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REPORT NO.

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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Organization

1. Hrusov Chemical Works, National Enterprise, consisted of the main plant in Hrusov N 49-52, E 18-187 and branch plants located in Petrovice N 49-53, E 18-327 and in Bohumin N 49-55, E 18-207. Until the end of 1949 the works was the property of the United Chemical Works and, through their general management, was subordinate to the Czechoslovak Chemical Works, National Enterprise. After 1 January 1950, the Hrusov Works was an independent national enterprise subordinated to the Ministry of Chemical Industry in Prague.

Main Plant in Hrusov

2. The main plant was founded about 100 years ago; together with the chemical works in Usti nad Labem, 1. and the chemical works in Kaznejev N 49-53, E 13-247 2. it was one of the oldest chemical factories in Czechoslovakia. The founder of the plant was a Count LARISCH-MONICH. The original name of the plant was Erste Oesterreichische Sodafabrik, Hruschau, and the factory produced soda by the Leblanc Method. The products have always borne the trade-mark "OF". Still in the last century, the Hrusov Plant was taken over by the United Chemical Works and remained subordinate to that organization until 1 January 1950. The factory was located on the main railway Prague-Ostrava-Bohumin, to which it was connected.

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by a spur track. The plant had its own boiler plant; the electric current was supplied by the Ostrava Power Works; the water was supplied by the Bohumin Water Works. Most of the production equipment was replaced after World War II. All of the reconstruction was completed by the end of 1951 and since that time the factory had been producing at full capacity. The production equipment for sulphuric acid was designed by Ing. CISAR and manufactured by the Vitkovice Iron Works. CISAR was a machinery engineer, an excellent technician and a long-time employee of the United Chemical Works who recently was transferred to the Chemoprojekt, National Enterprise (the Czechoslovak plant for drawing construction plans for the chemical industry). The equipment for the production of titanium dioxide was delivered from Switzerland. No other plans for the enlargement of the plant or of its production had been made because of lack of space. The factory was bordered by ponds, by the Ostravice River, by the railroad and by the Hrusov Pottery Factory. (This factory produced mostly industrial ceramics such as basins for acids, fireproof tiles, etc., and was owned by the United Chemical Works until the end of World War II when it was transferred to the Administration of the Ceramic Industry.) The factory had no research laboratories; only well equipped production laboratories. The personnel of the factory totaled about 2,000. Ing. PETRAN, a chemical engineer and former chief chemist for sulphuric-acid production in the factory, was the manager of the plant. REHAK, an experienced United Chemical Works official, was supply officer for the plant. The factory had its own plant militia and the security measures were the standard ones for all chemical enterprises. The personnel were predominately pro-régime and the plant was rewarded for its achievements several times:

3. The factory produced:

- a. Active Carbon. Various kinds of active carbon were produced, which bore the following trade-marks: Benzocarbon HR, Charbon medicinal, Carboraffin, Carboraffol, Carbovent, Desorex, Elorit HR, Glucarbon, G-carbon 1000, Hydraraffin ZV, Norit, Oenocarbon, Ostacol and Supersorban HR. The active carbon was used to make filters for gas masks, decolorizing agents in various industries, absorption of fumes, purification of water, medicines, sugar production, etc. Only domestic raw materials were used in this production.
- b. Sulphuric Acid. 49,000 tn. pyrites were used yearly in this production. Only flotation pyrite could be used which was, for the most part, delivered by the Chvaletice Mines N 50-02, E 15-26.³ When foreign pyrites were delivered, they were shipped through Gdynia, or through Stettin on the Oder River, to the port of Kozle N 50-20, E 18-10, from which they were forwarded to the factory by rail. As long as the old production furnace was in operation, the factory always fulfilled or even surpassed the production plan. After the new furnace was installed, production was lessened because the automatic feeding did not operate smoothly. This resulted in an investigation of Ing. CISAR and Ing. HONCARIV, the plant manager. The latter was found guilty, in spite of the fact that he was a devoted Communist and a Russian by birth, and was transferred as production manager to the Dynamite Factory in Bratislava. The defects in the furnace operation were corrected during 1952.
- c. Titanium Dioxide. The new equipment for the production of titanium dioxide was Swiss, and used 7,500 tn. of ilmenite yearly. However, for 1953 it was planned to import only 5,090 tn. of this material, which meant that either stored material, if any was available, was to be used, or the furnace was not to operate at

