

330

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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

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

50X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	[Redacted]
SUBJECT	Military and Paramilitary Units and Installations in or near Kladno	DATE DISTR.	19 December 1955
DATE OF INFO.	[Redacted]	NO. OF PAGES	9
PLACE ACQUIRED	[Redacted]	REQUIREMENT NO.	[Redacted] 50X1
DATE ACQUIRED	[Redacted]	REFERENCES	

50X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

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

STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI		AEC				
-------	----	------	----	------	----	-----	----	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--

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

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO.

50X1

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 8 Nov. 50X15

SUBJECT Military and Paramilitary Units and Installations in or near Kladno

NO. OF PAGES 8 50X1

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

50X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1

50X1

Interior Guard Personnel (Vnitřní stráž - VS)

1. [redacted] from 400 to 600 Interior Guard (VS) personnel were stationed in the Kladno (N 50-09, E 14-06) area. They were billeted in a former political prisoner camp for females located in Dubí (N 50-10, E 14-09) just outside of the United Steel Works (see page 8) and were utilized to guard this national enterprise.

[redacted] the unit to be a battalion and believed that the highest ranking of the 40 to 50 officers in the unit was a lieutenant colonel. He knew none of the officers personally.

2. [redacted] approximately 100 VS personnel were utilized to man the 22 watch towers surrounding the United Steel Works. He believed the guard duty was for a 24-hour period and stated that each of the 10 to 18 m. high wooden towers, so placed that from each tower the guard could see the tower located to the left and to the right, was manned by one VS guard armed with a '98 rifle. Each tower also contained a light machine gun and a searchlight. [redacted] the VS guards were posted for two-hour shifts during warm weather and for one-hour shifts during cold weather. He very seldom noticed any officers with those guards. He also believed that when the guards were not on duty in the United Steel Works area, they were required to take training in the camp area.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

50X1

3. [redacted] the VS camp was used as quarters for female prisoners and work brigade personnel from [redacted]. At that time the women occupied the three wooden barracks located on one side of the camp and the brigade personnel lived in the remaining three barracks. From [redacted] this camp was used to house only female political prisoners. [redacted] after all male and female political prisoners were taken away from the United Steel Works and utilized as laborers in the coal mines and brick factories, this camp was used to billet the VS troops.
4. [redacted] the first VS troops were used in the United Steel Works during the [redacted]. At that time the guard towers surrounding the camp were constructed and all steel works employees were cautioned about approaching the fences and towers.
5. [redacted] VS personnel wore OD uniforms and blue visored caps with a magenta band. The officers wore silver shoulderboards with magenta colored piping and the EM wore magenta shoulderboards. EM wore a circular, 25 cm. in diameter, brass collar insignia consisting of a cog-wheel, sword and star.
6. [redacted] the VS personnel were selected from the Czechoslovak Army because of political reliability, were required to serve two years, and had ranks and pay equal to those in the regular military forces. However, he also believed that after two years' service, re-enlistees received a radical increase in pay and benefits. For example, he knew of one sergeant, who was married and had two children, who earned approximately 1,400 crowns a month. [redacted] did not know this sergeant's duty or length of service, however.
7. [redacted] often observed marching units of from 100 to 200 VS personnel leaving or returning to the camp area. With each formation there were always two soldiers marching with fixed bayonets 30 m. in front of the unit and two soldiers 30 m. to the rear. At those times source also observed that some of the personnel were carrying machine pistols.
8. [redacted] had seen two female VS personnel inside the camp area. Both females wore skirts instead of trousers and overseas type caps. He estimated the females to have been from 28 to 30 years of age and assumed that they were administrative personnel.
9. [redacted] observed a VS Medical Officer inspecting the towers in the United Steel Works area. This officer wore dark blue shoulderboards with red piping and had a serpent insignia on his collar tab.
10. [redacted] only 80 VS personnel were billeted in the camp. He believed that the remaining personnel had been sent away temporarily for military training purposes. He assumed that the 80 who were left were staff personnel plus the minimum essential guard force for the United Steel Works.
11. [redacted] never known of the use of VS personnel for any purpose other than guarding the United Steel Works area. He assumed, however, that these elite troops would be the backbone of the Ministry of Interior in cases of internal disorder.

