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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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**REPORT**

50X1

**COUNTRY** Czechoslovakia

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**DATE DISTR.** 21 October 1955

**SUBJECT** Czechoslovak Border Guard T/O & E

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**NO. OF PAGES** 24

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**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

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**A. ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS AND STRENGTH AND EQUIPMENT TABLES**

See Annexes A and A-I for an organizational chart and a strength and equipment table of the 10th Volary Border Brigade, Ministry of the Interior, including all of its component and/or subordinate units known to source.

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See Annexes B and B-I through B-VII for an organizational and functional breakdown of the headquarters and the staff sections of the 10th Volary Border Brigade; sketch of the buildings occupied by these staff sections; and for detailed floor plans of the

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main building of the brigade.<sup>2</sup> [redacted]

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See Annexes C, C-I, and C-II for an organizational chart and a strength and equipment table of the Reserve Unit (Zalezni Oddil), 10th Volary Border Brigade as well as for a detailed floor plan of the building occupied by this unit in Volary. [redacted]

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## B. WEAPONS

### 1. Individual Weapons

For the number of weapons and distribution throughout source's Brigade, see Annexes A through C-II. Their individual characteristics were as follows.

#### a. 7.65-mm Czech Pistol, Model 50

The magazine capacity was eight rounds. The unit of fire issued with the weapon was 24 rounds.<sup>3</sup>

#### b. 7.62-mm Czech Pistol, Model 52

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#### c. 7.92-mm German Rifle Model 98K

The magazine capacity was five rounds. The unit of fire was 60 rounds. [redacted] approximately two-thirds of all rifles in the 10th Volary Border Brigade were of this model.<sup>4</sup>

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#### d. 7.92-mm Czech Sniper Rifle, Model unknown to source

The magazine capacity was five rounds and the unit of fire was 60 rounds. [redacted] approximately one-third of all rifles in the 10th Volary Border Brigade were of this model.

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#### e. Unidentified Czech Sniper Rifles

In addition to the rifles listed in paragraphs c and d above, each of the 20 companies [redacted] had 10 of these unidentified 10 round, semi-automatic sniper rifles with telescopic sights. They had been received at the end of 1954 and the beginning 1955 and were used for training purposes only.

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#### f. 7.62-mm Czech SMG, Model A-23

The magazine capacity was 24 rounds and the unit of fire was 96 rounds.<sup>3</sup>

#### g. Grenade, Offensive, Czech Model RG 5 (?)

This was not an item of issue. It was kept in supply. [redacted]

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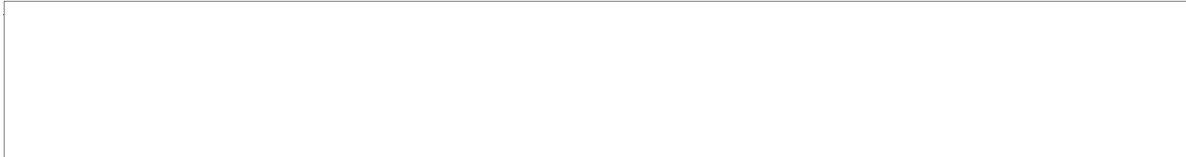


**2. Crew-Served Weapons**

**a. 7.92-mm Czech LMG, Model ZB-26**

The magazine capacity was 20 rounds and the unit of fire 200 rounds.<sup>3</sup>

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**c. 7.92-mm Czech HMG, Model ZB-37**

The capacity of this HMG was a 200 round metallic link belt. The unit of fire was unknown

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**d. Soviet Model HMG, M 1943 "Gorynov"**

no further information beyond the fact that this was the model used

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**e. 82-mm Mortars, U/1 German Model**

no further information on this weapon.

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**f. 82-mm Soviet Mortar, M 1937**

this mortar the "Soviet Mortar Model 50."<sup>5</sup>

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**g. U/1 Czech Panzerfaust ("Panzerovka")**

no further information on this weapon.

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**h. 82-mm U/1 Rocket Launcher ("Tarasnice")**

no further information on this weapon.<sup>6</sup>

**C. VEHICLES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT**

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For all vehicles and motorcycles used in the 10th Volary Border Brigade see Annexes A through C-II.

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**1. Gas Masks**

Brigade had unidentified Czech and Soviet gas masks.'

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**2. Signal Equipment**

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the three battalions of the brigade had some signal equipment

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the brigade headquarters had signal equipment the brigade Code and Signal Section (see Explanatory Note 9 to Annex B) had an unknown number of unidentified walkie-talkies with an alleged range of eight kilometers.

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five of the Brigade Skoda Tudors had some unidentified signal equipment installed in the rear. One of these vehicles was permanently assigned to the brigade Chief of Staff, while the other four were used by various Brigade headquarters sections.

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3. Miscellaneous

Unidentified Czech flare pistols as well as unidentified field glasses were issued to personnel on border patrol. Unidentified handcuffs and flashlights were also occasionally issued to personnel on border patrol duty

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2. [redacted] Comment: The floor plan of the smaller building, [redacted] was exclusively occupied by the Intelligence Section, 10th Volary Border Brigade

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3. [redacted] Comment: This is the same weapon as that described on pp 43 ff of DA Pamphlet No 30-50-2, Handbook of the Soviet and Satellite Armies, Part II, The Satellite Armies.

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4. [redacted]

5. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] a photograph of the same mortar [redacted] is on pp 82-83 of DA Pamphlet Material in the Hands of or Possibly Available to the Communist Forces in the Far East, [redacted]

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6. [redacted]  
7. [redacted]

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10. Annexes:

Annexes A and A-1 - Organizational Chart of the 10th Volary Border Brigade of The Ministry of Interior and Strength and Equipment Table of 10th Volary Border Brigade and Component Units.

Annex B Organizational and Functional Breakdown of the Headquarters, 10th Volary Border Brigade of the Ministry of Interior.

Annex B-1 Two Buildings Occupied by Headquarters and Staff Sections, 10th Volary Border Brigade.