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full capacity. The main suppliers of ilmenite for Czechoslovakia were the Titan Company, Fredrikstad (98 Norwegian crowns a ton, dry weight, C.I.F. Stettin) and Blackwells Ltd., Liverpool. The Chemapol sale price was always 1,130 crowns a ton, dry weight, freight car Hrusov railway station. Five qualities of titanium dioxide, according to the content of TiO_2 , were produced. Titanium dioxide was used by rayon and artificial silk factories, in production of paints and lacquers, by the leather and rubber industries, by paper works, as well as for production of special glass. The titanium dioxide produced in the factory was of a good quality and was, until the end of 1950, a good export item. Since that time Czechoslovakia has met serious German competition in this field. It was planned to export about 500 tn. of titanium dioxide in 1953.

- d. Zinc White. Eight shades were produced. Five hundred tons of metal zinc were used in the production each year; most of it was imported from Poland by Metalinex. Zinc white was used in the production of paints. A part of the production was exported to Area V and Area VI countries. 4. (A total of about 1,200 tn. of Czechoslovak zinc white was exported; this was produced by four factories: the chemical factories in Hrusov, Bohumin, Koseca N 49-01, E 18-16 5. and Retenice N 50-14, E 13-10 7.
- e. Lithopone. This was produced in several shades and was used for production of paints, lacquers, linoleum, rubber cloth, and oil cloth. It was planned to export a total of 800 tn. of lithopone in 1953. Of this 220 tn. were to go to the USSR, 30 tn. to Area III countries, 350 tn. to Area V countries and 200 tn. to Area VI countries. 4.
- f. Earth Pigments, Iron Rouge, Pompeii Red, Red Lead, Litharge, Blanc fixe, and a few other similar products. For the production of these pigments, about one half the amount of colored clays imported by Czechoslovakia, or 3,400 tn., was used; mainly various ochers, siennas, and umbers for the production of red, yellow, and brown pigments. The finished products were used in the production of printing inks, in glass industry, etc. Part of the production was exported to all of the areas except Area I (USSR). 4.
- g. Hydrosulphite, Sodium Sulphate, Sodium Sulphite, Glauber's Salt, Sodium Thiosulfate (Anti-chlorine). Four thousand tons of common salt were used yearly for the production of hydrosulphite, and another 4,000 tn. in the production of the other sodium products. Further, 2,500 tn. of zinc powder, imported by Metalinex from Poland, were used yearly for the production of hydrosulphite. The 8,000 tn. of common salt were imported from Poland; this was the only common salt imported from Poland. Because the salt used for this purpose had to be of especially good quality, it was imported. The salt was furnished by Dalspo, Warsaw. The purchase price was 950 crowns per ton at Zebrzydowice N 49-53, E 18-37 railroad station, while Chemapol's sale price was 967 crowns per ton. No imports of Polish salt were planned for 1953 which meant that either salt on hand would be used or that there was to be no production of hydrosulphite during 1953.

Hydrosulphite was used in the textile industry, as a decolorizing agent for reclaimed textile material, as a bleaching agent for various purposes, in sugar and soap production, and for the leather and paper industries. In 1953, it was planned to export a total of 350 tn. of hydrosulphite. Of this, 35 tn. to Area II, about 50 tn. to Area III, 180 tn. to Area V, about 75 tn. to Area VI and about 50 tn. to Area VII. 4. Sodium sulphate,

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Glauber's Salt and anti-chlorine were used mainly for dyeing purposes, for leather and textile industries, for soap production, and for cosmetics. (Chlorine was not produced in the plant.)

- h. Vanadium Catalyst. This material was used in the production of sulphuric acid. The largest part was used in Czechoslovak factories and about 10 tn. were exported yearly. For 1953, it was planned to export five tons to Area II and five tons to Area III.⁴
- i. Blue Vitriol. This was produced in the quantities desired by the Ministry of Agriculture.
- j. Green Vitriol. This was a by-product of the production of hydro-sulphite. Green vitriol was used as a disinfecting agent, in dyeing woollen goods, as a weed-killing agent, for production of iron pigments, etc. However, all the above uses did not fully utilize the green vitriol produced in the plant and therefore it was mixed with the pyrites and used in the production of sulphuric acid. The Hrusov Plant also sent green vitriol to other Czechoslovak plants and paper works to be mixed with the pyrites.

