

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. []

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 50X1

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 9 May 1953

SUBJECT Military Information from Frontier Guard Units (PS).

NO. OF PAGES 4

PLACE ACQUIRED []

NO. OF ENCLS. 2 (LISTED BELOW) (A), (B)

DATE ACQUIRED BY SOURCE []

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1

DATE OF INFORMATION []

50X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

1.

battalion. During basic training all soldiers were carefully screened as to their political reliability; selected soldiers were sent for special training as border units to Trhanov and the remainder were transferred to labor units of the Frontier Guards.

2. The 9th Brigade of Frontier Guards was divided into four battalions:

50X1

1st Bn headquarters located at Bela pod Radbuzou

2nd Bn headquarters located at Pivon

50X1

3rd Bn headquarters located at Trhanov

4th Bn headquarters located at Kouty

Organization of the first and second battalions is not known.

3. The 3rd battalion was organized as follows:

11th company of PS in Cerna Reka (Plan Klencec pod Chrchovem) [See Enclosure (A)]

12th company of PS in Cerchov (Plan Klencec pod Chrchovem)

13th company of PS in Zamecek (Plan Klencec pod Chrchovem)

14th company of PS in Bystrice (Plan Klencec pod Chrchovem)

15th company of PS in Polmava (Plan Klatovy) [See Enclosure (B)]

The 4th battalion was organized as follows:

16th company in Lesni Louka 20th company in Sruby

17th company in Spalencec

18th company in Maxov

19th company in Vseruby

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

STATE	X	NAVY	X	AEC	X	DISTRIBUTION												
ARMY	X	AIR	X	ARMY EV		FBI	X											

- 2 -

- The companies were quartered in various brick buildings in villages or in newly constructed wooden barracks. In addition to regular units, each headquarters had a reserve component of 30 officers and non-commissioned officers. Members of this reserve component were armed with 98N rifles, 23B and 25A submachine guns, four light machine guns and two (T34) heavy machine guns. Units on the post had the following weapons: approximately 20 98N rifles, 30 23B and 25A submachine guns, five light machine guns and two heavy machine guns.

Transportation and Communications

- The 4th battalion in Kouty had three Tudor automobiles and one $3\frac{1}{2}$ ton Praga RN. In addition to these vehicles, each company headquarters had one Tudor car and a JAWA 250 motorcycle. Each company had six riding horses and a team of dray horses. The 16th company of the Frontier Guard had two dogs. Company headquarters were connected by telephone with battalion which had a radio transmitter. Cover numbers of companies began with "6", those of battalion with "7", those of brigade with "8". For example: the 16th company in Lesni Louka had the number 6698; the 4th battalion in Kouty 7697; the brigade in Pobezovice 8654.

Supplies

- Each company had its own ammunition depot. Larger ammunition depots were found at battalion and brigade level. Members of a patrol were allotted a certain amount of ammunition for their weapons. In the event of an alert, each soldier had to prepare full field equipment and received a double allotment of ammunition. Normal allowance for a rifle was 60 rounds; in an alert 120 rounds were issued. Normal allowance for a submachine gun was three belts with 96 rounds each; in an alert six belts with 192 rounds each were issued. The amount of hand grenades was always the same (2). Every PS patrol had a Very pistol with two white, two red, and three green cartridges. The exact amount of ammunition in the depots is not known. There is a sufficient amount however to stop any sudden attack from the West in the event of war. It has been observed, however, that no one explained how an armored attack could be stopped.

Each company, battalion, and brigade had its own supply warehouse. These were usually located in the unit's headquarters. All vehicles were parked outdoors.

Health Service

- Each company had a first aid unit and each battalion a medical dispensary with a permanent medical staff. Soldiers from the 9th brigade were assigned to hospitals in Domazlice or Pilsen.