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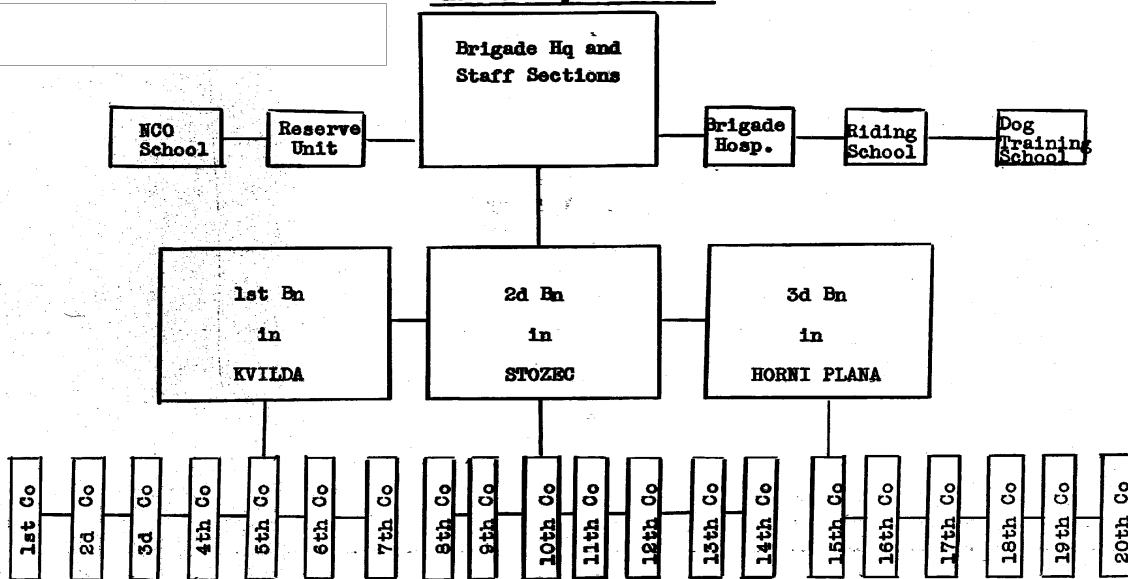
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- Annex B-2** Plan of Ground Floor of New Building, 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters.
- Annex B-3** Plan of 2d Floor of New Building, 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters.
- Annex B-4** Plan of 3d Floor of New Building, 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters.
- Annex B-5** Plan of Ground Floor of Old Building, 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters.
- Annex B-6** Plan of 2d Floor of Old Building, 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters.
- Annex B-7** Plan of 3d Floor of Old Building, 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters.
- Annexes C, C-I, and C-II** - Organizational Chart of the Reserve Unit (Zalozni Oddil) of the 10th Volary Border Brigade, Strength and Equipment Table of the Reserve Unit of the 10th Volary Border Brigade, and Floor Plan of Building occupied by Reserve Unit of the 10th Volary Border Brigade.

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Annex A  
Organizational Chart of the 10th Volary Border Brigade of  
The Ministry of Interior



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## Annex A-1

**Strength and Equipment Table of the 10th Volary Border  
Brig and Component Units**

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Units	O's	NCO's	Female NCO's	Pvts	Female Civilians	Rifles	SMG's	Model Pistols .50	Model Pistols .52	Skoda Tudors	Tetraplans	Tatra 111 Trucks	Motorcycles 250 cm 31AVA	LMG Soviet and Czech	MMG Soviet and Czech	U/1 82-mm Ger- man and/or. Soy Mort	Czech Panzerfaust	Czech two-man Bazookas	Horses	Dogs
Brigade Hq	58	16	6	2	4	75	77	20	75	49	2	10								
NCO School	10	-	-	250	-	135	135	-	10	-	-	-		?	6(?)	4	?	?		
Reserve Unit	5	-	-	122	-	63	69	-	5	-	-	-		12	3	4	3	3	-	-
Riding School	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-							30	
Dog Tag School	1	2	-	45	-	48	48	-	3	-	-	-								45
1st Bn	10	5	-	100	-	115	115	-	15	3	-	-	3	9	3	3	3	3	10	15
2d Bn	10	5	-	100	-	115	115	-	15	3	-	-	3	9	3	3	3	3	10	15
3d Bn	10	5	-	100	-	115	115	-	15	3	-	-	3	9	3	3	3	3	10	15
20 Companies	60	40	-	900	-	550	550	-	100	-	-	-	20	160	60		?	?	120	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1619</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1217</b>	<b>1225</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>199+</b>	<b>78(?)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12+</b>	<b>12+</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>190</b>

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## Annex A and A-I

Organizational Chart and Strength and Equipment Table of the 10th  
Volary Border Brigade, Ministry of Interior

## LEGEND:

1. Brigade Headquarters and Staff Section

See Annexes B and B-I through B-VII for a more detailed breakdown of the Brigade headquarters and staff sections.

2. Reserve Unit

See Annexes C, C-I, and C-II for a more detailed breakdown and description of this unit.

3. NCO School

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the school comprised one Mortar Co. (about 16 men and four mortars), one HMG Co., one Panzerfaust and Rocket Launcher Co. and several Infantry companies.

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the permanent personnel of this NCO school comprised only 10 officers. However, for the purpose of estimating the total brigade strength, inasmuch as there never were less than about 250 trainees assigned to this school, the latter figure was used when computing the brigade strength table. This school also had unidentified German and Soviet Model 50 82-mm mortars, Soviet and Czech HMG's, Soviet and Czech LMG's, Czech Panzerfaust's and Czech two-man operated rocket launchers (Tarasnice).

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Generally speaking, the ratio of Czech and Soviet LMG's and HMG's, as well as that of German and Soviet mortars, was one to one.

4. Brigade Hospital

For details see point 18, Annex B.

5. Riding School

The enlisted personnel (about four to five soldiers) for the Riding School were furnished by the Reserve Unit (see number two above). Every Friday from 1300 to 1700 hours, all brigade officers of the brigade headquarters, NCO School and Reserve Unit and even the medical officers of the hospital had to take riding lessons.

## 6.

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7. Three Battalions

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On 1 June 55 the 10th Volary Border Brigade reorganized the number of its battalions from four to three

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figures given [redacted] in the Strength Tables are only estimates.

[redacted] At any one time, about one-half of the battalion personnel trained with the weapons listed in the Strength and Equipment Table (see Annex A-1); while the other half were on border control and check duty on roads, highways, and railroad stations controlling documents of railroad, bus, and car passengers. Each battalion headquarters had normally the following staff: one CO (1st Lt), one C of S or Executive Officer (Lt), one political officer (Lt), two intelligence officers (Lts), two counterintelligence officers (Lts), one medical officer (Capt), one supply officer (Lt), one finance officer (Lt), one first sergeant, one weapons NCO, one supply NCO, and one finance NCO.

(Among NCO personnel [redacted] distinguished between career and non-career or conscript NCO's. Non-career NCO's, i.e., those that were conscripts and only served a two year period in the Border Guard, received much less pay and had many less privileges than career NCO's. [redacted] grouped and counted the non-career NCO's together with the privates in the strength tables. Except for those in the Reserve unit (see Annex C-I) [redacted] unable to distinguish among conscripts. [redacted] non-career or conscript NCO's, even up to and including the rank of first sergeant, might be selected for their rank because of superior educational background. They served as platoon leaders, squad leaders or instructors, but were still considered to be mere conscripts. They were less trusted than career NCO's, received only a little more pay than privates, and were subject to the same duties and details as privates.)

#### 8. 20 Companies

The Brigade had 20 companies. [redacted]

[redacted] The figures listed in the strength and equipment table were estimated [redacted] on the basis of the following information. [redacted] each Company had three officers: one Company CO (Sr Lt or Lt), one executive officer (Lt), and one political officer (Lt). Generally speaking each company had the following career NCO's: One first sergeant and one finance and/or supply sergeant. [redacted] there were other, non-career NCO's who served as senior members of patrols, squad leaders, etc.; [redacted] included [redacted] with the privates in the strength table and [redacted] no further details.

