

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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SUBJECT Work on the Proximity Fuse at the Army Technical Institute

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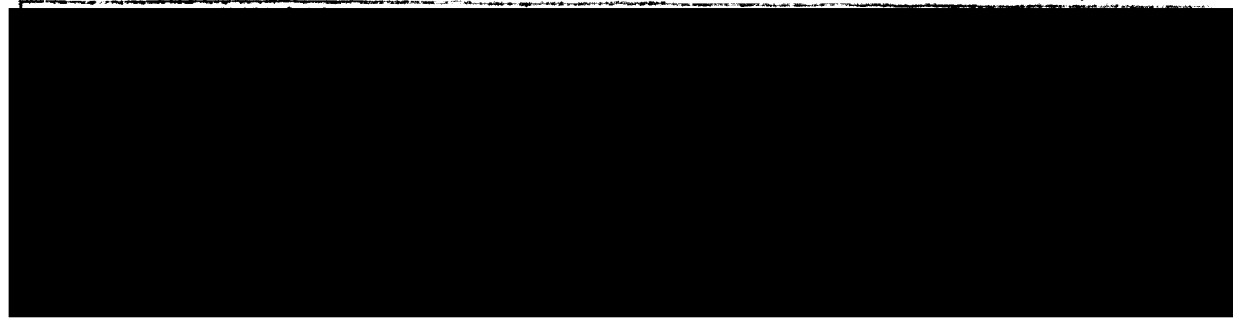
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. ✓



- In November 1946 the Czechoslovak Army Technical Institute (VTU - Vojensky Technicky Ustav) in Podmokly (Electrophysics Department) received two units of the proximity fuse from Germany. One projectile had a green and the other a pink point. The fuses were disassembled in the laboratory and their parts corried. The firm Tesla in Prague was given the task of duplicating the fuses. It is believed that the firm Daimon got the order to manufacture a short-time battery. So far, this order has not been carried out, however.
- The proximity fuse, so far, has been constructed only in the laboratory. German miniature tubes made during the war, American tubes, and tubes supplied by Tesla were used in the process. The laboratory tests were not successful, since the sensitiveness of the American-made proximity fuse was not reached. The greatest difficulty was caused by the short-time battery.
- Research work was carried out by Ing. Handrick, a German specialist, who is in charge of the laboratory.
- About August 1947, Ing. Roman Golicks, a Russian national, probably of German origin, who was employed at the Army Technical Institute, got a furlough in order to be able to visit his parents in or near Munich. On this occasion he got in contact with a German engineer from Bavaria who sold him all the blueprints necessary for the production of short-time batteries for the sum of 250,000 RM. These blueprints were handed over to the Czechs at the Wildenau customs station near As in October or November 1947 in the presence of an officer of the Czech intelligence service.
- The work on this project was held up for about six months when the Podmokly Branch of the Army Technical Institute (VTU - Vojensky Technicky Ustav) moved to Praha-Nebusice, Jeneralka 54 (the building of the former Invalidovna). The moving was completed in February 1948. The work in the laboratory was delayed till March 1948, as electrical equipment and apparatus had to be installed in the new building.

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6. Ing. Handrick is also working on the Donau, Berlin and Ansbach radar equipment. An installation of the Berlin type has been erected and tested, but at present it is being operated only for laboratory use. Donau and Ansbach type installations are at present in the stage of assembly.
7. Ing. Georg Seidel, a German, has been working on the project of the Frits and the Hentschel guided missiles. Both types are of German origin.
8. All parts and instruments left here by the Germans are being used by the firm Elphys in Podmokly. In addition to the Frits and Hentschel missiles, teleprinters (teletypewriters ?) various dental instruments, and sound-strip "pick-ups" are being produced or assembled here. The enterprise employs only about three Czechs, the rest of the employees being German.

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