

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR) **CONFIDENTIAL**
SUBJECT Military Activity in the Uzhgorod Area

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The following information on Uzhgorod (R 49/A 02) and the Soviet - Slovakian border area between 1948 and late November 1949 was obtained :

a. Uzhgorod : Two barracks on Domaninska Street (D 1 on Annex) and on Dobranskeno Street were occupied by an infantry unit (estimated at one regiment), a tank unit (one battalion) and an AT artillery unit (one battalion). Data on organization and armament of the units could not be learned. The units stayed in camps near Stripa (S 49/A 12) and Yarok (Lirok - S 49/A 12) throughout the summer.

b. One or two infantry battalions each were stationed in Berehovo (S 49/F 27), Mykacevo (S 49/A 30) and Khust (S 49/F 76). No further data on the units could be learned.

c. Inductions : In the Carpatho-Ukraine only Soviet Russians were inducted for military service. Source believed this was for a four-year term. The Ruthenians living in that area were drafted into the (Fabricno Zavodskoye Obucheniye) and, being ill treated poorly fed, worked in mines and factories in the Donbas area.

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d. Shipments of Soviet material.

Several rail shipments of 10 tanks each were seen on the Lvov (R 50/Z 20) - Cop (R 49/E 90) railroad line, going toward Hungary, in October or November 1949.

e. Control of the Soviet-Slovakian border :

The Carpatho-Ukraine was divided into two zones, one running parallel to the Slovakian border and one encompassing the rear area, including Uzhgorod.

(1) A three-meter wire fence with watchtowers ran along the heavily guarded Soviet-Slovakian border in the area west of Uzhgorod. The watchtowers were equipped with searchlights and connected with the city by telephone. Other border sections were secured by a wide belt of trip-wire entanglements attached to explosive charges.

(2) As no such obstacles were set up in the border sectors near Velke Beretsne (R 49/E 93) and Vorocov (S 49/A 13), there was traffic of illegal border crossers. The border guard headquarters (Pogran Tsastva), commanded by a colonel, was on Stalin Square, Uzhgorod (A on Annex).

f. Partisan activities.

Partisans frequently (last in October 1949) interrupted the Uzhgorod - Mukacevo - Lvov railroad line and attacked a train which included one Kiev-bound and one Moscow-bound car.

2. The first inductions in the Mukacevo area were effected in the Fall of 1947. Judges and notaries, in the former Comitete towns, had to bring before the draft boards all men of the 1925 through 1929 classes. Draftees were inducted irrespective of their belonging to ethnic groups (Hungarians, Little Russians, Slovaks, Rumanians). These were not taken into the armed forces but assigned to work in mines.

3. The following observations were made in the Uzhgorod area up to the end of 1947 :

a. The former Heber High School (four-story building SW of the railroad bridge) was occupied by a tank unit. About 40 tanks were stored in a large nearby garage (2 on Annex).

b. An infantry unit of about 500 troops and a battalion headquarters were in private houses on Minai Street, running southwest (B 3 on Annex). The unit had the numerical designation 216.

c. The border guard headquarters, the MVD office for the Uzhgorod district, about 400 militiamen of the municipal force and the

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military district headquarters were on Stalin Square (formerly Kossuth Square), Uzhgorod (A on Annex).

d. Several military offices and a motor pool with 40 to 50 motor vehicles were in a restricted area in the SW city sector (4 on Annex).

e. The railroad militia office and the MVD headquarters were in the former Karpatia Hotel on Munacevska Street (C 5 on Annex) near the main railroad station.

f. An ammunition depot was in the woods NE of Horiary (about 5 km east of Uzhgorod). The depot was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence and had surface and subterranean ammunition storage buildings, a guardhouse and a narrow-gauge railroad spur.

was [redacted] try units in the barracks on [redacted] hods near the mentioned ammunition

4. The following observations were made in the Uzhgorod area in July 1947 :

a. An ammunition depot with surface and subterranean ammunition storage facilities and covering an area of 500 x 600 meters, surrounded by a double barbed-wire fence, was about 5 km east of Uzhgorod and north of Horiary.

b. Military quarters were under construction in the Tarok-Orekhovitsa (S 49/A 12) area, north of the ammunition depot in 1947. The villages had been depopulated.

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[redacted] Comment :

a. According to rather credible information of 1947, component units of the III Mount Rifle Corps (128th Gds Mount Rifle Div and 318th Mount Rifle Div) are assumed to be stationed in the Uzhgorod-Mukacevo area.

b. Information obtained on border obstacles along the Soviet - Czechoslovakian border in the Mukacevo area in the Spring of 1949 agrees with the present report.

c. Information on inductions in the Carpatho-Ukraine tallies with the previous assumption that only about 50 percent of the able-bodied draftees are inducted for military service, while the remaining 50 percent are drafted for work with the FAO.

1 Annex : Military Installations in Uzhgorod, Carpathian MD.

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Legend of Annex to

- 1 Barracks
- 2 Former Heber High School
- 3 Quarters of an infantry unit
- 4 Restricted area
- 5 Karpatia Hotel
- 6 To ammunition depot
- 7 To summer camp

- A Stalin Square
- B Minai Street
- C Munacevska Street
- D Domaninska Street
- E Railroad stations.

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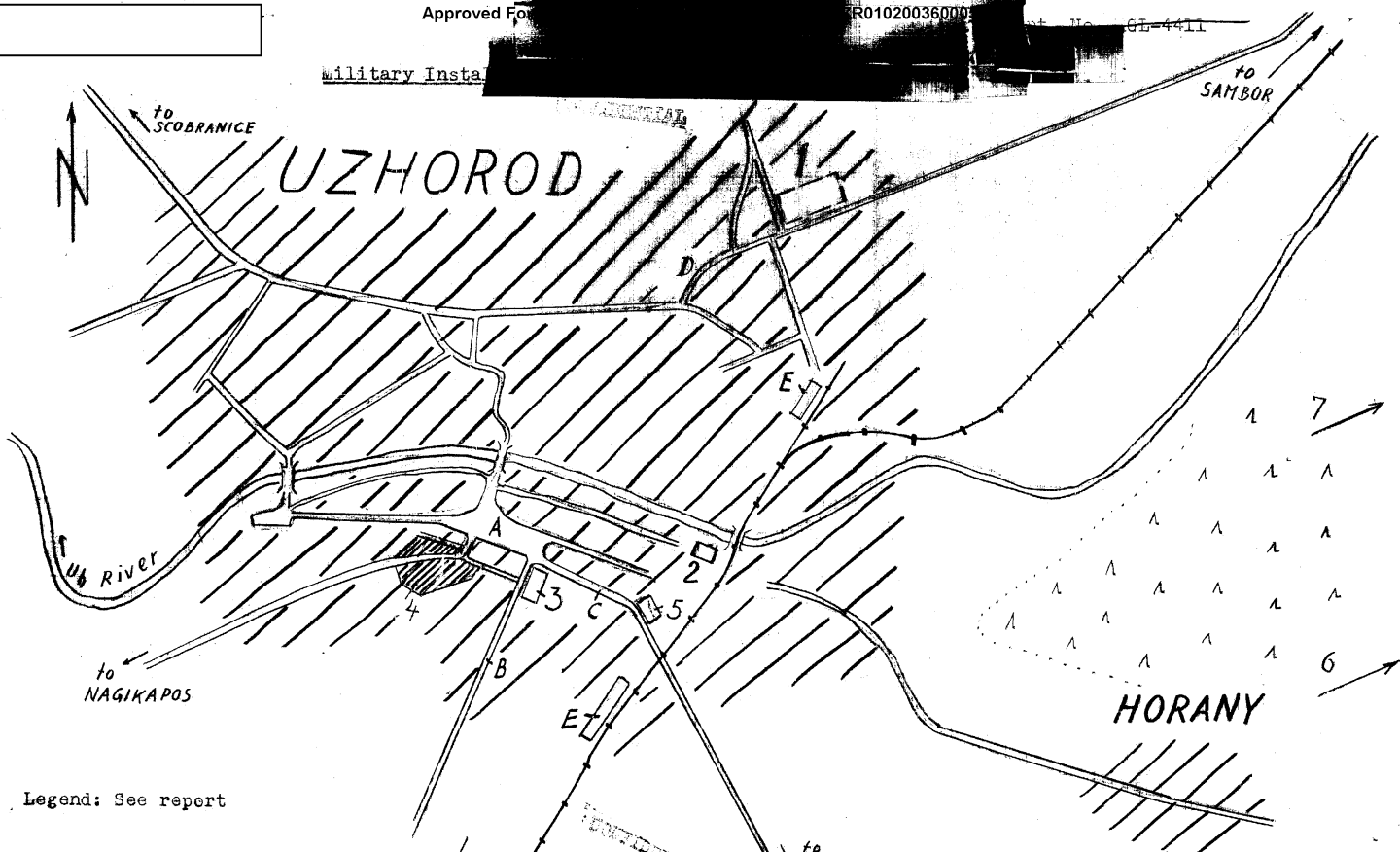
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