[redacted] at least in theory, each company had three platoons, each platoon three squads and each squad 11 to 12 men.

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## Annex B

Organizational and Functional Breakdown of the Headquarters,  
10th Volary Border Brigade of the Ministry of Interior

## LEGEND:

1. Commanding Officer. The CO was responsible for the operation of the entire brigade and its subordinate units. The driver for the CO was furnished by the Transportation Section.
  2. Chief of Staff. The chief of staff was the brigade executive officer and the acting CO in the CO's absence. His driver was furnished by the Reserve Unit (See Annex C below).
  3. Intelligence Section. The Intelligence Section, in addition to the personnel listed on the chart, had at its disposal two drivers: a corporal assigned to the Transportation Section, and a private assigned to the Reserve Unit (see Annex C below). The Intelligence Section was also designated as "1/2." [redacted] all staff sections of brigade headquarters had such numerical designations in addition to their names. [redacted] "1/2" for the Intelligence Section and "1/6" for the Counterintelligence Section (see point 4 below). Personnel in this section generally wore civilian clothes; they only wore uniforms if they had to carry out a mission along the border. The female NCO's had the same weapons as the male personnel of this section.
- The 10th Volary Border Brigade was responsible for a 70 km sector of the Czechoslovakian/West German and/or Austrian Border. The length of this sector varied with different brigades according to the terrain. The depth of responsibility for each brigade stretched 50 km inland on the Czech side of the border and 50 km beyond the border into West Germany and/or Austria. About one half of the Intelligence Section staff concerned themselves with the Czech side of the border, while the other half concerned themselves with the German and Austrian side. Both halves gathered intelligence and handled the agents from their area of responsibility operating within that area.
4. Counterintelligence Section. This section was also known as "1/6" (see item 3 above). It conducted background investigations amongst the officers and EM of the brigade. The staff of this section worked with the help of personnel planted covertly throughout the brigade and its component units. These persons were not known to the remainder of the brigade personnel. The section reported both to the Brigade CO in person and to its PRAGUE Headquarters. [redacted] information on it.
  5. Political Section. This section conducted political training for the personnel of brigade headquarters, the Reserve Unit and the NCO School. It also supervised political training conducted by battalion and company political officers. The driver for this section was furnished by the Transportation Section.

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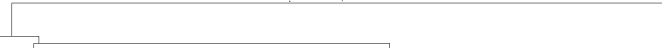





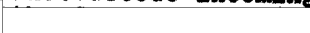

6. School and Training Section. This unit supervised, organized and scheduled all training with the exception of political training for all personnel (officers, NCO's and privates) of the brigade and of its subordinate units. The female first sergeant was a secretary; she wore an NCO uniform but had no weapons. (All female soldiers in the Brigade Headquarters, with the exception of the one assigned to the Intelligence Section, wore uniforms but were unarmed.)

50X1 7. Operations Section. 

50X1  it concerned itself with all operations  
50X1 on the border.  in case of border crossings, either  
illegal or prearranged and made by either Germans or Czechs, this  
section would trace the route followed by the border-crossers,  
plot it on maps and even photograph sectors of the border where  
the crossing occurred. The section would also try to determine  
the number, course, and elevation of propaganda balloons launched  
from the West. Finally it would collect and report on Western  
propaganda leaflets found within Czechoslovakia. The female  
NCO was a secretary.


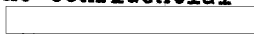

8. Organization (Personnel) Section. This section took care of all personnel matters, such as personnel records, promotions, transfers, etc.

50X1 9. Code and Signal Section. 

50X1  the Code Section  
50X1 coded outgoing messages but did not decode incoming messages.  
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50X1 10. Weapons Section. This unit repaired all weapons belonging to personnel of brigade headquarters, the NCO School, and the Reserve Unit. This section also supervised and organized all issuance of weapons to above personnel and to newly mobilized recruits assigned to the Brigade. The section also issued ammunition to above personnel. Once or twice a month the section inspected weapons of all brigade personnel, including that of all subordinate units, battalions and companies).

11. Transportation (automobile) Section. This section furnished drivers to other sections of brigade headquarters. Only three drivers were directly assigned to this section (see items 1, 3, and 5 above). All other drivers were furnished by the Reserve Unit. The Transportation Section was responsible for the supervision, dispatch, and control of all brigade vehicles as well as for their maintenance. The driver attached to the Intelligence Section was the only member of the Transportation Section carrying an extra Model 52 pistol.

50X1 12. Finance Section. This section handled officers' and EM pay  
50X1 for the entire brigade, although it did not handle individual pay  
50X1 for battalion and company personnel. Instead it delivered the  
payroll in bulk to battalion officers for further distribution.  
It did not have anything to do in any way with the confidential  
funds handled by  Intelligence Section.   
 it did not even know of the existence of these funds.

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13. Rations Section. This section supervised and organized the procurement and distribution of all food supplies for the entire brigade, down to and including companies.
14. Supply Section. This section supervised and organized procurement and distribution of all clothing supplies for the entire brigade, down to and including companies.
15. Building Maintenance Section. This section supervised the construction of new buildings for the brigade and the maintenance of all buildings occupied by the 10th Volary Border Brigade in Volary [redacted] This section also ran the brigade carpentry shop described in the above report.
16. Secret Document Section and Message Center. This section issued all orders concerning promotions, transfers, disciplinary actions, etc., as requested by other sections. One female NCO handled the message center work and distributed all official mail throughout the brigade, down to and including companies.
17. Engineer Technical Section. This section supervised the construction, maintenance, research and development of all border guarding devices, observation towers, etc.. This section especially concerned itself with the maintenance and possible improvement of the electrically-charged barbed wire along the border.
18. Medical Section. This section staffed the brigade hospital [redacted]

Annexes B-I, B-II, B-III, B-IV, B-V, B-VI and B VIII

Floor-Plan of Building Occupied by 10th Volary Border Brig Headquarters

LEGEND:

The 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters and above described staff sections occupied two buildings in Volary; one of these buildings was exclusively occupied by the Intelligence Section. [redacted] All headquarters sections listed in the legend to Annex B, with the sole exception of the Medical Section, occupied these two buildings. The larger building consisted of two connecting parts known as the new and the old building. Annex B-I represents a [redacted] sketch of the two buildings occupied by the 10th Volary Border Brigade headquarters staff sections. Numbers as shown on this sketch refer to sections listed in above explanatory notes. The two unnumbered windows on the third floor belonged to two rooms formerly occupied by the Soviet adviser, Lt Col BAKUNT [redacted] These two rooms had been unoccupied since Feb/Mar 55.

Annexes B-II through B-VII are [redacted] sketches of the floorplan of the three floors in both the old and new portions of the main headquarters building. The numbers on those floorplans refer to actual room numbers used in the main building occupied by the 10th Volary Border Brigade Headquarters sections.

