

50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

5) Elkhovo (4211N-2634E)

There is a tank company in Elkhovo [Redacted]

[Redacted]

6) Aytos (4242N-2715E)

There was a tank unit stationed in Aytos until 1961. When the tank regiment in Yambol was disbanded in 1961 part of the tanks in Yambol were sent to this tank company which then became a tank regiment.

[Redacted]

50X1-HUM

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7) Burgas - Kameno village (4234N-2718E)

In 1963 [redacted] a barracks area occupied by a tank unit on the route of the highway from Burgas to Kameno village.

50X1-HUM

[redacted] this is a small tank unit, possibly a company. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

8) Kazanluk (4237N-2524E)

There is a tank unit corresponding to a brigade or a regiment in Kazanluk. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

9) Chirpan (4212N-2520E)

[redacted] a tank unit being stationed in Chirpan [redacted]

50X1-HUM

10) Khaskovo (4156N-2534E)

[redacted] there is a tank unit in Khaskovo [redacted]

50X1-HUM

11) Pernik (4236N-2302E)

There is a tank company in Pernik [redacted]

50X1-HUM

12) Kolarovgrad (4316N-2654E)

The tank unit which was a company until 1960 in Kolarovgrad became a regiment on that date.

[redacted] no further information.

50X1-HUM

13) Zvezdets (4207N-2725E)

There was a tank company in Zvezdets until 1961 [redacted] When the tank regiment in Yambol was disbanded in 1961 the tank company in Zvezdets was reinforced with the tanks of the regiment in Yambol and became a tank regiment.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

[redacted] no further information concerning same.

50X1-HUM

14) Kostendil (4217N-2741E)

[redacted] there is a tank unit in Kostendil [redacted]

50X1-HUM

15) Grudovo (4221N-2711E)

[redacted] at the end of 1961 that there is a tank unit in Grudovo.

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50X1-HUM



After completing their training as tank repairers at the tank base near Sukhodol village in 30 Oct.1959, [redacted] soldiers were told that they would be sent to work as repairers at the tank units in 12 locations of Bulgaria, including their own base. The locations were the following:- 50X1-HUM

- 1) Sofia - Gorna Banya village, tank brigade
- 2) Sofia - Sukhodol village, tank repair base
- 3) Pernik, tank company
- 4) Kostendil, tank unit
- 5) Khaskovo, tank unit
- 6) Kazanluk, tank brigade
- 7) Sliven, tank brigade
- 8) Chirpan, tank unit
- 9) Yambol, tank regiment
- 10) Kolarovgrad, tank company
- 11) Aytos, tank company
- 12) Zvezdets, tank company



50X1-HUM

- 3 - Formation of the tank units:
- 1) Successive grades of formation in the tank units

- Division
- Brigade
- Regiment
- Battalion
- Company
- Platoon
- Squad



50X1-HUM

A squad was provided with two tanks. Two or three squads formed a platoon and 2 or 3 platoons formed a company.

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- 4 -

There were no battalions in the tank regiments. Tank units larger than companies and smaller than regiments were given the name of Batalyon (battalion)

The formation of the regiment [] located in Yambol until 1961 will be stated in the information received from refugee concerning this regiment.

50X1-HUM

2) The tank units are not independent. They are always connected with other branches of the Army forces.

Tank units smaller than companies and regiments are assigned to an infantry unit larger than a regiment, brigade or tank unit at their location. Their function is to cooperate with the infantry unit to which they are joined and to obtain results by increasing the firing force of the unit.

With regiments and larger tank units the situation is different. In this case, privates of the infantry, engineering, signalling, antiaircraft branches in smaller units as compared to the tank unit, are assigned to the tank unit. (sic) There are also self-propelled guns.

Note:

See the formation of the tank regiment [] in Yambol as stated by refugee.

50X1-HUM

4 - Types of tanks in the Bulgarian tank units:

1) Until 1961 there were tanks manufactured according to the Russian patent in the Soviet Union or Czechoslovakia, equipped with T/34 model 85 mm guns.

50X1-HUM

The Russian made T/34 type tanks differ from the ones manufactured in Czechoslovakia only in the turrets. The Russian tanks have a sharp line on the side of the turrets, whilst in the Czech makes this line has been abolished with a smooth incline. That is, the turrets of Czech T/34 tanks are curved levelly. (sic)

The Bulgarian tank units are mostly equipped with T/34 type tanks. Refugee maintains that until 1961 only the unit in Kazanluk was not equipped with T/34 type tanks.