Branch Plant in Petrovice

- 4. The branch plant in Petrovice was an old plant which was founded before World War I, also by Count LARISCH-MONICH. It was a private enterprise until the end of World War II, being in Polish territory in 1938 and in German territory until the end of the war. After the end of World War II, when Petrovice again became Czechoslovak territory, the factory, as German property, was put under the national administration of the United Chemical Works and became their property during 1946, being subordinated to the Hrusov Plant. From 1 January 1950, the Petrovice factory was a branch plant of the Hrusov Chemical Works, National Enterprise. The production machinery of the factory was old. The factory had its own boiler plant and was connected by a spur track to the Prague-Ostrava-Warsaw railway. For the location of the plant, see Annex A. For the plant lay-out, see Annex B.
- 5. Sulphuric acid and superphosphates were the only products of the factory. About 10,000 tn. of pyrites were used yearly for the production of sulphuric acid. Some of the pyrites were of domestic origin but the major part was imported from Norway through the port of Stettin on the Oder River up to the port of Kozle and further by rail. About 18,000 tn. of raw phosphates were used yearly in the production of superphosphates. Soviet and African phosphates were mixed because the Soviet phosphates could not be used alone. The imports were sent along the same route as mentioned above. Sulphuric acid not required for the superphosphate production in the plant was sent to the foundries in the Ostrava region.

Branch Plant in Bohumin

- 6. The branch plant in Bohumin was an old factory, founded in 1902 and 1903. The original name was Oderberger Chemische Werke. From 1919, Bohumin Chemical Works was owned by the United Chemical Works. The factory was in Polish territory from October 1938 until the fall of 1939, and from that time until the end of World War II in German territory. When Poland occupied the territory a part of the personnel was transferred to Prague and a new firm was set up under the name, Prague Chemical Works, with the management in Prague II, Vitava Quay. This firm was also property of the United Chemical Works. The factory itself was located in the former QEC Factory in Neratovice N 50-16, E 14-317. Saccharin was the first product produced there. After World War II the Prague Chemical Works, as such, was liquidated and the firm again transferred to Bohumin. The installations in Neratovice became a part of the Spolana Plant, a United Chemical Works

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factory in Neratovice. 6. The Bohumin Factory was put under the national administration of the United Chemical Works and became their property in 1946. From 1 January 1950 the factory was a branch plant of the Hrusov Chemical Works, National Enterprise. The equipment in the factory was old. The laboratories were normal production laboratories but were well equipped. The factory had its own boiler plant and was connected to the Bohumin railway station by a spur track. For the exact location of the plant, see Annex C. For the plant layout see Annex D.

7. The factory produced:

- a. Saccharin. This was produced in powder, tablets, and crystals. Saccharin was used in food industries and in medicines. A part of this product was exported yearly. Chemapol's export plan for 1953 provided for the export of saccharin; the amount of saccharin was included under "Medical Goods".
- b. Bismuth Products. These included Bismuth Subnitrate, Basic Bismuth Nitrate, Spanish White, Bismuth Subgallate, Basic Bismuth Gallate, Bismuth Subcarbonate, and Bismuth Carbonate. Part of these products were exported and were included in the Chemapol listing "Various or Other Chemical Substances". The largest part, however, was used in Czechoslovakia.
- c. Mercury Chloride and Mercuric-Thiocyanate. Part of this production was exported, listed under "Various or Other Chemical Substances". The largest part was used in Czechoslovakia. The necessary raw materials for bismuth and mercury products were imported by Metalimex and appeared in Chemapol's import plan under "Various Metals", except that part of the mercury was of domestic origin and procured from the Krompachy N 48-55, E 20-52 Mines.
- d. Buffing Compounds. These included brushing paste for iron and for non-ferrous metals, polishing paste for nickel, chrome, and aluminum, copper salt acid, copper salt alkaline, zinc salt acid, zinc salt alkaline, brass salts, nickel salts, chroming bath, cadmium salt, tin salt acid, tin salt alkaline, zinc chloride, salts of iron, and iodides.
- e. Zinc White. About 500 tons of metal zinc were used yearly see paragraph 3 above.
- f. Disinfectants, Insecticides, and Insecticidal Glues. This production required about 300 tn. of ground sulphur a year; it was imported from Italy.
- g. Amides.
- h. Chloramine.
- i. Sulphur Chloride.
- j. Salicylic Acid.
- k. Zinc Chloride.
- l. Protective Agents, with the trade name "Subox".
- m. Iron Salts.