Special Training and Morale

- After completion of basic training, politically reliable soldiers were transferred to special PS training units in Trganov. This training consisted of the following: how and when to use weapons, cover for each other's movements, disarming and arresting a suspect, patrolling, etc. In addition they received instructions in political theory, service regulations and special instructions for frontier duty. During the two month course various weapons, pictures and booklets were used.
- Soldiers who wished to remain in the service were required to submit applications to be admitted into the corps of non-commissioned officers. When approved, they were assigned to non-commissioned officers' school and upon graduation promoted to grade of non-commissioned officer. It often happened, however, that the soldiers were promoted before graduation and many times immediately after they had submitted their application.
- The 16th company of the Frontier Guards, PS, had 45 men. Most of these belonged to drafting years 1928, 1929 and 1930. Drafting ages 1928 and 1929 were called into the service from 1 Oct 51. Some were assigned to frontier duty as civilians, while others were called to enter regular units where they received their basic training.

- The 1928 drafting age was to be relieved of duty on 1 Oct 52. Men of other drafting ages were to be relieved commencing 1 Jul 53.

- Morale was a constant problem with men of PS units. The major factor was the lack of free time which to a great extent was absorbed by political training. No one ever complained about food. Even members of the Communist Party were dissatisfied. Passes were granted only as a reward for exceptional achievements in line of duty or on the proposal of the political officer. The arrest of a person (narusitel) trying to cross the border from or into Czechoslovakia was considered an exceptional achievement. In case such a person had important documents or information the reward was higher. A reward was also granted to soldiers who arrested or killed a refugee escaping the country.

Salaries

- A trainee received 29 Kcs per month, a PFC (svobodnik) received 59 Kcs per month, a corporal 89 Kcs per month and a platoon leader (cetar) 119 Kcs per month.

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 3 -

Political Training

4. Political lectures were held every Tuesday and Thursday; duration of each class was two hours. During inclement weather all outdoor exercises were postponed and political training and lectures substituted. In addition to political lectures, all men were required to attend political circles where various political problems were discussed. The same arrangement existed in other units. The subject matter of these lectures was always the same, eg foundations of Leninism, USSR as a liberator and a model state, Hussite rising, etc. During these lectures it was emphasized how important a role PS units play in building socialism in Czechoslovakia. The soldiers were urged to perform their duties conscientiously, not to permit an enemy to enter Czechoslovakia or allow the escape of any traitor from the country. Despite these exhortations, most of the soldiers took it easy and many times patrols fell asleep on duty even though such a violation was punishable by a five-year prison term. Political training was resented because it constantly praised the USSR as the world's greatest miracle in science and progress. Organizations of the Communist Party and the Czechoslovak Youth (SCM) were always at work within the units. Many soldiers were constantly accused of political unreliability even though screening of members of PS units was very detailed. Professional officers and non-commissioned officers were transferred to Frontier Guard units as political officers in view of their experience and possibly stronger influence on the soldiers. Members of the Communist Party and the Union of Czechoslovak Youth collaborated closely with the DOZ (military intelligence), STB (state security corps), SNB (national security corps) and with the political officers. 50X1

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

15. Battalion DOZ officers' duties are the same as those of the State Security Corps (STB). They check military as well as civilian personnel.

Duties of Frontier Guard Units

16. Duties ~~were~~ performed in accordance with a plan which has been prepared in advance. This plan (valid for 24 hours) was placed on the bulletin board of the officer-in-charge: soldiers of the PS on eight-hour field duty (non-commissioned officers only six hours), one hour for mess formation, two hours for political training or attendance at political circles and seven hours for sleep; the remainder of the day to be spent in the vicinity of the barracks. Frontier patrols consisted of two men armed with a rifle, a submachine gun and two hand grenades each. At night, they also had a Very pistol with signal or illuminating cartridges. Forests along the state border had been felled, and in some sectors barbed wire obstacles (two meters high and two meters wide) had been erected. Patrols were either stationary or roving (between observation towers). Towers were located in clearings having good observations of the entire area. One man from the PS was on tower duty during daytime hours. If the patrol came upon a suspect, they had to control him first before any signal could be given. If the patrol found no important documents on the suspect, they fired a red rocket signal. If the patrol wished to request the assistance of a PS member with a trained dog, they fired a red and green rocket signal. If they arrested a suspect and needed reinforcements, two green rockets were fired. White rockets were used for illuminating purposes only.
17. A permit to enter the frontier zone was issued by the security officer of the District National Committee. This officer was fully responsible for the person receiving this permit and guarantees that this person will not escape. Very often a special recommendation from a PS unit was required. If anyone had a permit to enter the forbidden zone, he could do so only if accompanied by a member of the PS. Employees of the forest administration had special permits; nevertheless, they also had to be accompanied by PS member. Employees of the geodetic service had special green-colored permits; soldiers of PS units entering the border zone had pink-colored permits.
18. In Lesna Louka and Spaleneč no barbed wire obstacles have been erected thus far, however, the forest has been cleared and observation towers constructed.
19. It is hoped that in the near future PS companies will be increased to 90 men rather than the present 45.