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2) Until 1961 other tanks of the Bulgarian Army were the tanks of Russian make and manufacture, T/54 type, equipped with 100 mm guns.

[redacted] the tanks of T/54 type were given to Bulgaria after 1955 or 1956. When refugee was subjected to a training at the tank repair base in Sofia-Sukhodol in 1958 [redacted]

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

[redacted] The T/54 tanks brought there to be repaired were always sent by the unit in Kazanluk. The T/54 type tanks at the repair base and probably everywhere were kept secret, and the (Type T/54) was never mentioned in the writings connected with the repairs of same or in conversations dealing with the same subject. The secret name of T/54 type tanks in Bulgaria was Obekt - 137.

50X1-HUM

[redacted] among the Bulgarian tank units only the unit in Kazanluk was equipped entirely with T/54 type tanks. Nowhere else were there tanks of similar type.

50X1-HUM

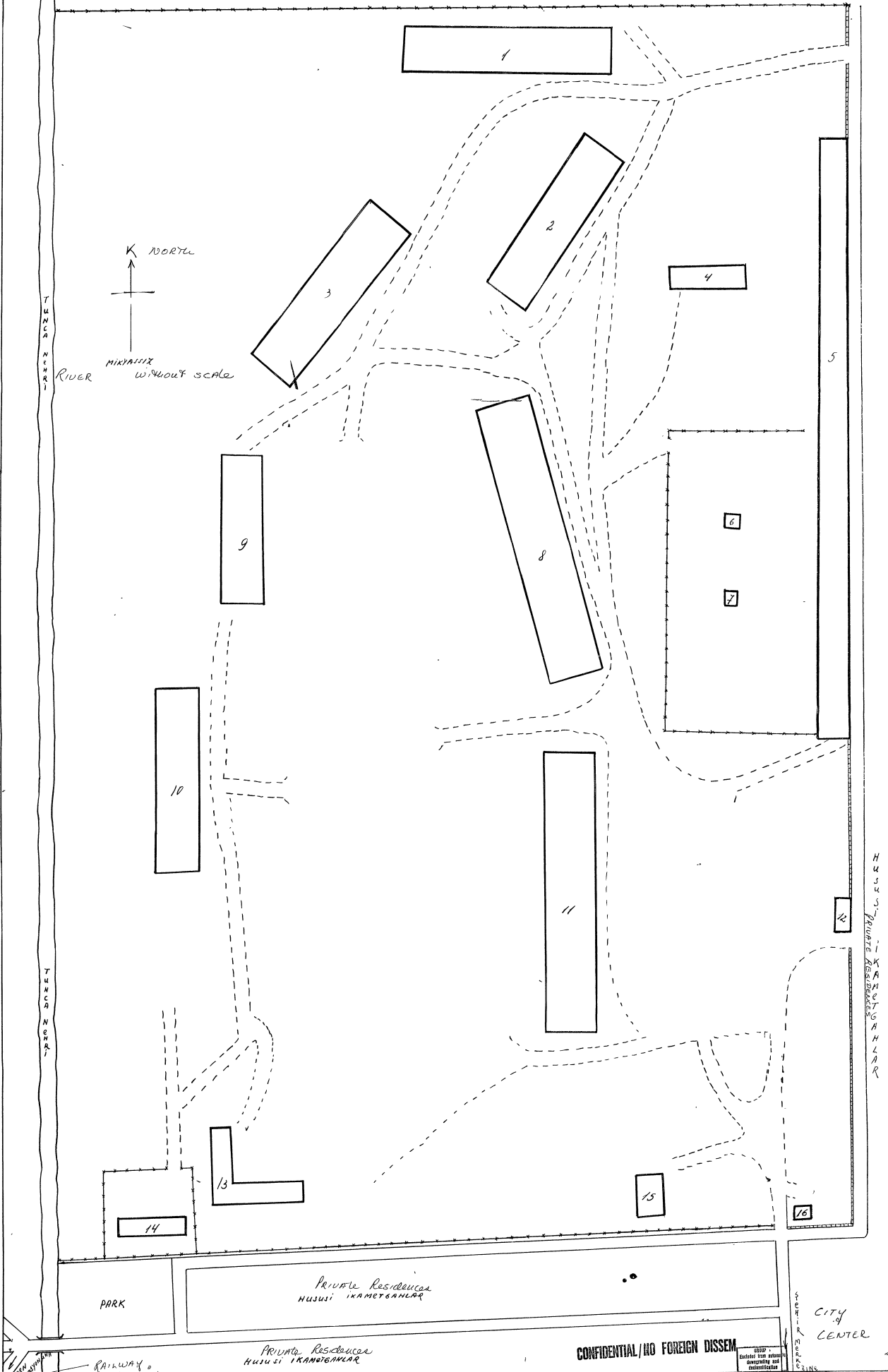
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YAMBOL'da

