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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. 25X1

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Chelyabinsk Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 17 March 1952

SUBJECT Steel Landing-Mat Production in Chelyabinsk

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1

Document No. <u>003</u>
No Change in Class. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth.: BR 10 2
10 SEP 1978
By:

NO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 25X1

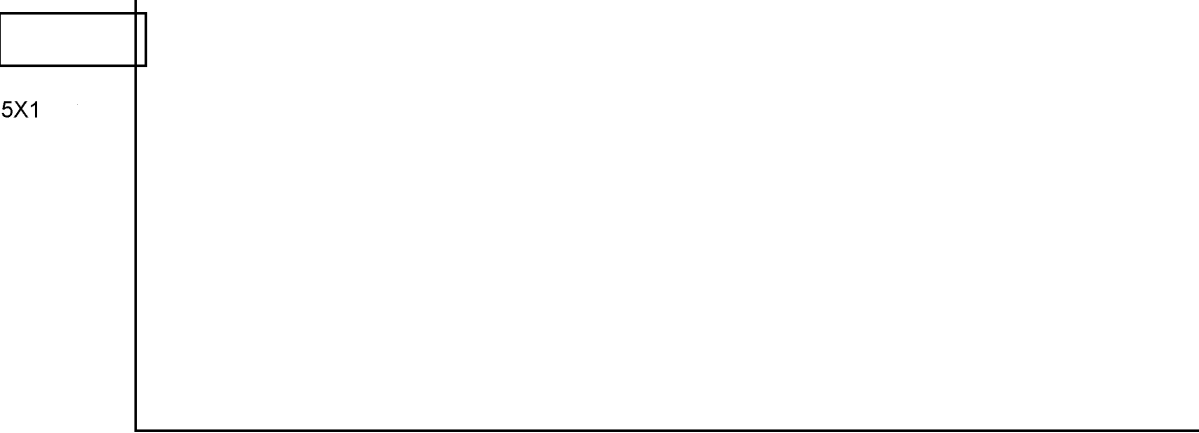
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1



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1. Location: Motor vehicle plant east of CHELYABINSK.
2. Produced steel landing mats about 13x2 1/2 feet in size. Each mat weighed about 33 to 55 pounds. Four rows of holes, each 4 inches in diameter, were punched in each mat. ++
3. Five million mats were to be produced.
4. Plant was located in the eastern section of CHELYABINSK. About 5 miles east of the center of the town and about 1,000 feet south of CHELYABINSK-OMSK railroad line (Trans-Siberian railroad).
5. A factory producing motor vehicle axles was just north of the plant. The axle factory was paralleled on the other side by the CHELYABINSK-OMSK railroad line. The landing-mat factory was bordered on the south by the motor vehicle rim plant and the motor vehicle spring plant.
6. Plant layout: One workshop, a steel structure about 650x260x50 feet.
7. Machinery: Heavy cutters and stamping machines.

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... in a large motor vehicle parts factory area located about six miles east or southeast of CHELYABINSK. The area is near the railroad line to OMSK.

The plant consisted of about five workshops. **Steel** mats were produced at the pressing shop, about 200x550 feet, equipped with 13 presses (about 22 tons each), 11 smaller presses, several stamping machines, etc.

15. Plant name: [redacted] the plant was called "KPOS."

16. Production: An order for five million steel landing mats was placed in February 1949.* These mats were about 5x13 feet and weighed about 1.7 pounds per square foot. ++ The completed mats each weighed about 110 pounds. The production norm of seven hundred mats per shift in February 1949 was later increased to about a thousand per shift which was the prescribed quota. [redacted] did not expect the 1949 output to exceed one million mats.

17. It was impossible to ascertain whether or not these mats were produced prior to February 1949.

18. Completed mats were shipped by rail.

+ [redacted] Comment:

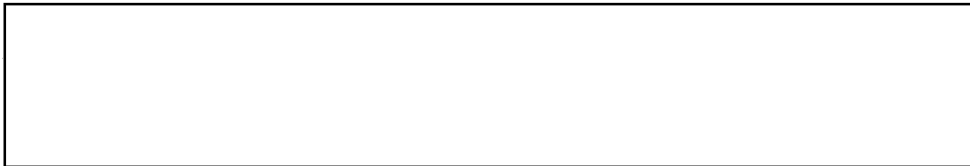
[redacted] doubted the statement that five million mats were produced and [redacted] meant square yards. [redacted] it was usual for items to be referred to as pieces, and not as square yards.

[redacted] Comment:

a. Report confirms production of steel landing mats in CHELYABINSK. Conditions prevailing in the Soviet Union make US type mats a critical item there. The quoted production figures seem exaggerated. Previous reports indicate that mats are now being used at the CHEKALOVSKAYA and KOMUNARKA airfields.

++ b. At least two types of mat are being produced. It is probable that there are three different sizes. The reported thickness of some mats (1/10 inch) indicates that this type is used for runways or taxiways suitable only for light planes.

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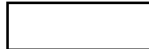


Annex: Sketch of Runway Matting produced in Chelyabinsk Plant

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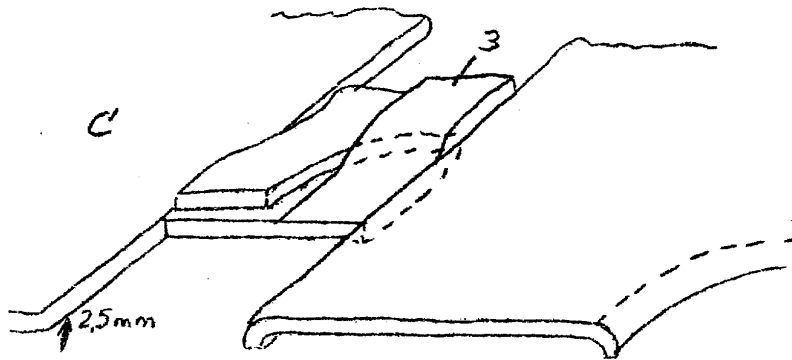
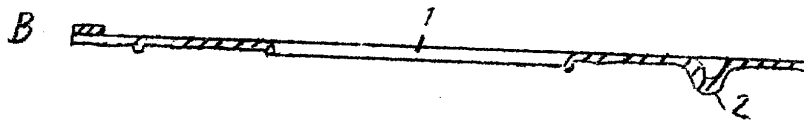
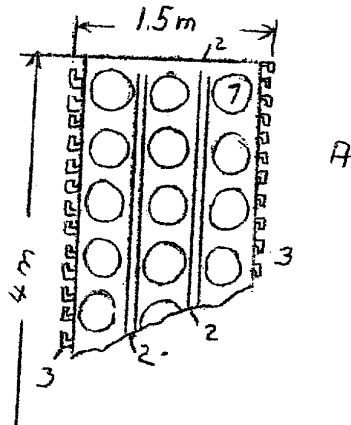
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Runway Matting Produced in Chelyabinsk Plant



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