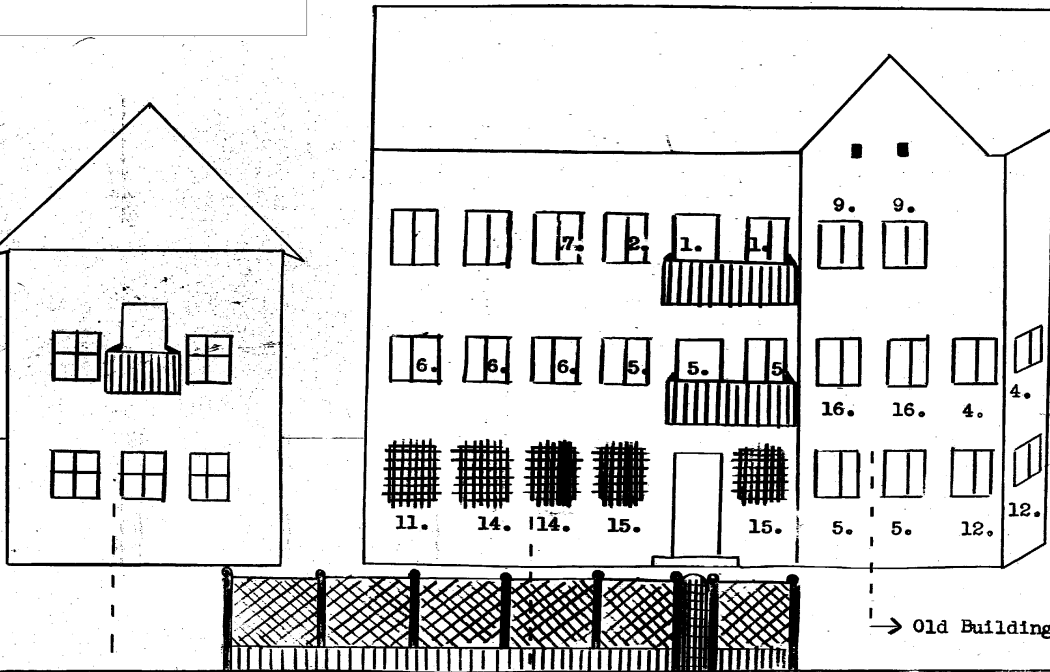
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Annex B-1  
Two Buildings Occupied by Hq and Staff Sections  
10th Vclary Border Brig (Memory Sketch Not to Scale)



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→ Building occupied by Intelligence → New Building  
Section (Ground floor: Officers' mess) Railroad Station Street

Note:  
Numbers as shown on this sketch refer to sections listed in explanatory notes  
to Annex A. Rooms not numbered were unoccupied.

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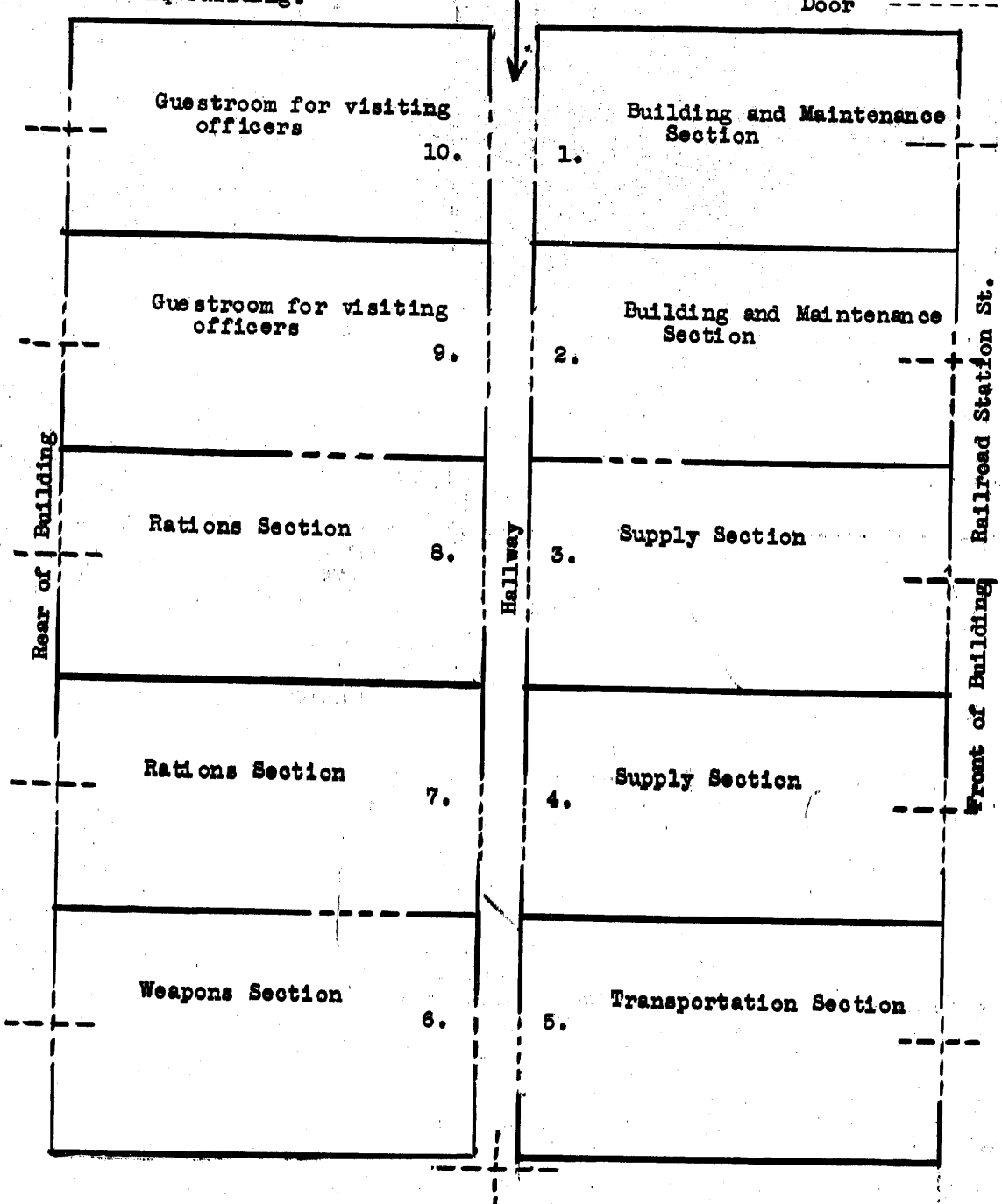
Annex B-2