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

50X1

Department for Special Tasks (Zvlastny oddeleni) at the United Steel Works

- 50X1 12. [REDACTED] within the organizational structure of the United Steel Works there was an office officially identified as the Department for Special Tasks but which was formerly known as the Security Department. This section was composed of what source believed to have been about six officers and from five to six NCO's (all dressed in civilian clothing) from an unidentified security force.
- 50X1 13. [REDACTED] this section controlled the military manpower statistics of the United Steel Works. He stated that they were primarily responsible for card filing the educational backgrounds; former occupations; military service by arm, unit and rank, and reserve status and present occupation of all male employees up to 60 years of age. In addition, [REDACTED] it was common knowledge that this section was in direct contact with other unidentified agencies in Prague and that information from this section determined the political reliability of questionable employees. [REDACTED] that this section had its own post office box and courier service to Prague.
- 50X1 14. [REDACTED] all employees were required to report to this section upon employment, fill out questionnaires, and report any changes in employment status to this section within a few days after such a change had taken place. Violators were liable to a 10 crown fine. During his initial interview in this section, source noticed various official rubber stamps which he associated with the National Security Corps (SNB).
- 50X1 15. [REDACTED] of this section issuing any orders to the factory workers other than loud-speaker announcements directing individuals to report for recording purposes. [REDACTED] heard any official mention of this section being part of any military organization; [REDACTED] he assumed that the personnel in the section were officers and NCO's by the manner in which they acted. [REDACTED] all personnel working in this office were confirmed Communists.

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

Czechoslovak Army Technical Officers at United Steel Works

- 50X1 16. [REDACTED] from six to eight unidentified Czechoslovak Army technical officers, the highest ranking one was a major, were located at the United Steel Works. These uniformed personnel wore OD uniforms and had brown piping on their silver background shoulderboards. He inadvertently entered their office in the Main Headquarters at one time and noticed that the majority of these personnel were working on drawing boards. He believed that these individuals were primarily construction technicians. However, only in rare instances did these personnel come into [REDACTED] and at those times they concerned themselves only with the analysis of the steel produced.
- 50X1 17. [REDACTED] these personnel were also concerned with unknown construction planning and controlled the issue of steel to military personnel who came to the works with authorizations to receive same. From two to three times a month, unidentified

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 4 -

50X1

uniformed Czechoslovak Army personnel would come to the works with an army truck and trailer to pick up steel. [redacted] these personnel would first report to the technical officers, and the latter would then supervise the loading of the steel beams, cog-wheels and other unidentified steel profiles. [redacted] all these items were probably used in Czechoslovak Army engineer or bridge building programs.

50X1

50X1

Unidentified Czechoslovak Army Caserne in Kladno

18. [redacted] approximately two km, southwest of the United Steel works (see page 8) was located a Czechoslovak Army caserne consisting of two three-story buildings within a 100 x 300 m. area. Source believed that the caserne was built in 1936. He assumed that from 800 to 1,000 military personnel could be billeted inside the cement and picket fenced area. He believed that the unidentified units in this caserne were used to train reserve personnel during the summer months, since he had observed an increase in personnel and activity during these periods.

19. [redacted] source believed that an unidentified Czechoslovak infantry battalion of about 500 men had been stationed at this caserne. [redacted] the caserne was also occupied by an unidentified artillery unit, for he had seen at least four very small caliber artillery pieces being hand-pulled during training exercises in the immediate area. Among the military personnel source had observed tank, signal, infantry and artillery shoulderboards and insignia.

[redacted] also observed from three to four tanks either leaving or entering the area. Three of the tanks he believed were of the Soviet JS series and one was a World War II German Tiger tank. [redacted] was unable to identify any other of the artillery or tanks he had observed. He had no further information on this installation or units occupying it.

Army Inspecting Personnel at United Steel Works

1. [redacted] at least once every three months several unidentified Czechoslovak Army officers, including one general officer, would make a general inspection throughout the United Steel Works area. Normally the inspecting party consisted of the one general officer, a colonel, a captain, one or two lieutenants and a civilian. The inspections did not seem to have been directed towards any specific factory output or area. At various times source had noticed in this group officers who had made a previous inspection at the works, but he was unable to state that the same personnel made all of the inspections. All of these military personnel wore gold shoulderboards with red piping.

Restricted Military Area in Vicinity of Kladno

2. [redacted] approximately four kilometers west of the United Steel Works (see page 8) was located a restricted military area which he believed to have been an ammunition depot. Surrounding the entire wooded area was a two-meters high barbed-wire fence on which were affixed signs prohibiting entrance to unauthorized persons under penalty of death. The entire perimeter was guarded by Czechoslovak Army foot patrols.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 5 -

50X1

People's Militia (Lidove milice - LM)

23.

400 to 500 of the 26,000 United Steel Works employees were members of the People's Militia. he observed five units of approximately 100 individuals each representing the United Steel Works People's Militia march. He estimated that no more than 12 females marched in this formation. The LM personnel wore black workers-type uniforms and blue berets.