TANK ALAYI KİMLİĞİ DÖLGEVİ
TANK REGIMENT BARRACKS AREA - YAMBOL

DATE
TARİH 1960

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Sketch Plan for the Vicinity of SAHARU Villages of Sufia
SDFJA imna, SUNDOL ROSA CIVARINDAKI KISEA BOLSES;
without map scale drawn, approximately
MAYAVE TABULI CLOSER PERSPECTIVE

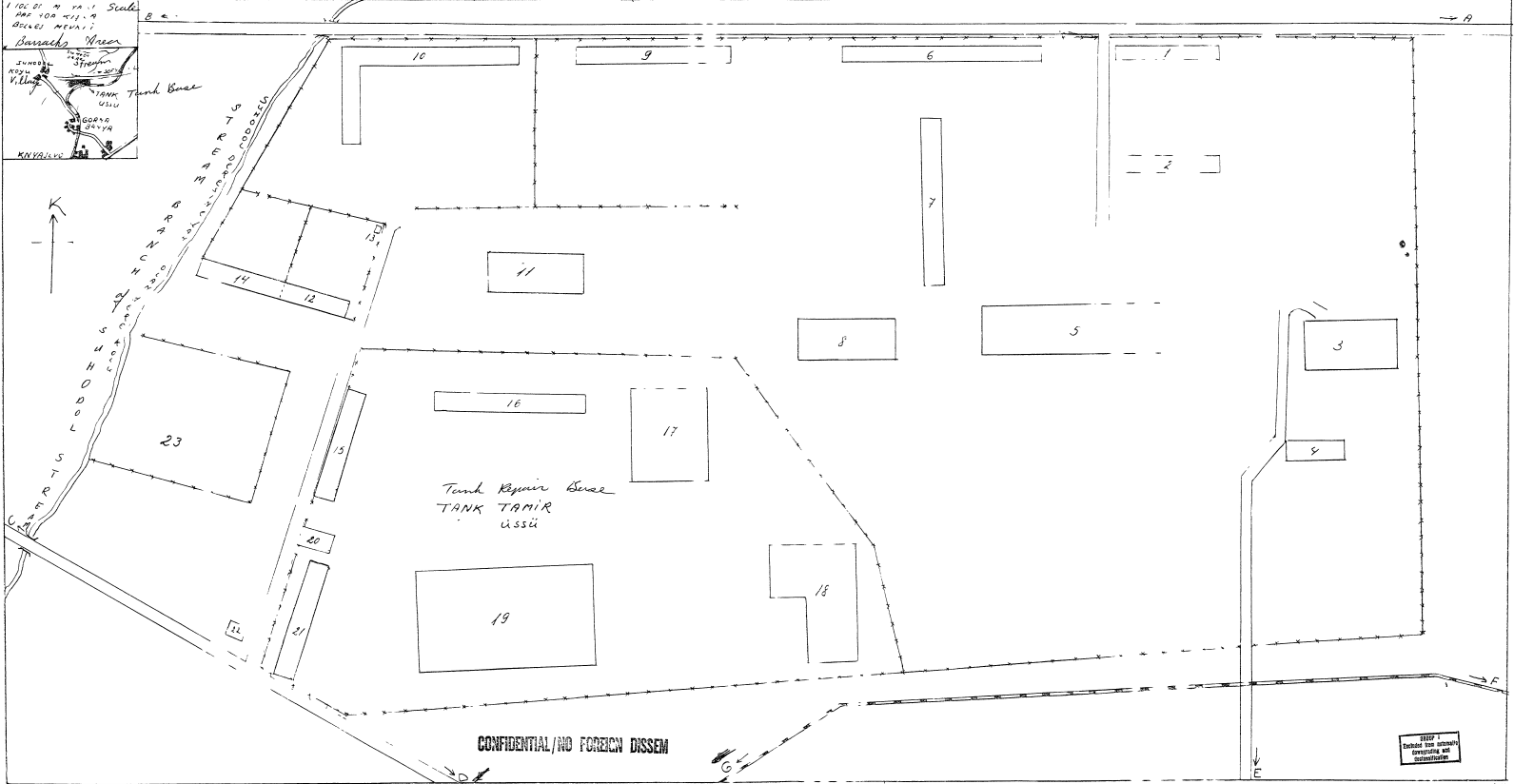
ATTACHMENT C

50X1-HUM

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Date
TABULI 20 10 1952 - 20 10 1953