Plan of Ground Floor of New Building, 10th Volary Border  
Brig Hq

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LEGEND

note: numbers refer to room numbers actually used in Hq building. Window Door



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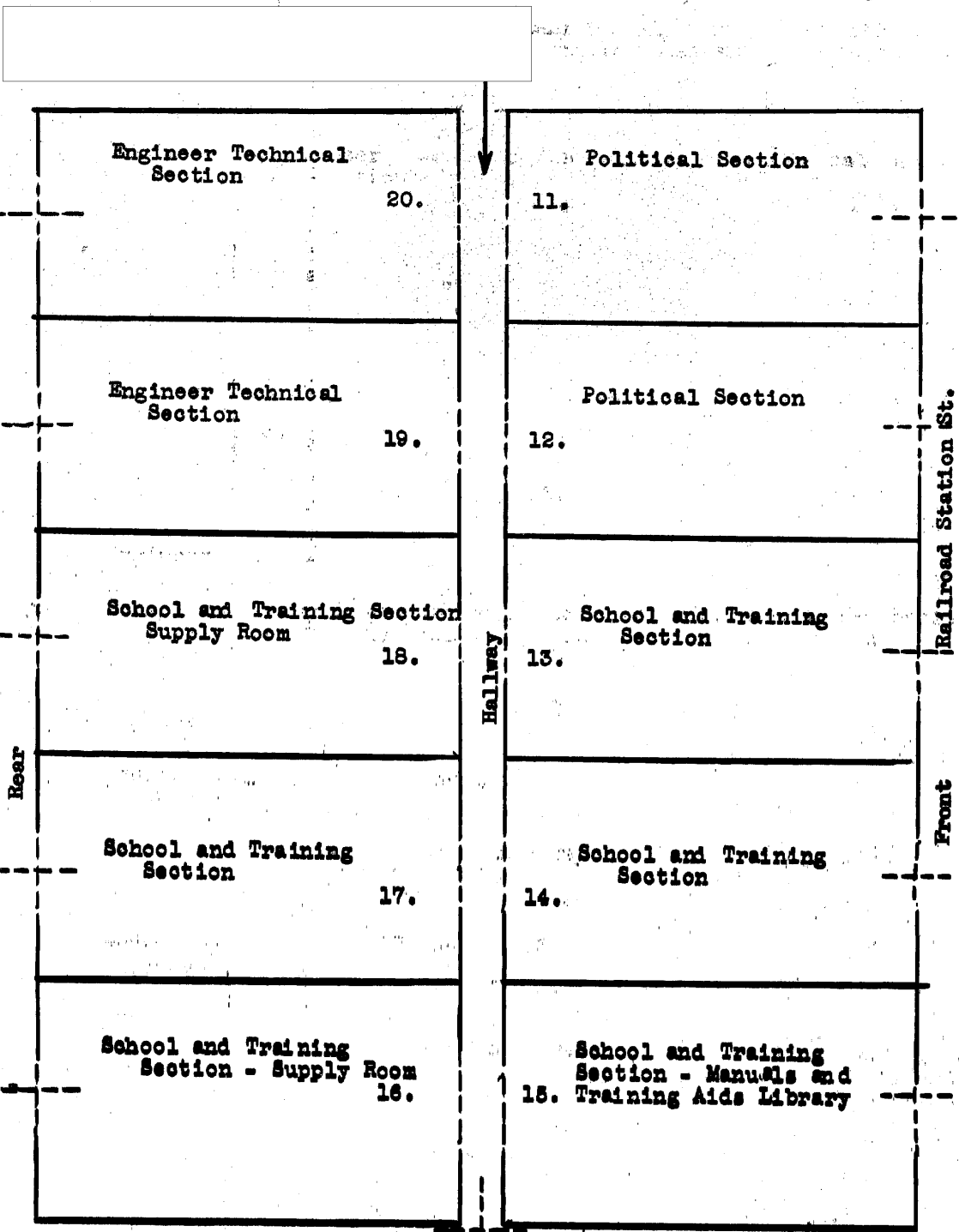
Annex B-3



Plan of 2d Floor of New Building. 10th Volary Border Brig Hq

Note: Numbers refer to room numbers actually used in Hq building.

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Annex B-4

Plan of 3d Floor of New Building. 10th Volary Border  
Brig Hq

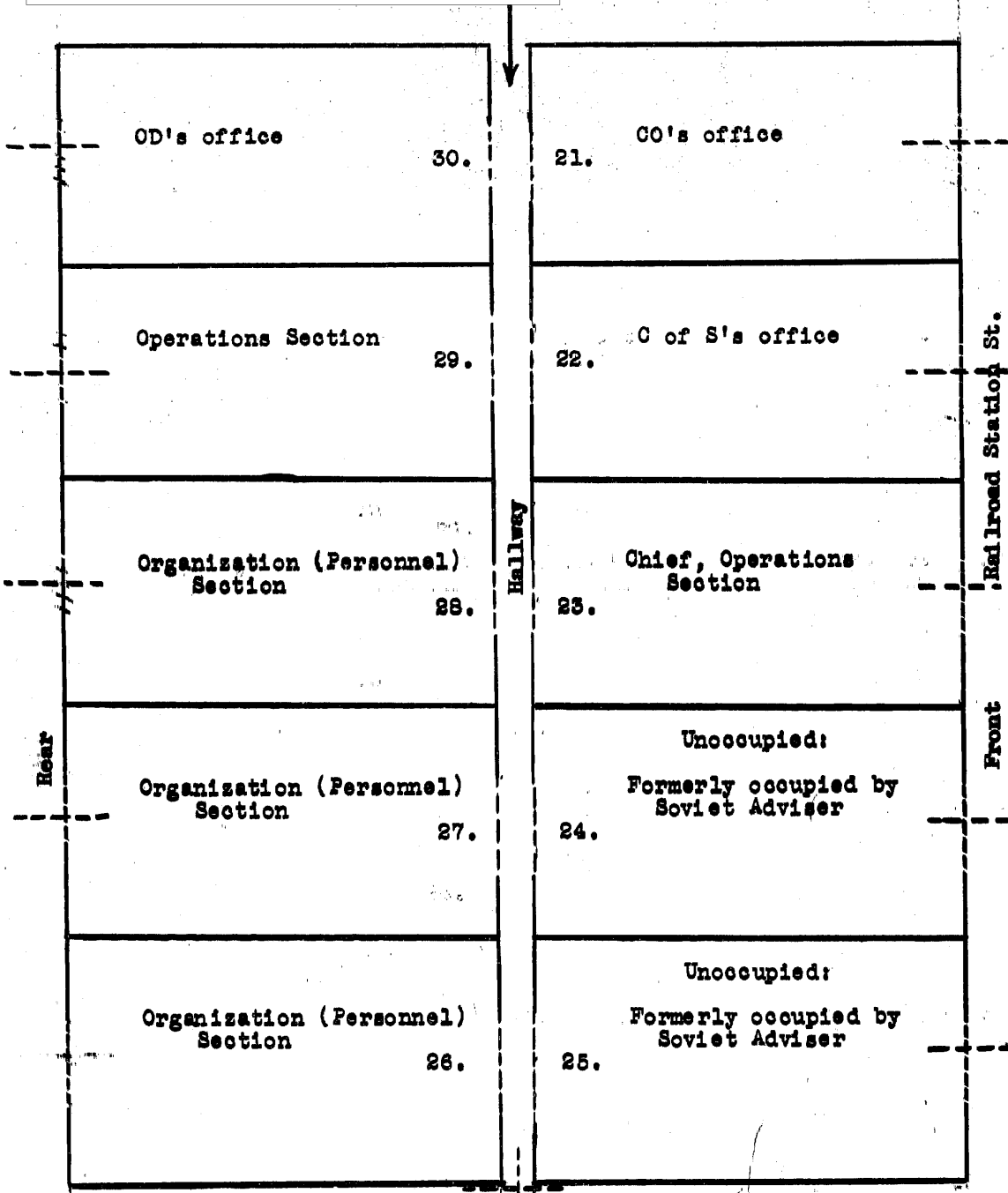
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Note: Numbers refer to room numbers actually used in Hq building.