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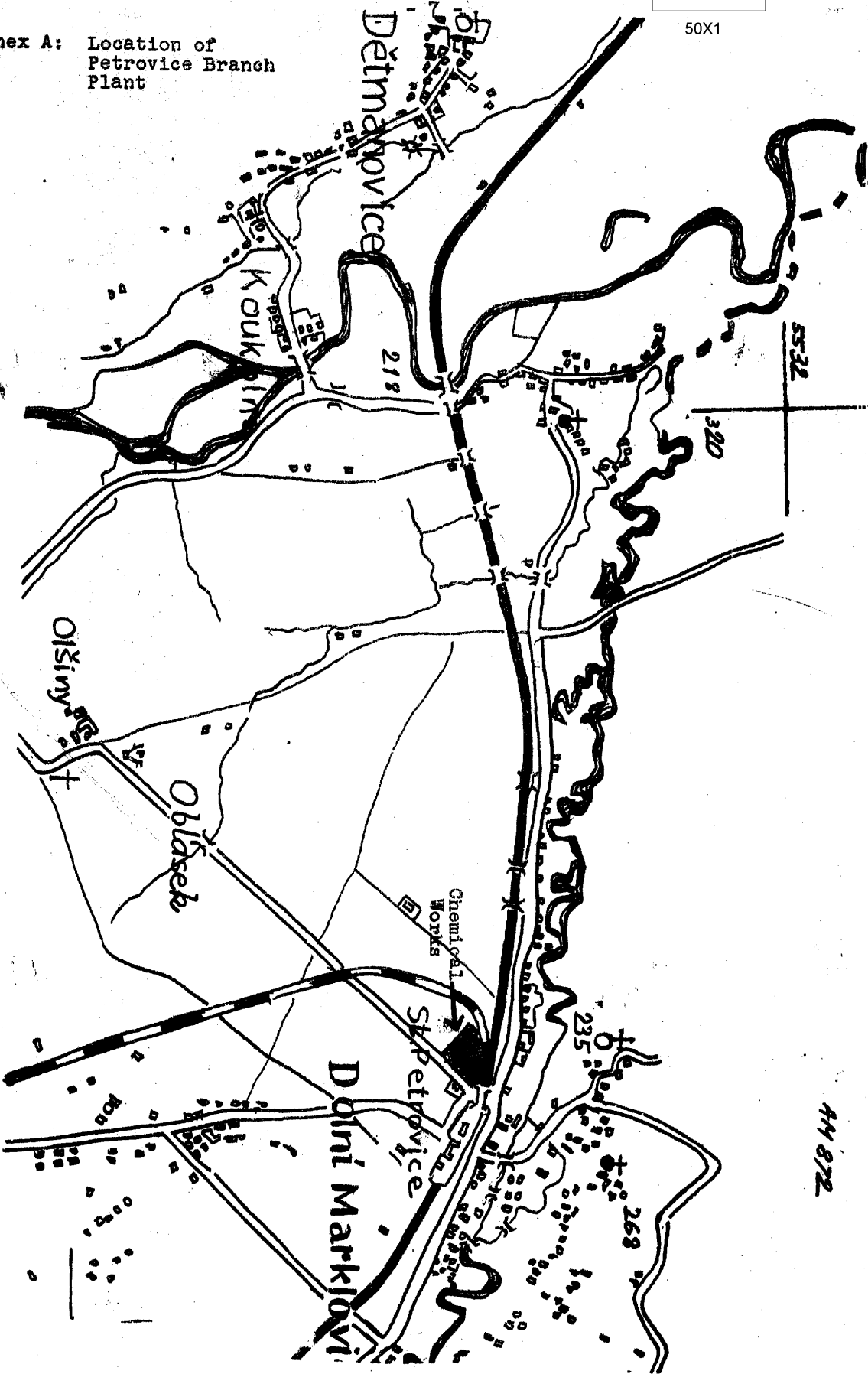
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Annexes:

- A. Location of Petrovice Branch Plant
- B. Layout of Petrovice Branch Plant
- C. Location of Bohumin Branch Plant
- D. Layout of Bohumin Branch Plant