50X1-HUM



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2027
Check this drawing
before using for
reference

SUHODOL KÖYÜ CİVARINDA TANK TAMİR ÜSSÜ KARARGAH BİNASI
HQs BLDG OF TANK REPAIR BASE SUHODOL AREA

50X1-HUM

MIKYASSYK

FAH: 30.10.1958 - 30.10.1959

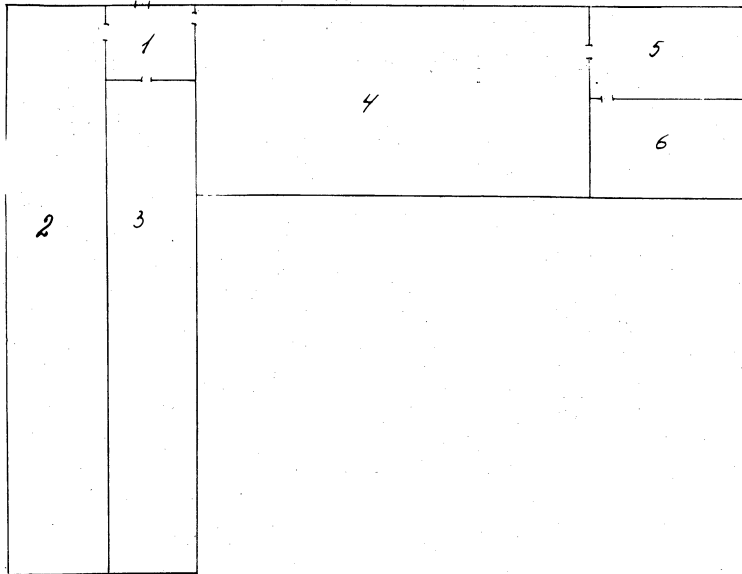
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DATE:

BODRUM KAT

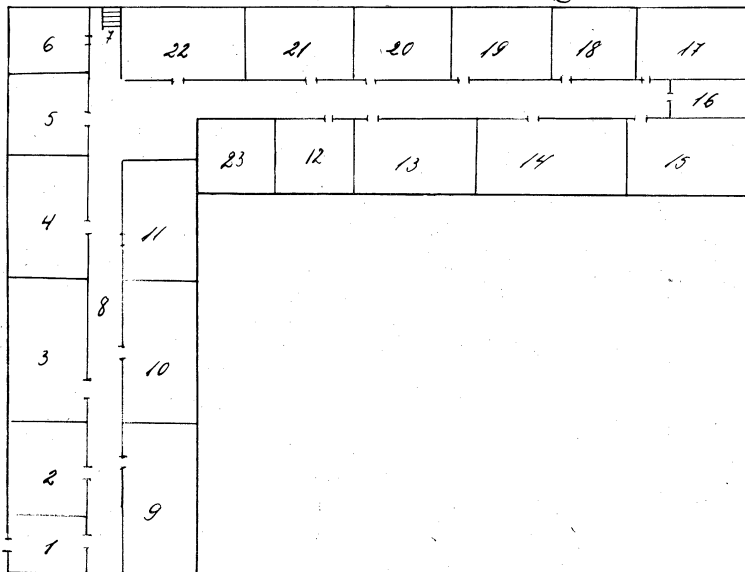
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Basement



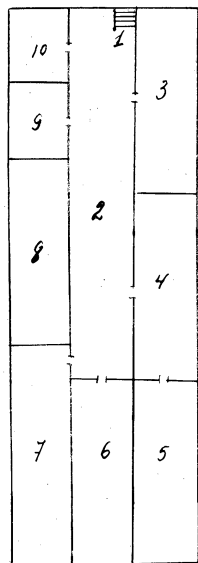
I^{inci} KAT

FIRST FLOOR



II^{inci} KAT

2ND FLOOR



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LOCATION OF BLDG ON SEPARATE
SKETCH
Not: BİNANIN YERİ AYRI KROKİDE GÖSTERİLMİŞTİR