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Annex B-5



Plan of Ground Floor of Old Building, 10th Volary Border  
Brig Hq

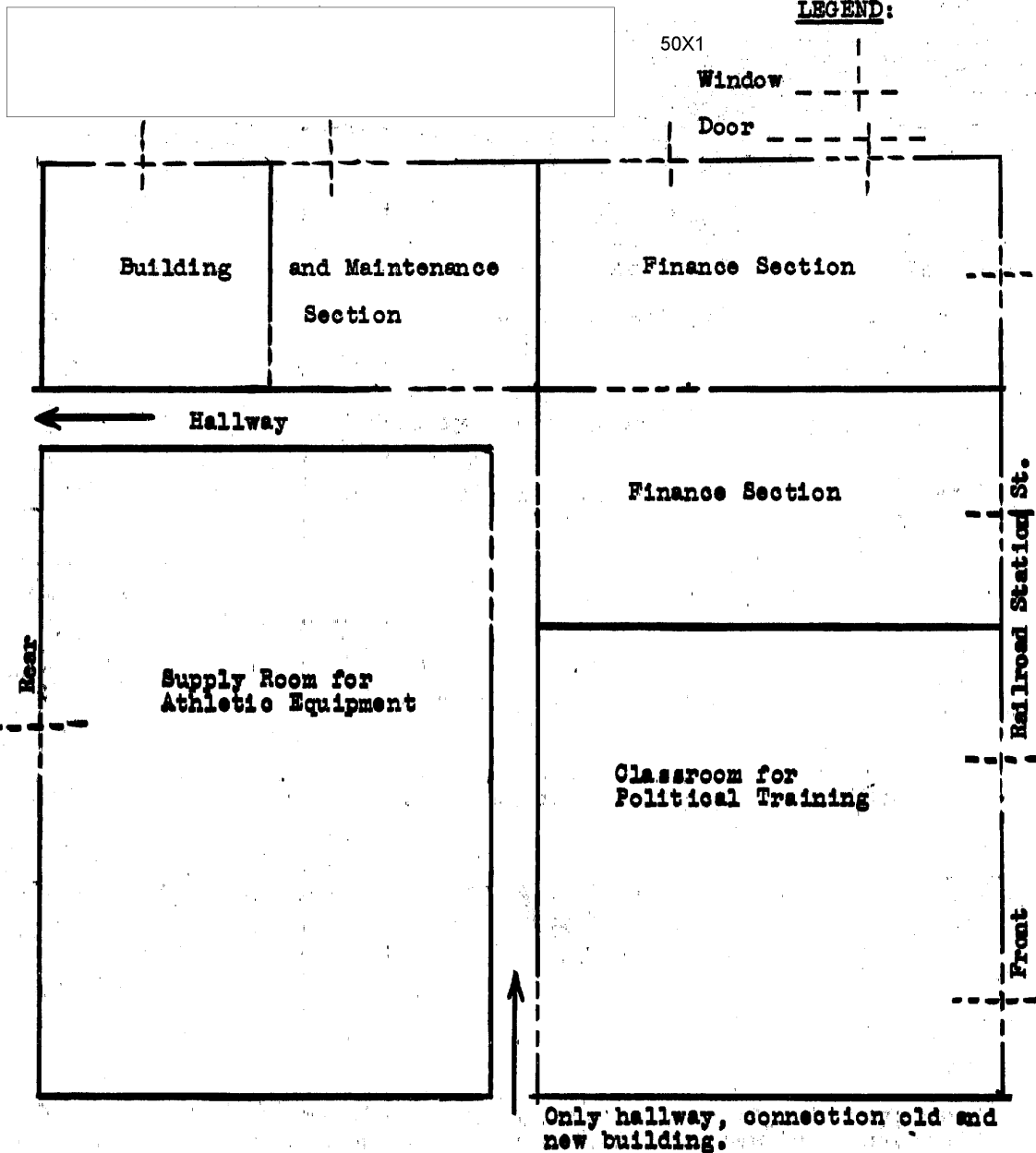
Note: Rooms were not numbered.