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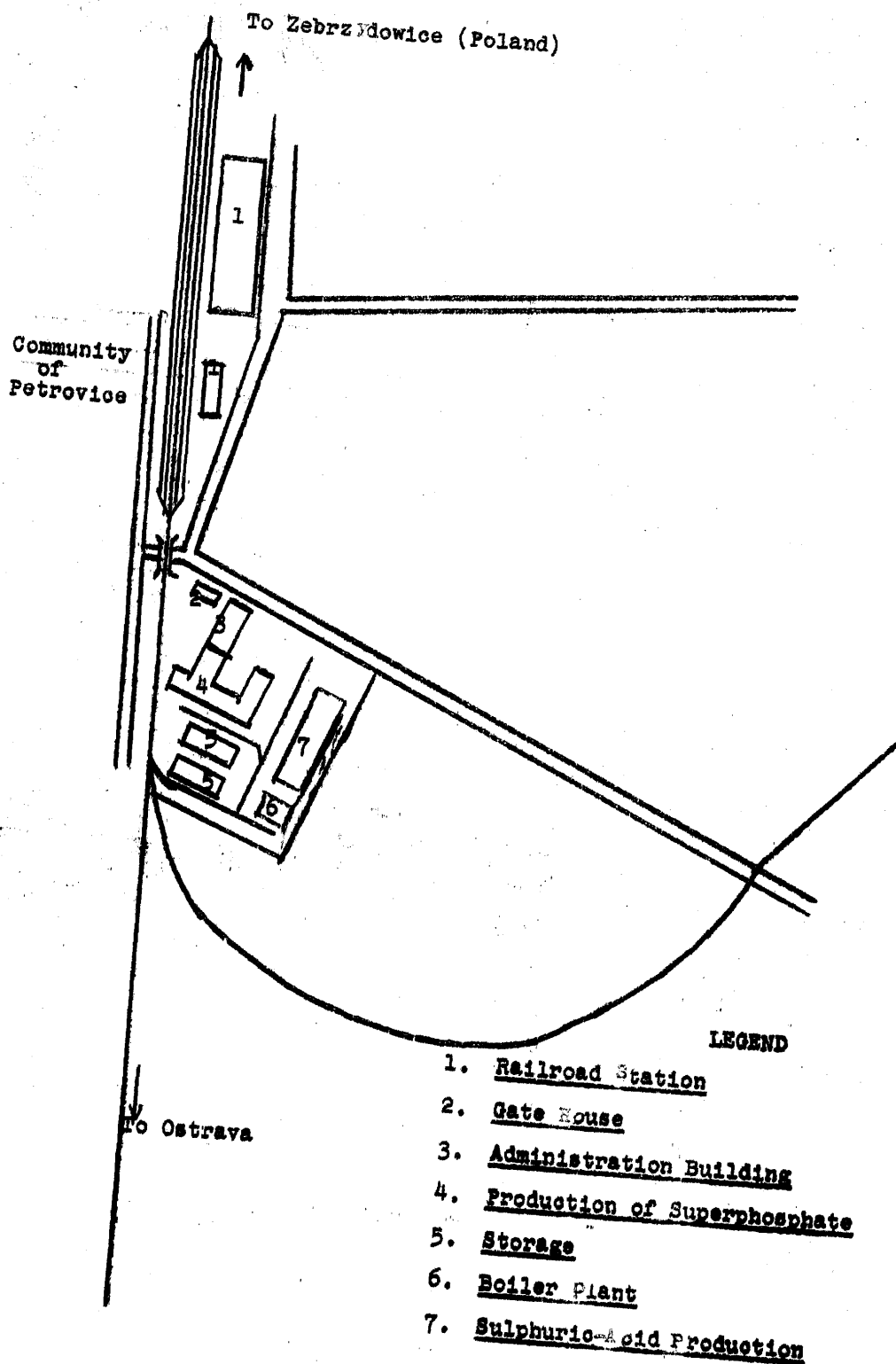
Annex A: Location of Petrovice Branch Plant



