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FEB 1952 51-44A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

REF ID: A66000
INFORMATION REPORT
REF ID: A66000

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 30 June 1952

SUBJECT 1. Military and Economic Information
from the Black Sea Area
2. Government Buildings and Officials in
the Stalin area

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF INFO.
PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO 50X1-HUM
REPORT NO.

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Military Information from the Black Sea Area

1. The 8 Rifle Regiment is quartered in barracks north of Cherveniya Ploshtad (Red Square) in the northern part of Stalin. Antiaircraft guns are located near the barracks.
2. A trench system consisting of five rows of trenches extends from Burgas to Stalin. The rows are 100 meters apart and are connected at various points. The trenches are dug in a zigzag pattern. Heavy gun positions with 3-gun emplacements are located at 70-80 meter intervals; the positions are camouflaged with earth.
3. During 1951, a trench line was dug in the vicinity of Obzor village, Pomorie district. The trench is one meter wide and 1.2 meters deep; shrubs were planted on the bottom of the trench. A similar trench line parallels the Black Sea coast at a distance of 100 meters and passes through the following villages: Banya, Emine, Nesebur, Pomorie, and Burgas. Farther north, a trench line passes through Byala, Goritsa, Rudnik, Staro Oryakhovo, Poda (sic), Goren Bliznak, Dolen Bliznak, Priseltsi, and Stalin.
4. Fifteen concrete bunkers, at 1,000-1,500 meter intervals, have been constructed in the vicinity of Obzor village; eight of the bunkers are on elevations about 100 meters from the Black Sea shore. A barbed wire entanglement 50 centimeters high surrounds each bunker.

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5. Concrete bunkers are also a part of the fortification system described in paragraph 2 above. Some of the bunkers were constructed by the Germans during World War II and others were built in 1950. There are no troops or guns at the bunkers.
6. Once a week a Soviet ship docks at Stalin, generally unloading agricultural machinery, trucks, and automobiles. The return cargoes are wheat, cotton, eggs, tobacco, meat, and fruit. Among the Soviet ships are the VITORAYA PYATILETIKE, CHIATURY, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, PETER VELIKI, OREL, and KARL MARKS.
7. In December 1951, seven vessels including the KARL MARKS, OREL, and CHIATURY, unloaded 40 tanks, three katushya rocket launchers, and approximately 25 field guns. [REDACTED]

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8. Stalin is the home port of the Bulgarian merchant ships BULGARIA, RODINA, NIKOLA VAPTZAROV, and KHRISTO SMIRNENSKI.

Economic Information

9. The standard of living is very low and living costs are high throughout Bulgaria. Some workers do not earn enough to purchase full quantities of rationed food items. Communist Party members are generally better off financially because they have the better-paying jobs. Peasants who are members of farm cooperatives are generally better off than independent farmers; however, cooperative farmers are also discontented.
10. Clothing is expensive; however it has not been rationed since early 1950. A man's suit costs 25,000-30,000 leva, whereas the monthly salary of a middle-level government employee is 10,000-12,000 leva.
11. Bread, sugar, cheese, seed oil, and other unspecified food items are rationed. All persons are entitled to ration cards, but the aldermen responsible for issuing the cards often discriminate against non-Party members or those who are not sympathetic to the Communist regime.
12. Peasants who have a surplus of eggs, butter, cheese, and flour are permitted to sell such items on the free market at high prices.
13. The government operates large stores in the towns and larger villages in which rationed foods are sold freely at three or four times the official prices.
14. In 1949, a farm cooperative was organized in Obzor village, Pomorie district. Initially, 150 inhabitants of the 1,000 population joined the cooperative. However, by March 1952, all but 25-30 members had withdrawn and only 3,000 decares of land remained in the cooperative.
15. The members of the Obzor farm cooperative grow wheat, barley, corn, sunflowers, oats, and other unspecified crops. Fifty percent of the production is given to the State; part of the remaining 50 percent is distributed among the members; and the remainder is stored by the cooperative. The cooperative has two tractors and two threshing machines; however, the two tractors are insufficient and horses and oxen are used for most of the work.

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16. Because no direct railroad exists between Stalin and Burgas, a line has been planned to connect the Stalin-Staro Oryakhovo and Burgas-Pomorie lines. The new line will be routed as follows:
 - a. From Staro Oryakhovo through Rudnik and Coritsa;
 - b. Passing two kilometers west of Ryala village;
 - c. Passing one kilometer west of Obzor village;
 - d. Passing 600 meters east of Povovich and Dyulino villages;
 - e. Passing northeast of Orizare village; and
 - f. Passing through Kableshkovo to Pomorie.
17. The construction of the line was begun in January 1952 by 3,000 civilian workers. Approximately 50 workers are building a concrete double-track railroad bridge 30 meters long and five meters wide over the Cherta River (formerly Chifte Dere) near Obzor village; by March 1952, the four concrete piers of the bridge had been completed. A tunnel is also being excavated by 200 laborers two kilometers south of Dyulino.
18. The Stalin-Burgas highway, constructed in 1947, is six meters wide, paved with gravel and sand and is in good condition. There are drainage ditches on both sides of the road.
19. There are 14 bridges between Obzor village and Stalin; 12 of the bridges are concrete structures four to five meters long. One of the larger bridges is situated 250 meters from Obzor over the Cherta River. The bridge, 30 meters long and 10 meters wide, was begun in early 1951 and had not been completed by March 1952. A similar large bridge across the Bilenska River (probably the stream formerly known as Panair Dere) approximately three kilometers from Obzor was started at the same time and is also still under construction.

Government Buildings and Officials

20. The district Militia headquarters at Stalin are located on a large square opposite the harbor. The 3-story building is of yellow-painted brick, approximately 100 meters long, 30 meters wide, and has two entrances. Approximately 1,000 persons work in the building during the day and 400-500 persons each night.
21. The People's City Council offices are located on a small square on Odrin Street in the center of Stalin, opposite the Sveta Nedelya church, a clock tower, and a small park. The 3-story building is of white-painted brick, 50 meters long, and 20 meters wide; it was constructed in 1950 and has three round columns in front, four or five steps, and three entrances. Approximately 100 persons work in the building during the day; two persons are on guard at night.
22. The People's District Council offices are located on Odrin Street on a corner approximately 700-800 meters east of the City Council building. There is a police traffic post in front of the building; a theater is adjacent to the building, and the Pristan hotel is across the street. The building has two stories, is semi-circular in shape, constructed of yellow-painted brick, approximately 25-30

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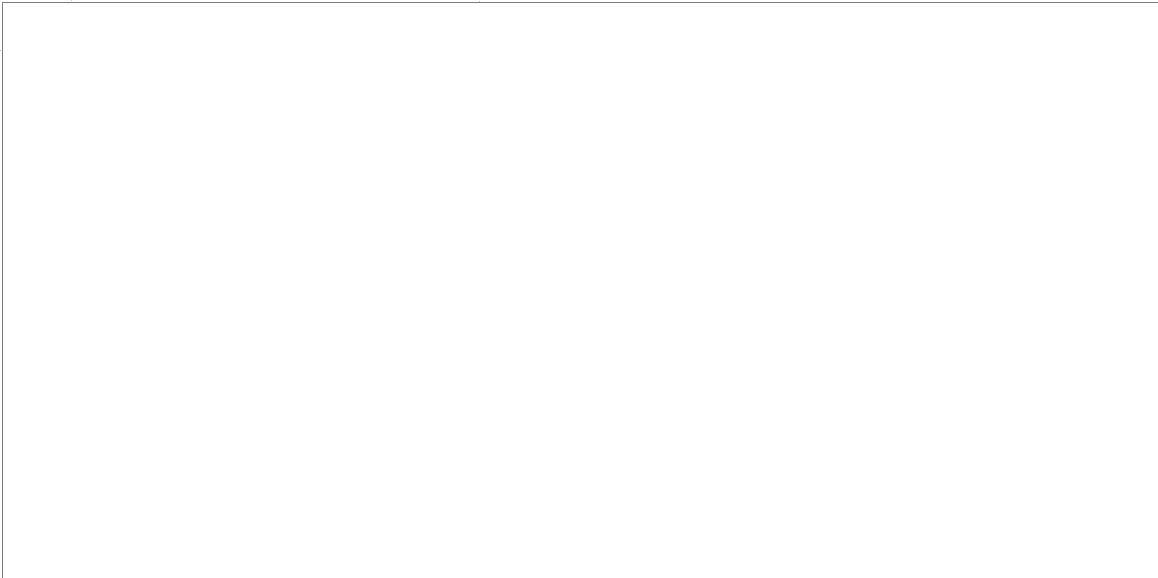
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meters long and 15 meters wide. The entrance is at the corner of the building; there are 8-10 steps in front. Approximately 40-50 persons work in the building during the day and two to three persons guard it at night.

23. The Post Office building is located on a street corner in the center of Stalin adjacent to the City Council building. The building is two stories high, 50 meters long, and 30 meters wide, constructed of yellow-painted brick, and has four entrances. It was built in 1951. Approximately 500 persons work in the building during the day; three or four persons work at night while 10-15 Militia personnel stand guard.

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