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Window - - - - -

Door - - - - -



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Annex B-6



Plan of 2d Floor of Old Building. 10th Volary Border Brig Hq

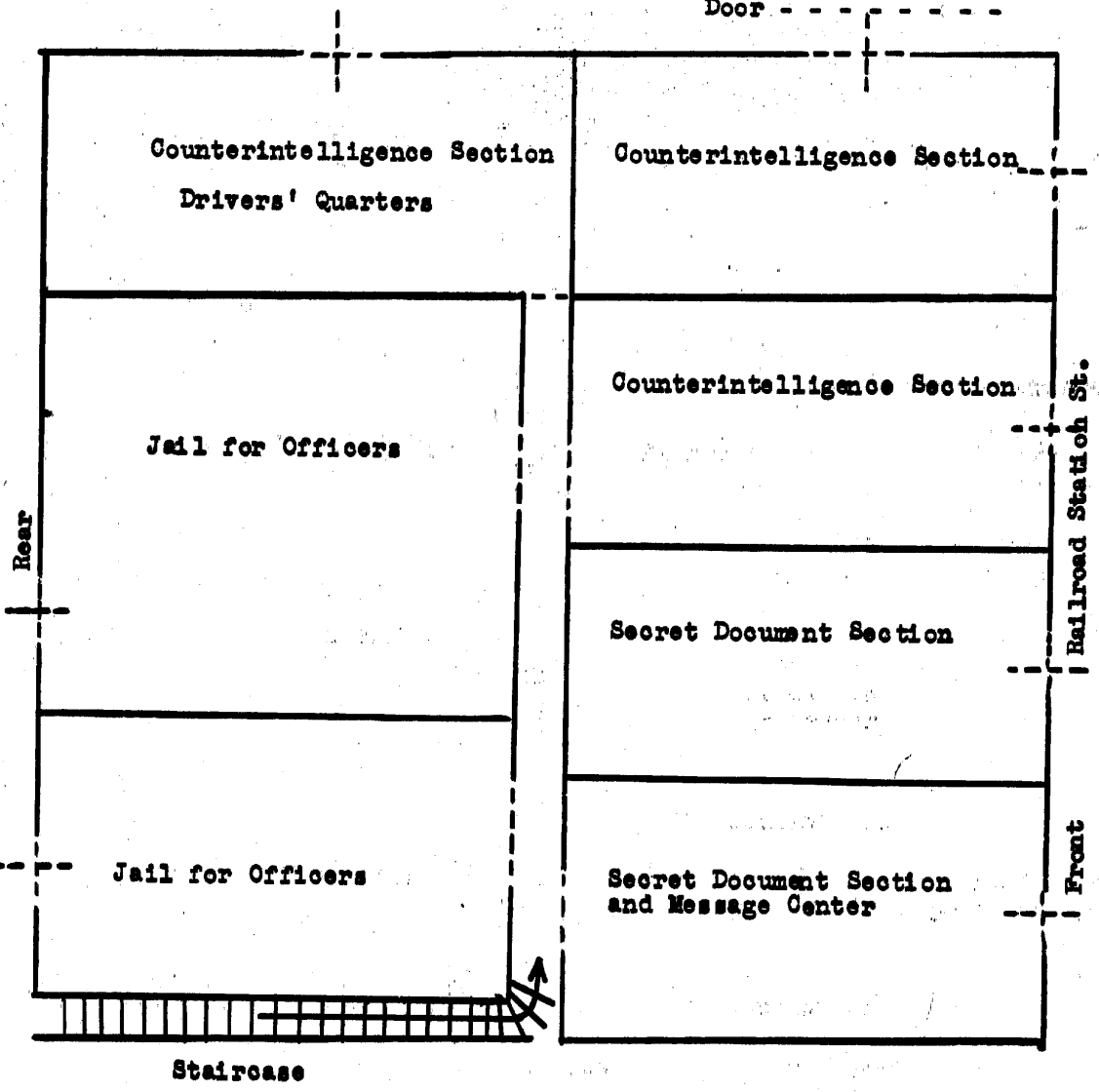
Note: Rooms were not numbered.



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Door - - - - -



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Annex B-7



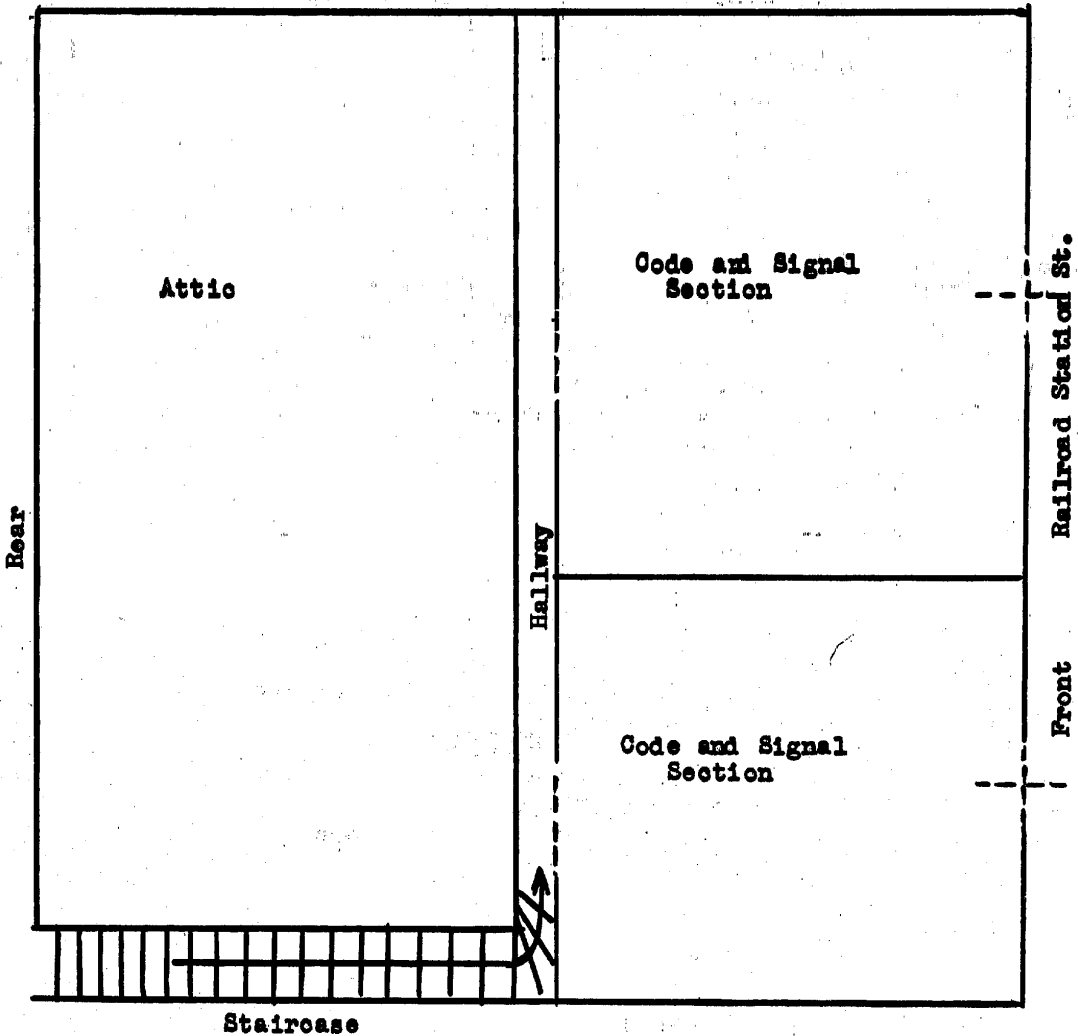
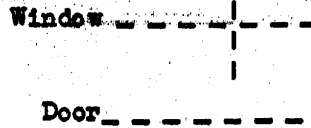
Plan of 3d Floor of Old Building, 10th Volary Border Brig Sq

Note: Rooms were not numbered.