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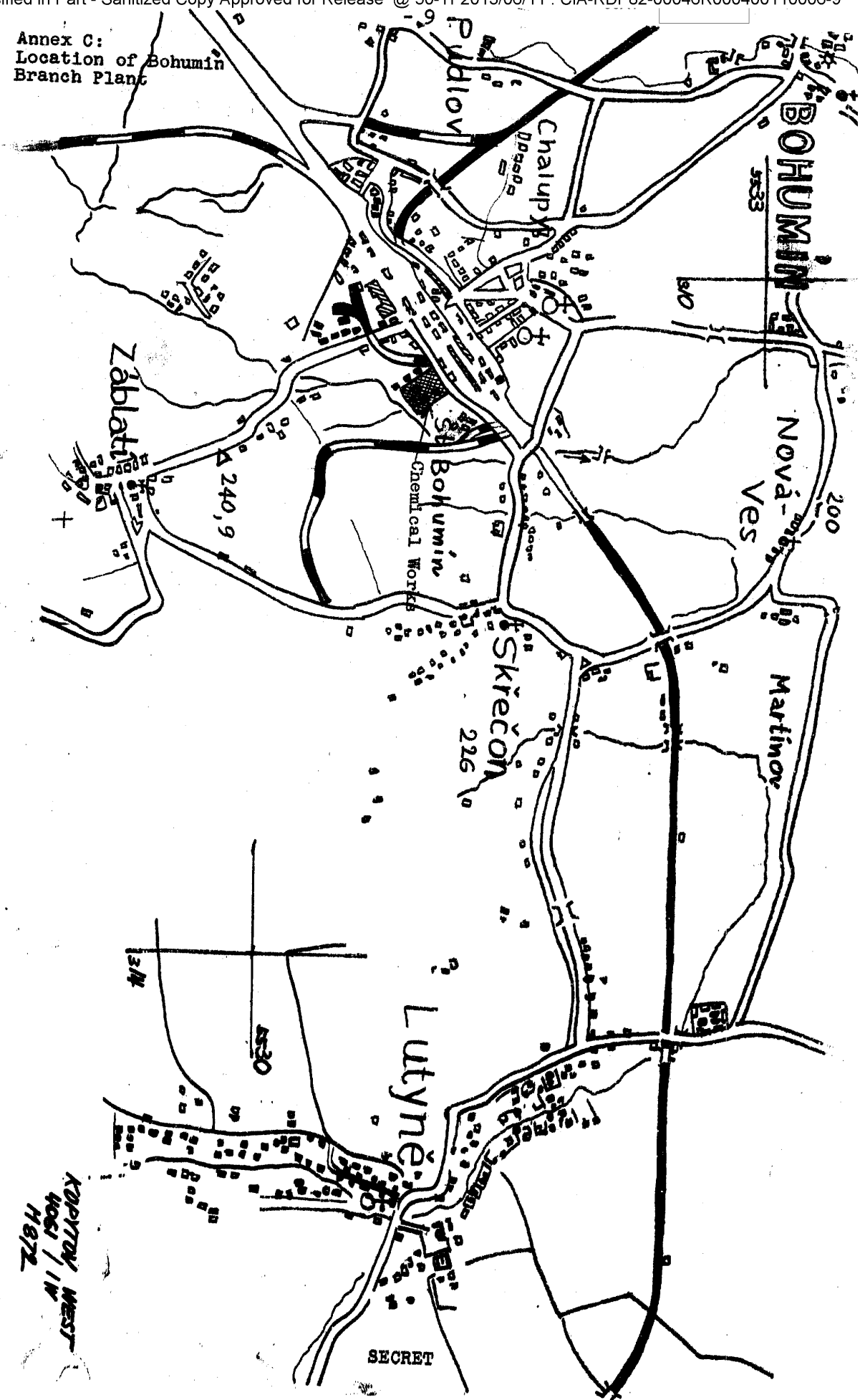
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Annex B. Layout of Petrovice Branch Plant



