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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 10 December 1951

SUBJECT Sabotage of Oilfields near Bela Crkva in the Banat

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A

**REFERENCE COPY**

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X



1. On June 8th of this year, at six o'clock, fire simultaneously broke out at three new, recently drilled petroleum wells. The fire immediately grew and within half an hour six derricks were completely burned. The fire lasted until 5:00 pm when firemen collectives succeeded in localizing it. The plugging of the holes lasted until late into the night.
2. The estimated damage exceeds 250 million dinars. Eleven derricks with all drilling equipment were burned, while 6 to 8 drilling rigs were damaged and cannot be used for work at least temporarily.
3. A certain Danilov, a Bulgarian who disappeared while the fire was being extinguished, is alleged to be guilty of the sabotage, since the fire broke out simultaneously in 3 different places, a few hundred meters from each other. The UDB and the National Militia of Bela Crkva made a very thorough investigation and during the night of 8 and 9 June over 80 workers and employees of the Bela Crkva oilfields were arrested. After 12 hours of interrogation almost all of them were released with the exception of 3 who were detained in prison but whose names are unknown.
4. Neither the authorities nor the Yugoslav press made any detailed comment on the case with the exception of a short report that fire broke out on Bela Crkva oilfield and that it had been quickly extinguished due to the self-sacrifice of workers and the people's authorities.

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25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: Your attention is directed to [REDACTED] which reported a fire in the oilfields northwest of Vrsac near the village of Greda during the same period.

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