50X1

24.

membership in the LM was on a voluntary basis. Prior to the currency reform, source believed that the United Steel Works had as many as 1,500 LM members. However, after the LM was called out on a preventing action to control the civilian population in Kladno during the three or four day period when the currency was exchanged, interest in the LM decreased and three-fourths of the members dropped out in order to avoid Sunday training periods and possibly being used against future demonstrations.

25.

the LM had '98 rifles stored in a small building which was called the Workers Section and was located outside of the United Steel Works area. He believed that the only transport available to the LM was from either the United Steel Works, State Police, or Czechoslovak military vehicles on hand. the LM would be used to supplement the Interior and Industrial Guards in all cases of emergency.

Industrial Guard Personnel (Zavodni straz - ZS)

26.

the United Steel Works employed approximately 60 individuals as Industrial Guard personnel. The individuals were responsible for internal security, documentation control, escort of visitors, fire and property security and supervision of the gate guards. when political prisoners were utilized by the United Steel Works, there were a total of 120 ZS personnel who also had the responsibility of guarding political prisoners, both within the United Steel Works area and in the prisoner barracks. During this period the ZS usually had one guard for every eight prisoners during the day and one guard for every four prisoners during the night.

27.

ZS personnel wore an OD colored uniform similar to that of the Czechoslovak Army with either an OD visored cap or overseas type cap. any colored piping, insignia or rank designations. However, each member wore a red armband with a yellow "ZS" printed thereon and was armed with a pistol. Formerly, when the ZS escorted the political prisoners at night, they were armed with machine pistols. these pistols, together with a few '98 rifles, were still available for emergency use and were probably stored in the Office of the Industrial Guard within the United Steel Works area.

50X1

28.

the ZS personnel were usually between 40-55 years of age, lived privately, and received a monthly salary determined on an hourly pay scale basis. They were not considered to be members of any government-controlled security

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 6 -

force but were ordinarily employees of the United Steel Works. They were responsible for internal security within the steel works against sabotage and demonstrations.

50X1

29. [redacted] the ZS personnel were subject to disciplinary action for violations of security and misconduct. [redacted]

50X1

50X1

[redacted] ZS personnel were severely fined for sleeping on post or for not punching the time clock punctually.

50X130.

[redacted] was unable to define the organizational structure of the ZS and could not identify the group as any specific type of unit. Source stated that although "captain" was the usual form of address to the leader of the Industrial Guards, he had never heard of any official designation of rank when ZS personnel were referred to. [redacted] the individual responsible for ZS personnel was usually identified as the "Commandant."

50X1

50X131.

[redacted] all ZS personnel received one-half day of training twice a month at the District Police Headquarters in Kladno. They were required to fire weapons of various types at least once a year on the military firing range located about three kilometers northwest of the United Steel Works. [redacted] know which organization was responsible for ZS activities but noted that when the ZS strength was decreased in [redacted] many of those released were employed by the government security forces.

50X1

50X1

32. Within the national enterprise area the ZS utilized one small building as an office and sleeping quarters for off-post on-duty personnel. [redacted] to indicate the daily schedules

50X1

50X1

of the ZS guard personnel or methods of posting. [redacted] that in the Main Headquarters building of the United Steel Works the ZS maintained a few male and approximately five female personnel. The male personnel were usually called upon to investigate all mechanical failures and personal injuries which took place, in order to help determine if sabotage were possible; and the females, dressed in civilian clothing, were called upon when incidents took place involving female employees.

Unidentified Firing Range in Vicinity of Kladno Used in Common by Army, Security Forces, Paramilitary Formations, Etc.

50X13.

[redacted] approximately three kilometers northwest of the United Steel Works (see page 8) was located a military firing range which was used by the Czechoslovak Army troops stationed in Kladno, the Interior Guard (VS) personnel on duty at the United Steel Works, and the paramilitary units in the area such as the Industrial Guards (ZS) of the United Steel Works and the People's Militia (LM).

50X1

50X1

[redacted] the entire firing range area to be about 250 x 300 m. [redacted] it contained six targets used for machine gun, rifle and machine-pistol firing training.

50X1

50X1

[redacted] the firing range was only guarded when in use.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 7 -

50X1

Reference is made to page 8, a memory sketch of installations in the vicinity of the United Steel Works, National Enterprise, in Kladno (N 50-09, E 14-06)

50X1

1. VS caserne.
2. Location of former barracks for political prisoners. These were subsequently torn down.
3. Unidentified Czechoslovak Army caserne.
4. Unidentified firing range.
5. Unidentified restricted area.
6. Building in which the Department of Special Tasks of the United Steel Works, National Enterprise, was located.
7. Building called "Workers' Section" in which rifles belonging to the People's Militia were believed to be stored.
8. ZS office.
 - o = VS guard towers on the perimeter of the United Steel Works, National Enterprise.

CONFIDENTIAL