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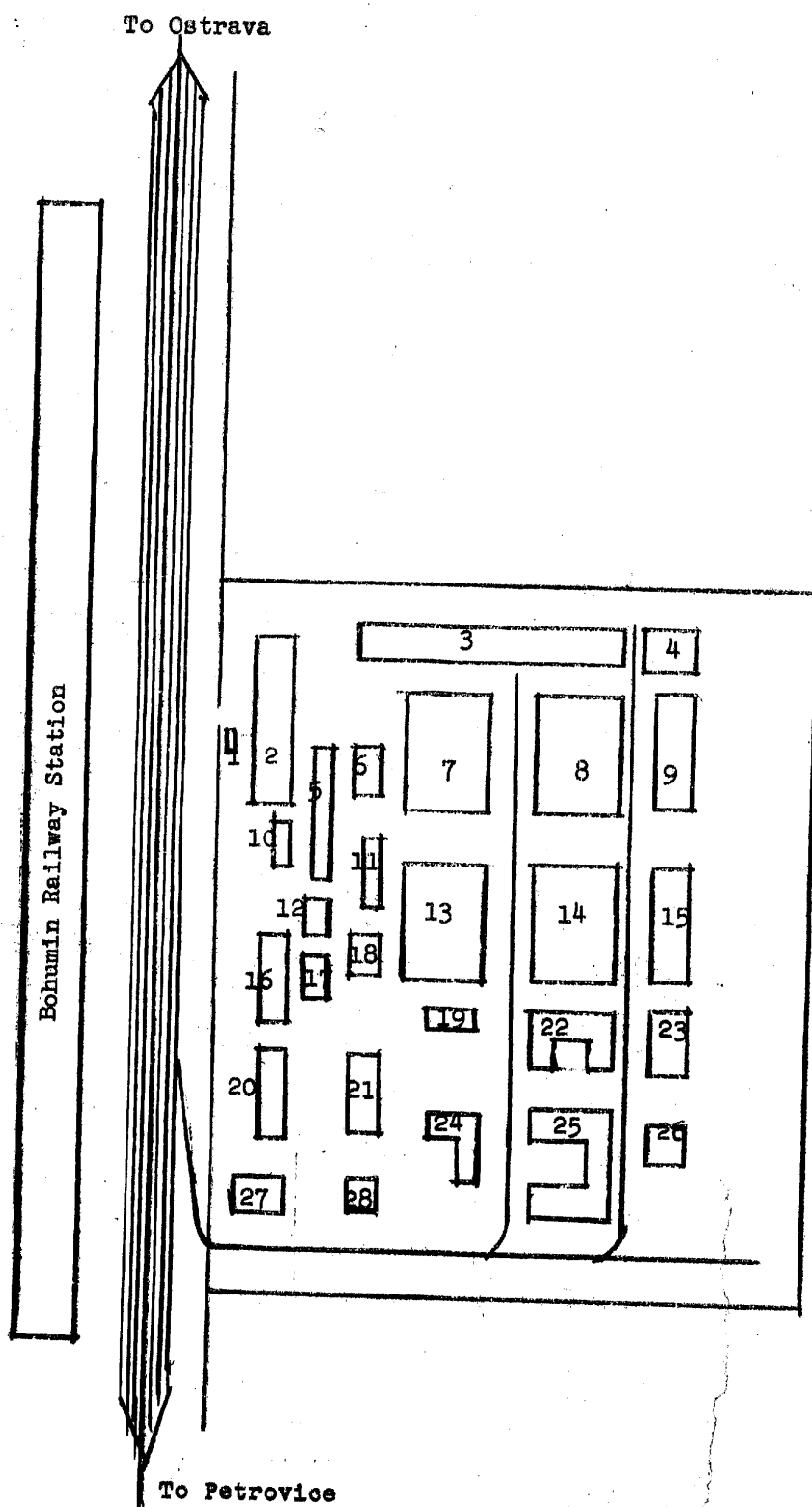
Annex C:
Location of Bohumin
Branch Plant



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Annex D. Layout of Bohumin Branch Plant



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LEGEND TO ENCLOSURE D: Layout of Bohumin Branch Plant

1. Gate House
2. Administration Building
3. Storage and Packing of Finished Products
4. Storage of Packing Materials
5. Mess Hall and Shower Room
6. Fire Station
7. Production of Saccharin, Chloramine; Laboratories, Carpentry Shop, and Construction Office
8. Production of Saccharin Ammides, Sulphur Chloride, and Locksmith Shop
9. Storage for Raw Materials
10. Garages
11. Mills
12. Biological Laboratories
13. Laboratories, Bismuth Salts, Other Salts, Boiler Plant
14. Mercury Salts and Protective Agents
15. Machinery Storage
16. Storage
17. Storage
18. Iron Salts
19. Transformer Station
20. Construction-Material Storage
21. Zinc Chloride
22. Salicylic Acid
23. Water-Purifying Station
24. Iodides
25. Zinc White
26. Pumping Station
27. Barn
28. Oil Storage

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