- end -

ENCLOSURE (A): Kleneč pod Cerchovem

(B): Klatovy 4250

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

KLENEC POD CERCHOVEM

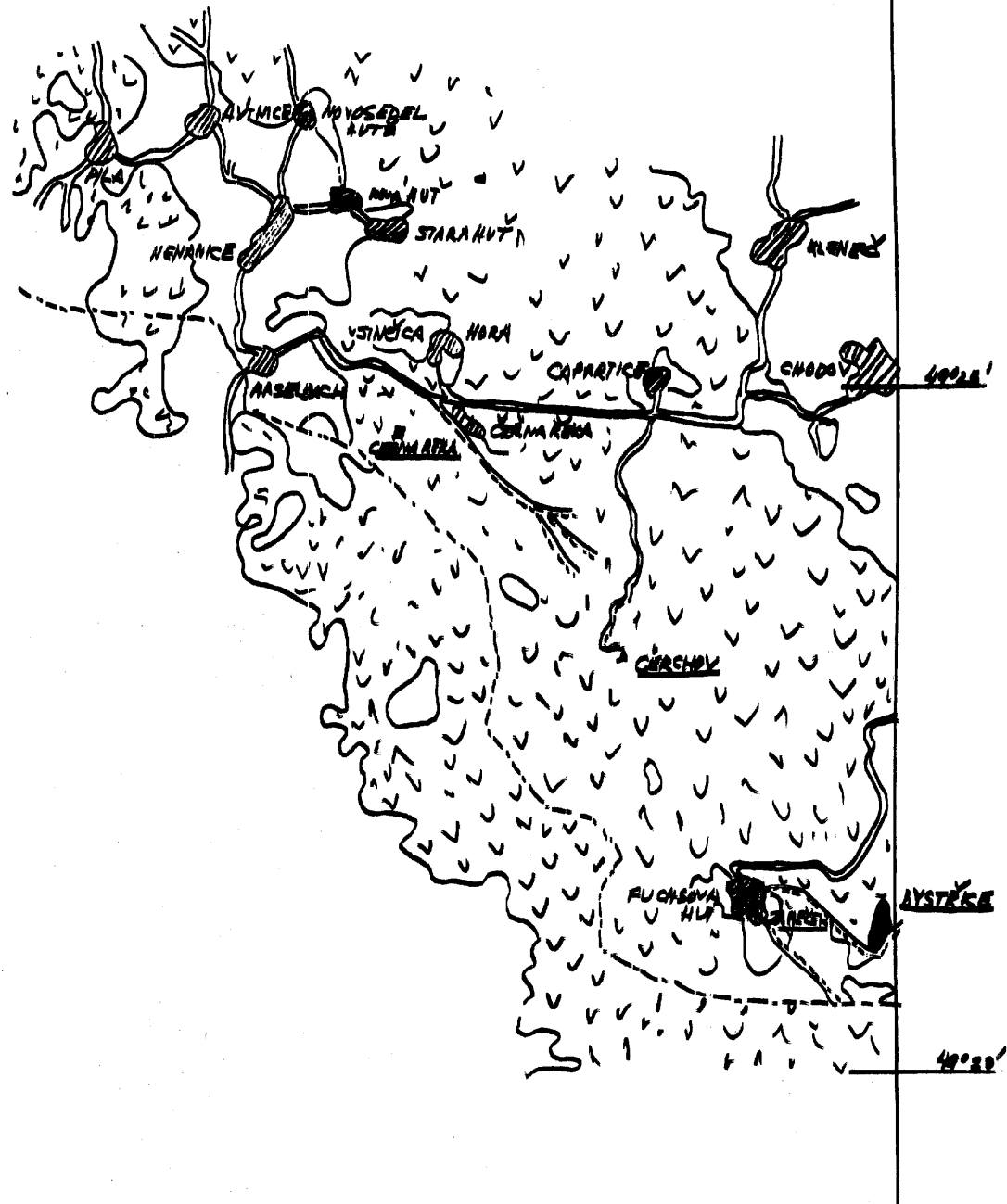
300 25'