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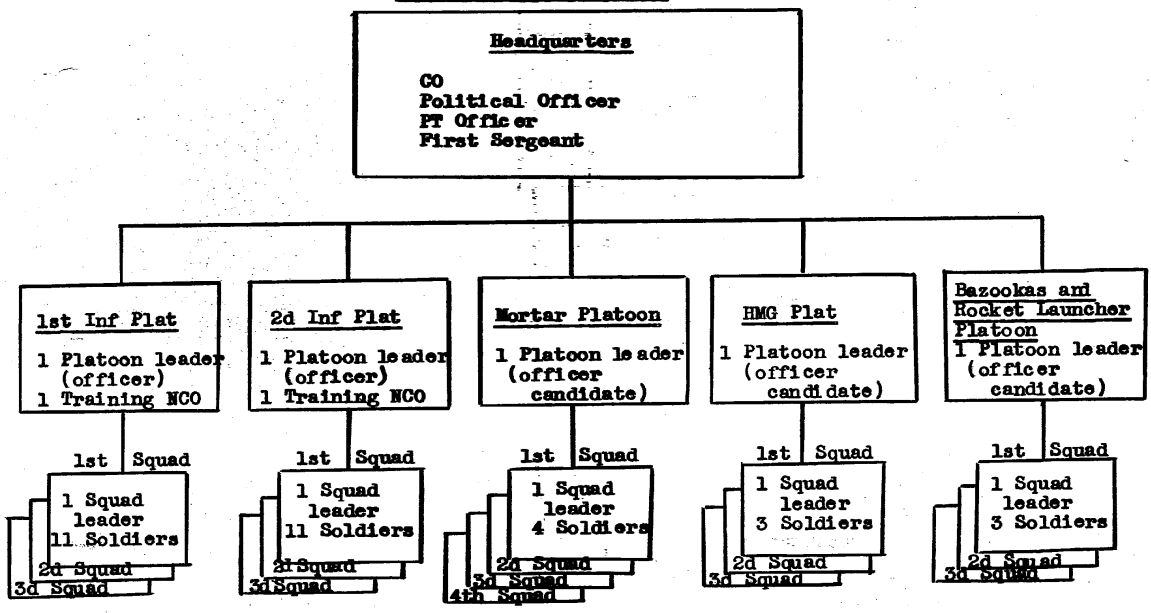


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**Annex C**

**Organizational Chart of the Reserve Unit (Zalozni Oddil) of the  
10th Volary Border Brig**



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Annex C-1

Strength and Equipment Table of the Reserve Unit (Zalozni  
Odd1) of the 10th Volary Border Brigade

Personnel Breakdown	Officers	Career NCO's	Non-Career NCO's	Pvts	Rifles	SMG's	Pistols Model 52	82-mm Mortars	Panzerfausts	IMG's	HMG's	Bazookas
Headquarters	1 SrLt		1 First Sgt		1	2	1					
Political Officer	1 Lt				1	1	1					
PT Officer	1 Lt				1	1	1					
1st Inf Plat (3 Squads)	1 Lt		4	33	19	20	1			6		
2d Inf Plat (3 Squads)	1 Lt		4	33	19	20	1			6		
Mortar Plat (4 Squads)			5	16	10	11		4				
HMG Plat (3 Squads)			4	9	6	7					3	
Panzerfaust & Bazooka Plat (3 Squads)			4	9	6	7			3			3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

Note: For reasons given in explanatory Note #7 to Annexes A and A-1, these 22 non-career (conscript) NCO's were included under privates in the Strength Table for the entire brigade as given in Annex A-1

50X1

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Annex C-II

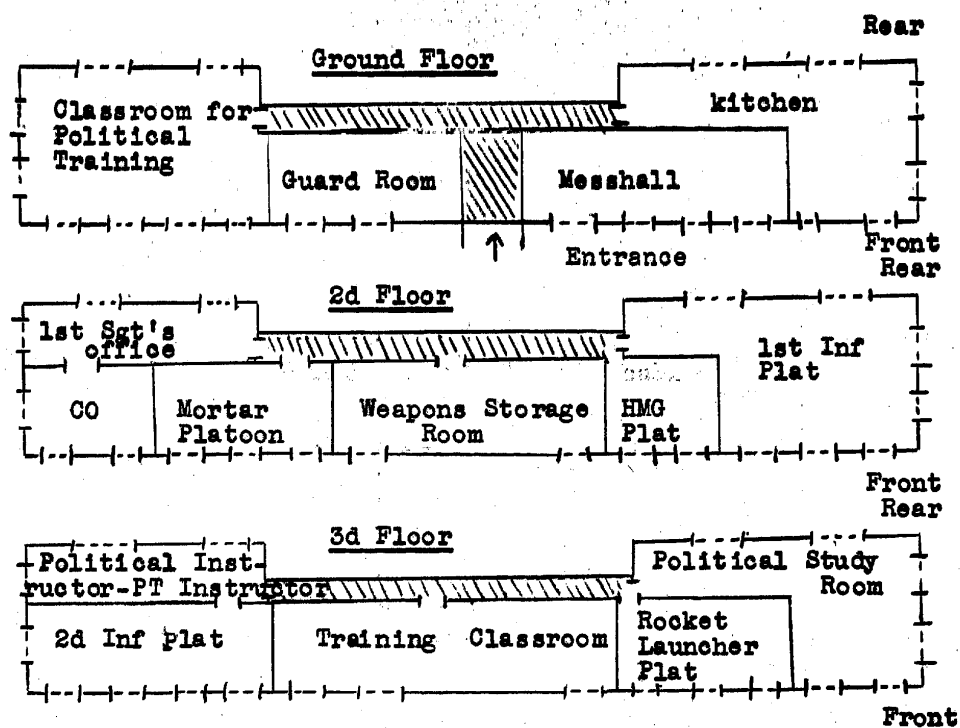
Floor Plan of Building occupied by Reserve Unit (Zalozni Oddil) of the 10th Volary Border Brig

50X1

LEGEND

- - - - Windows

\_\_\_\_\_ Doors



CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 24 -

Annexes C, C-I, C-II

Reserve Unit of the 10th Volary Border Brigade

## EXPLANATORY NOTES:

[redacted] Mortar Platoon of the Reserve Unit (Zalozni Oddil) [redacted]

[redacted] It had a triple mission: training, support, and tactical. Concerning training, it trained its personnel in the use of all weapons (individual and crew-served) in this unit. In its support mission it furnished guards, drivers and other personnel for work details to brigade headquarters and to all other brigade installations located in Volary [redacted]. Its tactical mission was to be sent to the border to reinforce Border Guard companies in cases of alerts along the border, border violations, etc.

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

Generally speaking all EM, exclusive of the first sergeant and the three heavy weapons platoon leaders, would alternately train one day and perform various details the next. [redacted]

50X1

[redacted] there was a distinction between the personnel of the two infantry platoons on one side and those of the mortar, HMG, and panzerfaust and rocket launcher platoons on the other. Personnel of the two infantry platoons comprised mostly personnel who had previously served on the border with Border Guard companies, had committed some sort of violation, and were therefore no longer considered entirely trustworthy. They were used to perform plain work details, although they also furnished a few drivers and guards. Personnel of the mortar, HMG, and panzerfaust and rocket launcher platoons, on the other hand, were reliable personnel specialized in the use of their heavy weapons. They furnished drivers and guards but did not go on work details.

The three platoon leaders of these three platoons were OCS candidates ("aspiranti"). They were usually former school teachers. After being inducted and receiving three months of basic training, they would be sent to unidentified NCO schools where they would be trained in the use of heavy weapons. Then they received non-career (conscript) ratings of first sergeant or sergeant. After two years of service they either returned to civilian life and became reserve officers (usually second lieutenant, seldom lieutenant) or remained on active duty as second lieutenant (rarely lieutenant.)

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