300 30'

49230'

1.75000

4249



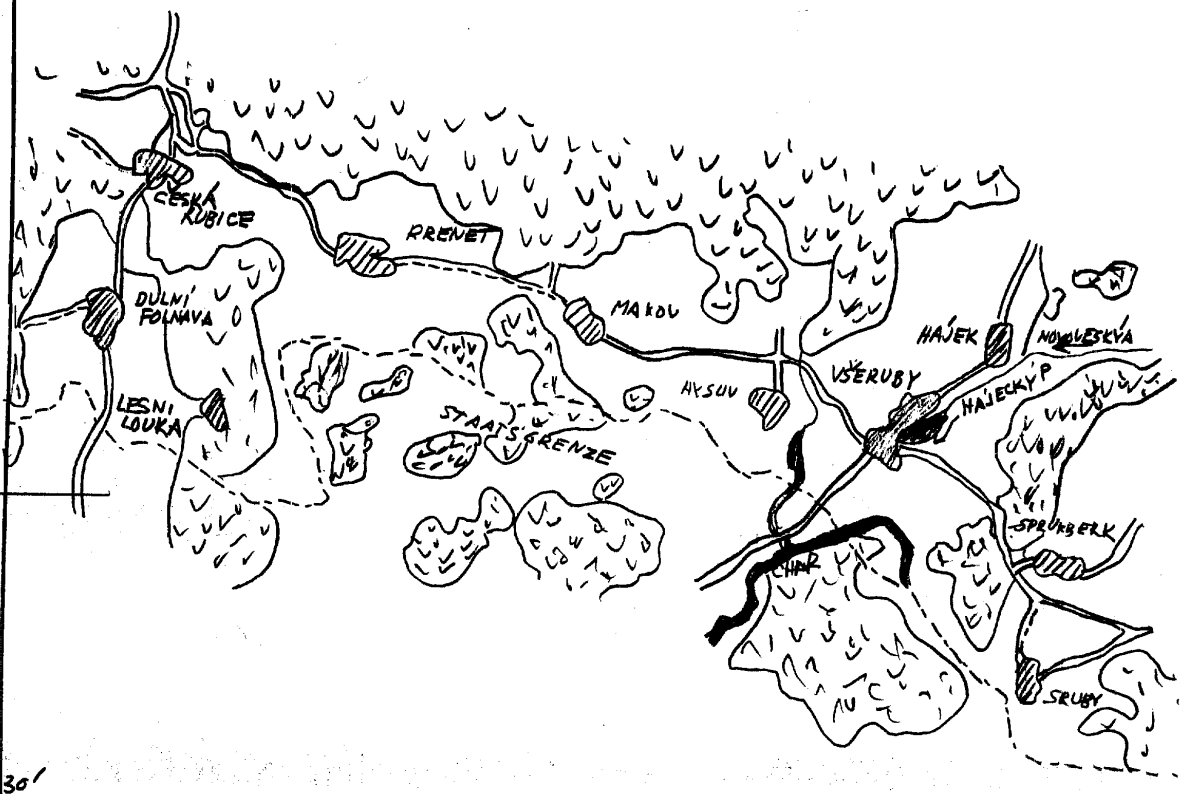
KLATOVY 4250

1:75000

49°25'

14°20'

300 30'



SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION